

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	PgD Professional Practice: Advanced Radiography Practice [progression route]
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 7
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	College of Radiographers
Credit Structure ²	120 credits comprising: 60 credits at level 7 60 credits of recognised prior learning at level 7 (see entry requirements below)
Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	1 year part time
Intended Award	PgD Professional Practice: Advanced Radiography Practice
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holder of a PgC in a specialist area of diagnostic radiography • Current registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). • Currently working in the field of diagnostic radiography for a minimum of one year. • IELTS minimum band score 7 with reference to the HCPC guidance
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the PgD Professional Practice: Advanced Radiography Practice [progression route] course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2024-25 academic year⁵.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Summary

This course will support the development of current practitioners in an advanced professional practice role. It will enable radiographers to explore complex and current challenges, critique evidence-based practice and evaluate and enhance service delivery. During the course, students will be encouraged to critically reflect and review their personal and professional development in order to underpin their clinical performance and expertise.

The course has been designed to help experienced professionals effectively prepare for the ever-changing environment within healthcare provision and to design and implement improved ways of empowering, enabling students to lead and develop services which will have a positive impact on patient outcomes. The course is designed to provide learning which promotes inclusive, values based and sustainable care delivery in a political and evidenced based context.

Course Aims

In providing this course, the university and the course team aim to provide you with the:

1. Knowledge, competence and understanding to achieve the level of expertise associated with advanced practice in diagnostic imaging
2. To advance student's knowledge and critical awareness of contemporary service design, planning and delivery
3. To develop critical evaluation skills through competent debate to enable the student to enhance their communication skills in the professional arena
4. To promote a high level of autonomy and self-direction within a student's area of practice, incorporating a strong emphasis of evidence-based practice
5. To enable students to apply their knowledge in the evaluation of professional practice and lead in complex situations
6. To explore the concepts of contemporary health issues and apply knowledge to current practice

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the PgD Professional Practice: Advanced Radiography Practice [progression route] course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

On successful completion of the Postgraduate Diploma students will be able to:

1. Actively engage with colleagues to discuss and critically debate a variety of issues and perspectives.

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)
PgD Professional Practice: Advanced Radiography Practice (IPGARP/IARPPGRD22)

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

2. Take a lead in promoting a culture of evidence-based practice in contemporary service design, planning and delivery of imaging/radiography services
3. Critically evaluate and appraise existing sources of information to facilitate problem solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical settings within of imaging/radiography services
4. Work collaboratively with others to enhance the understanding of effective integrated care delivery and the role of imaging/radiography

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following Professional Standards and Society and College of Radiographers' Competency Frameworks:

- Diagnostics: Recovery and Renewal – Report of the Independent Review of Diagnostic Services for NHS England (NHS England, 2020: Publication reference PAR242)
- Multi-professional framework for advanced clinical practice in England (NHS England, 2017)
- Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View (NHS England, 2017)
- Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View (NHS England, 2017)
- Consultant Radiographer - Guidance for the Support of New and Established Roles (SCoR, 2017)
- Society and College of Radiographers' Education and Career Framework (SCoR, 2022)
- The Radiography Workforce: Current Challenges and Changing Needs (SCoR, 2016)

Course Structure

The PgD Professional Practice: Advanced Radiography Practice [progression route]

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 7 – PgD Modules			
	Research Methods	20	Mandatory
	Leading Integrated Service Innovation	40	Mandatory

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma Professional Practice: Advanced Radiography Practice.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at University of Suffolk, Ipswich Campus. Students studying part-time on Postgraduate Diploma Professional Practice: Advanced Radiography Practice are likely to have approximately 96 contact hours.

The contact hours will be a mix of interactive lectures, seminars and workshops. Students will normally be expected to undertake six hours of independent study in an average week but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#)

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be approximately 100% coursework (including assignments, presentations and reports).

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs

Students undertaking the PgD Professional Practice: Advanced Radiography Practice [progression route] will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	Not applicable
Part-time UK	£1010 per 20 credit module
Full-time EU/International	Not applicable
Part-time EU/International	£1,620 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).