



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology

**Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships
Department of Student and Academic Administration**

March 2018

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the [Course Specification Guidance Notes](#) for guidance on completing this document.

Course Title	BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology
Final Award	BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology
Exit Awards	Certificate of Radiotherapy and Oncology Diploma of Higher Education in Radiotherapy and Oncology Ordinary Degree in Radiotherapy and Oncology
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	C2719F/ BB82
Mode of study	Full time
Mode of delivery	Campus, block release
Normal length of course	3 years
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	From September 2019 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Science Faculty & Health
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Health and Care Professions
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	http://www.port.ac.uk/school-of-health-sciences-and-social-work/
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/bsc-hons-radiotherapy-and-oncology
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	Level 4,5,6

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Module Web Search](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

The BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology programme aims to:

- Develop the knowledge and skills required for a career in radiotherapy including the ability to provide evidence-based decisions to support patient care and transferable skills to facilitate personal development.
- Develop critical, analytical, practical, professional, research and communication skills necessary for a patient-centred approach to care, life-long independent learning and the acquisition of knowledge and use of evidence to inform practice.
- Develop ability to demonstrate leadership and clinical reasoning as a member of a multidisciplinary team and have the capacity to evaluate own performance and the performance of peers and students by identifying strengths and areas for development through reflection.
- Ensure that all statutory requirements are met in order that graduates are eligible to apply for HCPC registration as a therapeutic radiographer.
- Develop the ability to become an independent and autonomous practitioner using independent/autonomous decision making.

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
A1	Anatomy, physiology and pathology of the human body; (HCPC Standard of Proficiency [SoP] 13.5)	<p>Via lectures, seminars, self-directed and independent study, integrated practical workshops and tutorials in both the University and clinical departments.</p> <p>In addition student centred practical work, debates and seminars will be supported by the University virtual learning environment.</p>	<p>Via a combination of unseen examinations, practical reports, written assignments, multiple choice questions [MCQ] and practical clinical assessments.</p> <p>Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: online MCQ's quizzes and OSCE's, portfolio reviews</p>

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
			and personal tutorials.
A2	General and radiation physics and the radiation science underpinning radiotherapy; (HCPC SoP 13.9)	<p>Via lectures, seminars, self-directed and independent study, integrated practical workshops and tutorials in both the University and clinical departments.</p> <p>In addition student centred practical work, debates and seminars will be supported by the University virtual learning environment.</p>	<p>Via a combination of unseen examinations, practical reports, written assignments, practical clinical assessments and laboratory reports.</p> <p>Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: online MCQ's quizzes and OSCE's, portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.</p>
A3	Critical understanding of standard and advanced radiotherapy localisation and treatment methods and their adaptation to suit specific patient conditions and pathologies; (HCPC SoP 13.2, 14.23, 14.46)	<p>Via lectures, seminars, self-directed and independent study, integrated practical workshops and tutorials in both the University and clinical departments.</p> <p>In addition student centred practical work, debates and seminars will be supported by the University virtual learning environment.</p>	<p>Will be assessed via a combination of unseen examinations, practical reports, written assignments, OSCE and practical clinical assessments.</p> <p>Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: online MCQ's quizzes and OSCE's, portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.</p>

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
A4	Research design and statistical techniques in radiotherapy (HCPC SoP14.8, 14.9, 14.16);	<p>Via lectures, seminars, self-directed and independent study, integrated practical workshops and tutorials in both the University and clinical departments.</p> <p>In addition student centred practical work, debates and seminars will be supported by the University virtual learning environment.</p> <p>All students will complete an individual research project.</p>	<p>Via a combination of unseen examinations, practical reports, written assignments and the independent research project.</p> <p>Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written activities and personal tutorials.</p>
A5	Common malignancies in the human body and current and developing clinical guidelines for their management (HCPC SoP 13.24);	<p>Via lectures, seminars, self-directed and independent study, integrated practical workshops and tutorials in both the University and clinical departments.</p> <p>In addition student centred practical work, debates and seminars will be supported by the University virtual learning environment.</p>	<p>Via a combination of unseen examinations, practical reports and written assignments.</p> <p>Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written activities and personal tutorials.</p>

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
A6	Principles of radiation dosimetry and treatment planning procedures (HCPC SoP 13.11);	<p>Via lectures, seminars, self-directed and independent study, integrated practical workshops and tutorials in both the University and clinical departments. Within the University radiotherapy treatment planning system, the Virtual Environment Radiotherapy Training [VERT] platform are used.</p> <p>In addition student centred practical work, debates and seminars will be supported by the University virtual learning environment.</p> <p>(The radiotherapy treatment planning system & the VERT platform are part of the School of Health Sciences & Social Work Centre for Simulation in Healthcare [CSiH]).</p>	<p>Via a combination of unseen examinations, practical reports and written assignments.</p> <p>Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written assignments and personal tutorials.</p>

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
A7	Radiotherapy equipment, associated quality assurance procedures, and current developments (HCPC SoP 12.3, 12.6, 13.13, 13.19, 13.20);	<p>Via lectures, seminars, self-directed and independent study and integrated practical workshops. Within the University the Virtual Environment Radiotherapy Training [VERT] platform is used.</p> <p>In addition student centred practical work, debates and seminars will be supported by the University virtual learning environment.</p> <p>(The radiotherapy treatment planning system & the VERT platform are part of the School of Health Sciences & Social Work Centre for Simulation in Healthcare [CSiH]).</p>	<p>Via a combination of unseen examinations, practical reports, written assignments and portfolio.</p> <p>Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.</p>
A8	The NHS constitution and values and their importance in health and social care (HCPC SoP 2.1, 2.3).	<p>Via lectures, seminars, self-directed and independent study and integrated practical workshops.</p> <p>In addition student centred</p>	<p>Portfolio.</p> <p>Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: portfolio reviews</p>

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
		practical work, debates and seminars will be supported by the University virtual learning environment.	and personal tutorials.

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
B1	Formulate and test a hypothesis (HCPC SoP 13.8)	The final year independent research project develops skills in formulating and testing hypotheses and conducting a programme of research.	Project. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written activities and personal tutorials.
B2	Plan, conduct, evaluate and report a programme of research (HCPC SoP 13.8);	The final year independent research project develops skills in formulating and testing hypotheses and conducting a programme of research.	Project. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written activities and personal tutorials.
B3	Select and use principles and procedures in a variety of situations (HCPC SoP 9.6);	Intellectual skills are developed through lectures, seminars, tutorials and practical workshops within the CSiH, including individual and team scenarios, formative rehearsal and	Via a combination of written assignments, clinical assessments and project. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
		feedback and self-directed simulated learning.	including: written assignments, portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.
B4	Research and synthesise information from a variety of sources (HCPC SoP 14.7);	Intellectual skills are developed through lectures, seminars, tutorials and practical workshops within the CSiH, including individual and team scenarios, formative rehearsal and feedback and self-directed simulated learning.	Via a combination of written assignments, clinical assessments and project. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written assignments, portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.
B5	Analyse, evaluate, interpret and integrate data from a variety of sources (HCPC SoP 13.8)	Intellectual skills are developed through lectures, seminars, tutorials and practical workshops within the CSiH, including individual and team scenarios, formative rehearsal and feedback and self-directed simulated learning.	Via a combination of written assignments, clinical assessments and project. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written assignments, portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
C1	Use radiotherapy equipment in a safe and accurate manner (HCPC SoP 14.20)	Practical workshops and clinical demonstrations, clinical tutorials, student centred practical workshops within the CSiH, specialist clinical placements, experiential learning in the clinical environment.	Clinical assessment. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.
C2	Be capable of carrying out radiotherapy planning and treatment procedures in a safe manner (HCPC SoP 14.24, 15.1);	Practical workshops and clinical demonstrations, clinical tutorials, student centred practical workshops within the CSiH, specialist clinical placements, experiential learning in the clinical environment.	Via a combination of clinical assessment, assignment and OSCE. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: practice presentations, OSCE's, portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.
C3	Assist with and perform dose calculations and equipment quality assurance checks in a safe manner (HCPC SoP 12.6, 14.40, 14.45);	Practical workshops and clinical demonstrations, clinical tutorials, student centred practical workshops within the CSiH, specialist clinical placements, experiential learning in the	Via a combination of clinical assessment, assignment and OSCE. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
		clinical environment.	including: OSCE's, written activities, portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.
C4	Care for patients with cancer including those with additional conditions and / or needs (HCPC SoP 5.1, 5.3);	Practical workshops and clinical demonstrations and student centred practical workshops within the CSiH, specialist clinical placements, experiential learning in the clinical environment.	Via a combination of clinical assessment, assignment and OSCE. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: OSCE's, written activities, portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.
C5	Undertake appropriate clinical decision making (HCPC SoP 4.1, 4.2, 13.15)	Student centred practical workshops within the CSiH, specialist clinical placements, experiential learning in the clinical environment.	Clinical assessment. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.
C6	Critically evaluate the role of the radiographer in therapeutic radiography (HCPC SoP13.1, 13.2).	Presentations, seminars, workshops, and final year independent research project.	Final year project and assessed presentations. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: practice

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
			presentations, written activities and personal tutorials.

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
D1	Take responsibility for the planning and execution of their own learning (HCPC SoP 14.2);	Lectures, IT practical workshops, academic study and communication skills tutorials, individual and group oral presentations and work-based learning (practical experience in the clinical environment).	Personal development portfolio. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.
D2	Communicate effectively using a range of media; (HCPC SoP 8.1)	Lectures, IT practical workshops, academic study and communication skills tutorials, individual and group oral presentations and work-based learning (practical experience in the clinical environment).	IT based assignments, laboratory reports and oral presentations. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: practice presentations, written activities and personal tutorials.
D3	Demonstrate numerical and statistical skills appropriate to a scientist (HCPC SoP 14.8, 14.9);	Lectures, IT practical workshops and work-based learning (practical experience in	IT based assignments, laboratory reports and oral presentations.

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
		the clinical environment).	Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: practice presentations, written activities and personal tutorials.
D4	Be competent in the use of Information Technology (word processing, databases, spreadsheets, statistical packages, electronic mail & Internet) (HCPC SoP 14.8);	Lectures, IT practical workshops and work-based learning (practical experience in the clinical environment).	IT based assignments and laboratory reports. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written activities and personal tutorials.
D5	Be able to work independently and as part of a team (HCPC SoP 9.1, 9.5)	Academic study and communication skills tutorials, individual and group oral presentations and work-based learning (practical experience in the clinical environment).	Laboratory report and oral presentations. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written activities and personal tutorials.
D6	Identify and use the appropriate resources (human & physical) to enable the successful completion of a task (HCPC SoP 4.1	Academic study and communication skills tutorials, individual and group oral presentations and work-based learning (practical	Laboratory reports. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
		experience in the clinical environment).	written activities and personal tutorials.
D7	Be able to manage their time and meet deadlines(HCPC SoP 1.2	Academic study and communication skills tutorials, individual and group oral presentations and work-based learning (practical experience in the clinical environment).	Laboratory reports. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: written activities and personal tutorials.
D8	Critically reflect on their learning and demonstrate how it can be transferred to other situations (HCPC SoP 11.1);	Academic study and communication skills tutorials, individual and group oral presentations and work-based learning (practical experience in the clinical environment).	Clinical assessment. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: portfolio reviews and personal tutorials.
D9	Demonstrate and communicate the values required in health and social care (HCPC SoP 2.3).	Academic study and communication skills tutorials, individual and group oral presentations and work-based learning (practical experience in the clinical environment).	Oral presentations. Opportunities for feedback on progress will be provided by formative activities including: practice presentations and personal tutorials.

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

In addition to these University support services this course also provide each student with a personal tutor, responsible for pastoral support and guidance.

In addition to these University support services, this course also provides support for student learning in both the academic and clinical environments. This is achieved through a variety of approaches to teaching and learning to stimulate interest and understanding. The programme uses a blended approach making full use of available learning technologies (e.g. Moodle) whilst recognising the value of face-to-face facilitation and interactive collaborative learning opportunities. As the programme progresses independence is increasingly encouraged with the overarching philosophy of student centred learning with discussions, tutorials, and the Centre for Simulation in Healthcare being utilised to support this.

Using the Centre for Simulation in Healthcare, students will participate in laboratory practical's, simulation and enquiry-based learning:

- Laboratory practical's enable students to consolidate material and facilitate the acquisition of manual and team skills; thus, providing opportunities for students to use conceptual knowledge and cognitive processes.
- Simulation enables students to be placed into situations which simulate clinical scenarios. It enables students to practise skills within a safe environment and assists with the transfer of these skills to the clinical domain. It encourages students to generate solutions to complex situations, which will enable them to express alternative approaches to care in practice. To support this a range of technologies are used to facilitate learning e.g. radiographic equipment, virtual environment for radiotherapy training (VERT), and simulation models.
- Enquiry based learning enables the introduction of a complex situation so that students can embark on a journey of enquiry related to the issues(s) raised. EBL helps students to develop ideas at a high level of cogitation whilst helping them to formulate responses within group dynamics.

Within the clinical environment, learning usually occurs through the process of observation and supervised experience working towards specified learning outcomes. The clinical environment is interprofessional in nature and student learning is supported by clinical staff. The aim of clinical placement is for students to observe, participate and practise developing professional skills and competence in a variety of 'real life' contexts. The experience will enable students to purposely relate theory to the practice and enables skills and knowledge to develop through supervised clinical practice. Learning is further enhanced by student mentoring, practice educators, clinical assessors, and academic link tutors:

- Student Mentoring offers Level 6 students the opportunity to mentor Level 4 students during their first week of clinical placement. This eases the transition from the academic environment to the clinical environment for Level 4 students whilst proffering the opportunity to Level 6 students to understand the importance of participation in training, supervision and mentoring (HCPC SoP: 4.6).
- Practice Educators are the main channel of communication between the Hospital Trust and the University for day-to-day matters concerning students. They are primarily responsible for ensuring smooth integration of students into the department and that they are suitably supervised. They will organise rosters to take account of both University requirements and the student's own objectives. Furthermore, they will liaise and consult with students on pastoral issues. Practice Educators are also responsible for facilitating discussions with colleagues who have worked with students in regard to threshold skills pertaining to professional behaviour and conduct.
- Clinical Assessors are responsible for facilitating discussions with colleagues who have worked with students to decide if threshold skills in regard to practise are met. Where they are not, they will meet students to provide constructive feedback, in combination with the Practice Educator if appropriate.
- Academic link tutors visit the clinical departments to provide students with a supportive and open forum to reflect upon their placement experience.

Whilst on placement, students will still have access to University support services and access to a virtual learning environment called Moodle. Moodle allows students, without limitation of time and place, to access different learning tools such as program information, course and unit handbooks, course content, and specific learning resources. Consequently, this enables students to interact with course material outside of the University offering opportunities for consolidating theoretical aspects of the course whilst away from campus.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

Further to this, clinical placements are monitored, reviewed and evaluated by a combination of mechanisms:

- Students are requested to complete a feedback questionnaire at the end of each placement. This is reviewed by the placement lead and then shared with relevant placement sites. This is essential to the quality of assurance of all placements and facilitates improvements and/or initiates adjustments to placement settings.
- Academic placement lecturers complete a clinical visit report after each clinical visit. The purpose of the report is to feedback to the placement lead of any underlying issues with the placement site or individual students.
- Placement sites are audited by the placement lead on an annual basis to ensure currency in regard to student learning and the placement will allow students to meet placement learning outcomes. Areas of good practice are highlighted and recommendations (where appropriate) are made.

As courses in radiography require professional education to provide instruction commensurate with the standards of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), the BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology programme meets the educational requirements for statutory registration with the UK regulatory body (Health and Care Professions Council). Furthermore, upon successful completion students would be eligible to apply for full membership with the Society of Radiographers.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

Insert additional reference points or delete as required

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2016 - 2020](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

- The NHS Constitution
- Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics (2016)
- Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) Guidance on Conduct and Ethics for Students (2016)
- Radiographers Professional Codes of Conduct (2013)
- National Qualification Framework
- The Scope of Practice 2013 (College of Radiographers)
- Education & Career Framework for the Radiography Workforce (College of Radiographers 2013)
- Clinical Supervision – a position statement (College of Radiographers) Experience gained from delivery of previous BSc (Hons) Radiography programmes
- Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning (2015)

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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