

Bachelor of Health Sciences in Radiography

NQF 8

Location: Ritson Campus (Block H Ground Floor)

Description of the Programme

The Department of Radiography offers three discipline specific degrees: Bachelor in Health Sciences in Diagnostic Radiography: Diagnostic Radiography, Nuclear Medicine and Radiotherapy.

Diagnostic Radiography

SAQA ID: 94832

Radiography is the creation of radiographs; photographs made by exposing a photographic film or other image receptors to X-rays. Since X-rays penetrate solid objects, but are slightly attenuated by them, the picture resulting from the exposure reveals the internal structure of the object. A radiographer should be able to apply scientific knowledge and technologies, applicable to the clinical presentation, for the production of optimum image quality in a chosen elective; be able to plan, develop and apply total quality management with consideration for equipment, human resources, quality assurance and health care needs; be able to manage a radiographic service; be able to apply research skills and principles, and be able to apply advanced ethical principles to daily practice.

Radiotherapy

SAQA ID: 94800

Treatment of disease with radiation, especially by selective irradiation with x-rays or other ionizing radiation and by ingestion of radioisotopes. Radiotherapy radiographers deliver doses of X-rays and other ionising radiation to patients, many of whom are suffering from various forms of cancer. Radiotherapy radiographers may be involved in the care of the cancer patient from the initial referral clinic stage, where pre-treatment information is given, through the planning process, treatment and eventually post-treatment review (follow-up) stages.

Diagnostic Sonography

SAQA ID: 94679

Ultrasound uses high-frequency sound waves and a computer to create images of blood vessels, tissues, and organs. A sonographer is qualified to perform abdominal and transvaginal ultrasound to determine the size, shape and dimensions of pelvic organs, ovarian follicle production, and the existence of tumours, enlargements or inflammations. Doppler and 3-D ultrasound help identify pathologies such as gallstones, kidney stones, cancers, hematomas and tumours. An ultrasound radiographer must operate various types of diagnostic ultrasound equipment and care for patients competently. He or she does not make a diagnosis, as this falls within the scope of a qualified doctor such as a radiologist, obstetrician, surgeon or physician. The ultrasound radiographer reports his or her finding

Section A

Basic Requirements for Training

1. Age: Minimum age: 18 years as at end of December 2020
2. Physical Fitness: Radiography involves physical work therefore; all students must be physically fit and strong. An applicant with severe disability and/or blood-related illness may not be accepted for training. All students will have compulsory medicals during their first week as registered students, as part of the requirements for registration as trainee radiation workers.
3. Academic Entry requirements:

Career Opportunities

Work may be sought in provincial and private institutions, in South Africa, as well as in most countries abroad. Radiographers may also open their own practices in accordance with the requirements of the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).

Entry Requirements (in Radiography)

| NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) (01 January 2009) | | SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC) (PRE 2009) | | | NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (VOCATIONAL) (NCV) | |
|---|-----------------|---|----|----|---|------|
| NSC DEGREE ENTRY Applicants with 28 points or more (excluding LO) will be considered | | SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC) A Senior Certificate with Matriculation Exemption or equivalent qualification. | | | NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (VOCATIONAL) (NCV) | |
| Compulsory Subjects | NSC Rating Code | Compulsory Subjects | HG | SG | Compulsory Subjects | Mark |
| English Home OR English (First additional) | 4 | English | D | C | English | 70% |
| Life Science | 4 | Biology | D | B | Life Science/Biology | 70% |
| Mathematics | 4 | Mathematics | D | B | Mathematics | 70% |
| Physical Science | 4 | Physical Science | D | B | Physical Science | 70% |

Additional Entry Requirements:

An applicant may be required to write entrance tests, visit clinical training center's, write essays and attend interviews prior to final acceptance into the radiography programme.

Please Note: Applicants will only be considered if they placed this programme as 1st, 2nd, or 3rd choice

Selection of Students:

All applicants must apply through the Central Applications Office (CAO).

The initial selection is based on the applicant's academic performance in Grade 11 and/or Grade 12 June results, with a minimum of 28 academic points.

All the applicants that meet the above requirement must complete eight (8) hours of voluntary service in a Radiography clinical environment. The candidates will then write reports on their observations and experiences whilst in the clinical environment, as well as reasons for choosing radiography as a career.

All the applicants that have successfully completed the above stages will be invited to sit for a placement testing.

Based on the placement test results successful candidates may be invited to the interview process.

Candidates that are successful in the interview process may be provisionally accepted into the programme pending their final Senior Certificate (SC) or National Senior Certificate (NSC) results. In the event that the final Grade 12 SC/NSC results do not meet the minimum entrance requirements, this provisional acceptance will be withdrawn.

NB: Compliance with the minimum entry requirement in the above table does not guarantee acceptance for training

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS BASED UPON WORK EXPERIENCE, AGE AND MATURITY

For admission to entry-level degree studies:

A person may, subject to such requirements as the Senate may determine, be admitted if such a person is in possession of a National Senior Certificate, Senior Certificate or an equivalent certificate, **but lacks the minimum requirements for admission to the degree provided that:**

- The person shall have reached the age of 23 in the first year of registration and shall have at least: three years' appropriate work experience; and/or capacity for the proposed instructional programme, which shall be assessed by a Senate-approved admission assessment comprising of a DUT Standardised Assessment Test for Access and Placement (SATAP), Academic Literacies (AL) & English for Academic Purposes (EAP) (2,5 hours) and/or an appropriate subject or programme specific written assessment designed and marked by the relevant Department; and the person has obtained
- A conditional certificate of exemption from the Matriculation Board (when in possession of the Senior Certificate (SC)); OR has met
- The requirements for Senate discretionary admission (when in possession of the NSC or equivalent), where Senate is satisfied the applicant has shown sufficient academic ability to ensure success, and that the person's standard of communication skills, and/or work experience are such that the person, in the opinion of the Senate, should be able to complete the proposed instructional programme successfully.
- The person's application for admission in terms of with work experience, age and maturity is approved prior to registration.

Applicants intending to gain admission through work experience, age and maturity must submit their applications at least four months before the commencement of the academic year inclusive of the date of scheduling writing a requisite eligibility assessment.

Compulsory Registration

A student radiographer must be registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) throughout the training programme. This is a legal requirement.

Expenses

The selected student will be responsible for:

1. Payment and/or purchase of:
2. his/her annual Durban University of Technology subject and registration fees;
3. all prescribed/compulsory textbooks;
4. levies for laboratory usage/breakages at Durban University of Technology, and
5. accommodation;
6. additional radiography insurance coverage for radiographers (optional);
7. uniforms and white lab coats;
8. Transport to/from clinical training centres. Note: students may be rotated for their work-integrated learning (WIL) through ANY of the accredited clinical training venues in and around the Durban AND Pietermaritzburg areas on KwaZulu-Natal.
9. Writing materials, including stationery.
10. HPCSA fees
11. Hepatitis Vaccinations
12. Basic Life Support Courses
13. Radiation monitoring disorders
14. Anatomical markers

Recreation

The academic workload for each level of study determines the opportunities for recreation. However, recreation facilities at Durban University of Technology are made available to all registered students.

Employment Opportunities

NB: any clinical centre does not guarantee Employment at the end of the student is training. It is the responsibility of the student to seek employment after qualifying. The availability of posts is largely dependent on the economy of the country, and the employment situation at the clinical training centres.

Compulsory One year of Community Service is compulsory for all graduates.

Service Conditions

The Province/private practices and/or Durban University of Technology reserves the right to terminate and/or deregister the student from the academic/clinical programme if his/her clinical, professional and/or academic progress, respectively, are deemed unsatisfactory. The student disciplinary rules, according to the radiography handbook and WIL CODE of Conduct will be applied in these instances.

Important points to note

- i) A pregnant radiographer is restricted in her field of work, as a registered radiation worker may not perform some radiographic examinations during her pregnancy. The student may be required to de-register during her pregnancy. Any student who is pregnant at the commencement of her studies or becomes pregnant during her training must disclose her pregnancy to the head of department immediately as exposure to radiation may harm the unborn baby. This is a Department of Health: Directorate Radiation control requirement.
- ii) As a member of the health care team, there will always be the risk of exposure to infectious diseases, e.g. Hepatitis B, Tuberculosis, and HIV/Aids. All registered students are given Hepatitis vaccines during their training.

Section B

Professional Organisations

Membership is not compulsory but student radiographers may join voluntarily as they are also members of the radiography profession, e.g. Society of Radiographers of South Africa.

Curriculum and Tuition Fees

Please contact the Department for the Curriculum and Fees of each specialisation

Application

Applicants who wish to enrol for the programme must apply through the CAO system by no later than 30 October of the previous year.

For Application Forms

Address letters to:

Central Applications Office Private

Bag X06

Dalbridge 4014

Tel: (031) 2684444

Fax: (031) 2684422

OR

Apply online: <http://www.cao.ac.za>

CAO Codes: Diagnostic Radiography DUDRAD
Diagnostic Sonography DUDRAS
Radiotherapy DUDRTO

Closing Date for Applications: 30 October 2020

For Further Information:

Contact the Department of Radiography
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