

RADT 1401
INTRODUCTION TO RADIATION THERAPY

INSTRUCTOR: TONY TACKITT, M.Ed., R.T.(T), Office WCAH 134
OFFICE PHONE: 354-6063 FAX: 354-6076 Internet: tackitt-tm@actx.edu
OFFICE HOURS: [MWF 10:30-12:00](#), [T/Th 3:00-4:00](#)

PRE REQUISITE: formal acceptance into program

PURPOSE:

This course will orient new students into the practice of radiation therapy, background, effects, terminology, procedures, equipment and interdepartmental relations.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF RADIATION THERAPY: Washington & Leaver, 2nd Ed.

INTRO TO RAD THERAPY STUDY GUIDE- compiled by Tackitt

Other -TBA (note-required textbooks for all radiation therapy courses must be purchased within one week of the beginning of school or a semester grade penalty of 1%/class period will be enforced)

COURSE GOALS:

To give the new student the introductory knowledge of the practice of radiation therapy. The student will be familiarized with principles of radiotherapy that will aid in the students concurrent clinical education course. The student will also receive introductory didactic information that will be expanded upon in future didactic courses.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

After studying the material presented in this course, the student will be able to do the following with a minimum 80% total accuracy as evaluated by the faculty in the program:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of historical aspects of current radiation therapy.
2. Relate the principals and properties of radiation.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the effect of radiation on the cell/tissues.
4. Relate the factors which determine the role of radiation as a treatment modality for cancer.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of radiotherapeutic techniques in current use in the treatment of cancer.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the pathological variation of cancer.
7. Demonstrate understanding of what the patient might experience while being treated with radiation.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of the role of the radiation therapy technologist.
9. Demonstrate knowledge of basic radiation oncology.
10. HIPPA and the patient's right to confidentiality

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Regular and punctual attendance at all lectures is expected of all students.

Each student will be permitted to accumulate [2] total absences during the course after which a 7% course grade reduction will be enforced for each subsequent absence. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the instructor and will be handled on an individual basis and will be the exception rather than the rule.

Tardiness should be avoided. The student must be in the classroom in their seat at the beginning of class in order not to be considered tardy. Being tardy [2] times will constitute one absence.

Arrangements to make up any missed homework, quizzes or exams must be made within one school day of the original due time or the result will be a grade of ZERO. Any missed scored activity may be made up for maximum 80% of the original score (88% on exams) provided that arrangements for the make up are made within one school day of the original deadline.

Tardiness should be avoided. Any student that arrives in class after a quiz/exam has been handed out will receive a 20% grade reduction for that scored activity (5% on exams). Time extensions for make-ups will be the exception rather than the rule and will be handled on an individual basis. If the student is more than 10 minutes late, the student will have to schedule and take a make-up exam and the general make-up grade penalty will be enforced.

If a student leaves class early, the quiz/exam/homework grade reduction will be enforced for that day or the subsequent class period (this includes grades on any classes that occur back to back; e.g. Dosimetry and Oncology in Fall 2nd year). Exemptions from the grade penalty will be the exception and not the rule.

It is the sole responsibility of the student who has been absent to arrange with the instructor to make up any missed work. When the student returns to class after an absence, the student will be expected to fully participate in any class activities- including quizzes or exams.

GRADING POLICY:

Regular homework, quizzes and exams will be given during the semester in both the lecture part of the course and in the lab setting. Grading will be on a total point basis.

Homework/quizzes=5-25 points, generally based on the number of questions

Exams=100 pts typical (unless announced otherwise)

Final exam=300 points

Other -TBA (note-required textbooks for all radiation therapy courses must be purchased within one class period of the beginning of school or a semester grade penalty of 1%/class period will be enforced)

There will be approximately six major exams each semester followed by a comprehensive final exam at the end of each semester.

NOTE-THE STUDENT MUST PASS AT LEAST TWO REGULAR EXAMS IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE FINAL. IF THE STUDENT DOES NOT PASS AT LEAST TWO TESTS, THE STUDENT WILL NOT TAKE THE FINAL AND WILL AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE AN "F" FOR THE COURSE.

All points earned during the semester will be added together and divided into the total amount of points possible to determine a percentage grade. This includes grades from labs and any outside assignments.

A=92-100% B=84-92% C=80-84% F=79 and below

A "D" is not possible in this course

Example of grades:

A student has the following grades:

major exams: 100,90,80,100,90,80

final exam: 90

didactic quizzes: 15/20, 14/15,9/10

lab quizzes: 10/10,9/10,18/20

grade would be calculated as follows:

$100+90+80+100+90+80+(90 \times 3)+15+14+9+10+9+18=$

885 (pts earned) / 995 (total pts available)= $.889=88.9\% = "B"$

(Note: to convert a decimal into a percent, multiply it by 100)

Final grade="B" Note-It is highly recommended that the student keep track of their own grades in addition to the teacher keeping track of grades

COURSE OUTLINE

The course outline can be found at the beginning of the STUDY GUIDE.

PSYCHOSOCIAL LAB OUTLINE

(times TBA)

This lab will consist of various chapters in the textbook dealing primarily with psychosocial oncology, patient communication strategies, etc. as well as various guest speakers/videotapes/etc. dealing with the psychosocial needs of the cancer patient. Students will also be introduced to hospital organization and the availability of professional organizations at the local, state and national levels.

THUS, THE INTRO COURSE CONSISTS OF TWO COMPONENTS:

1. classroom lecture (M, W 1:30-3:30)
2. psychosocial lab (M 3:40-5:00)

Both components will be considered in the final grade. Quizzes from both areas will count into the final Intro grade. However, each area will have its own specified time for meeting. For instance, IF there is a lecture in the **Monday 3:40** psychosocial section, there will not be a quiz on that material until the following **Monday** at **3:40**. The material from a **Wednesday 1:30** lecture may, however, be quizzed on the following **Monday 1:30** class time.