

# Radiation Therapy

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The SIUC baccalaureate degree program in radiologic sciences is the only one of its kind in the State of Illinois.

## Radiation Therapy

Radiation Therapy technologists assist radiation oncologists in all aspects of the administration of radiation therapy treatment; their primary responsibility consists of exposing specific areas of the patient's body to prescribed doses of ionizing radiation. Radiation therapy technologists also provide appropriate patient care; this includes exercising judgment when administering treatment and adhering to the principle of radiation protection for the patient, self, and others.

## Program of Study

The program of study during the first year includes basic sciences, general core courses and health related electives. The second and third years are composed of courses for the basic radiography program and general core courses. Program structure allows for the simultaneous completion of the lecture and clinical course requirements. Clinical experiences during the second and third years are served in area and regional hospitals away from the University campus. Upon successful completion of their third year in the Program, our Radiography students will be awarded an associate of applied science degree (AAS) in Radiography. The student will then complete the application process to sit for the national ARRT Radiography certification exam. The fourth year is composed of the Radiation Therapy (RT) courses and clinical rotations.

## Admissions

Due to a variety of circumstances, including rules of accreditation, limitations of facilities/internship sites, and faculty-student ratio, enrollment in the program is limited. Following admission to the University, a prospective student must submit a separate Radiologic Sciences application packet to the Admissions Clerk. This application packet is available at the program website. It is important to complete all application procedures by the deadline listed at the program website. Radiography students and radiologic technologists may apply directly to the advanced specialties and complete a B.S. degree.

## Scholarships and Awards

Radiologic Science students have the opportunity to apply for scholarship awards from the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, American Association of Medical Dosimetrists, and numerous College and University organizations. These awards are based upon scholarly achievement and the active support of the professional association. Many scholarships are available from the College of Applied Sciences and Arts and Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Counseling for financial assistance may be obtained at the Office of Financial Aid, Woody Hall, (618) 453-4334

## Expenses

Students accepted into the radiologic sciences program will have expenses in addition to University tuition, fees, and books. These include the cost of uniforms, appropriate health tests and vaccines, and housing and/or travel to distant clinical internship sites.

## Student Profile

Characteristics of students enrolled in the Radiation Therapy program at SIUC are diverse relative to gender, age, marital status and ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

## Career Opportunities

The Department of Labor as well as Money magazine rates the Radiologic Sciences as one of the top ten employment opportunities well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Employment opportunities are available nationwide and offer the technologist flexible work situations to accommodate various lifestyles and needs. Salaries vary nationwide depending on cost of living.

## Clinical Experiences

Hands-on Radiologic Science experiences in regional hospitals and clinics develop professional skills of students and provide health care to the community. Rotations include experience in hospitals and clinics of differing sizes and care delivery throughout southern Illinois, Missouri, and the surrounding region. Opportunities to observe advanced methods of medical imaging and therapeutics will be incorporated into additional minor rotations.

## Accreditation and Licensure

The Radiologic Sciences program at SIUC is recognized by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). Students meet the Illinois licensing requirements at time of graduation and are also eligible to sit for the Radiography ARRT exam. The Sonography program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS) while the Radiography, MRI, Radiation Therapy and Medical Dosimetry programs are accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT).

## Recommended Course Sequence for Radiation Therapy Students

| Fall Semester  | Spring Semester   | Summer Semester  |
|--|---|--|
| <b><u>Year 1</u></b>   |   |  |
| UNIV 101U 1 Saluki Success<br>ENG 101 3 English Comp I<br>U. Core 3 PLB/ZOOL 115/117<br>AH 105 2 Medical Terminology<br>AH 241 4 Human. A&P (Replaces 2 credit Core Curriculum Health requirement) | *RAD 122 2 Seminar in Radiology<br>ENG 102 3 English Comp II<br>SPCM 101 3 Intro: Oral Comm.<br>U. Core 3 Chemistry or Physics<br>U. Core 3 Humanities Group<br>MATH 3 Math 108 or Math 101 |  |
| <b><u>Year 2</u></b>   |   |  |
| RAD 102 3 Intro to RAD<br>RAD 112 3 Anatomy & Positioning<br>RAD 112L 1 A&P Lab<br>RAD 202 3 Radiographic Physics<br>U. Core 3 Social Science Group<br>U. Core 3 Humanities Group                  | RAD 222 9 Radiography Clinic I  | RAD 212 2 Special Procedures<br>RAD 232 3 Selected Systems<br>RAD 232L 1 Selected Systems Lab<br>*RAD 122 2 Seminar in Radiology<br>U. Core 3 Social Science Group |
| <b><u>Year 3</u></b>   |   |  |
| RAD 332 9 Radiography Clinic II<br>U. Core 3 Fine Arts Group   | RAD 312 3 Radiographic Pathology<br>RAD 322 3 Anat./Pharmacology<br>RAD 342 3 Rad. Biology & Protection<br>RAD 352 3 Spec. Imag. Modalities<br>U. Core 3 Multicultural Course               |  |
| <b><u>Year 4 - Radiation Therapy Spec.</u></b>   |   |  |
| RAD 360 2 Fund of Rad Oncology<br>RAD 370 3 Tech & App of Rad Therapy<br>RAD 380 3 Physics of Rad Therapy<br>RAD 390 2 Oncology Nursing<br>RAD 400 3 Dosimetry & Instrument                        | RAD 410 10 Clinical Internship I<br>RAD 420 2 Special Problems  | RAD 430 4 Rad Therapy Clinic II<br>RAD 440 2 Rad Therapy Seminar   |

### Contact Information:

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For more information, please visit our website:

<http://www.sah.siu.edu/undergraduate/radiologic-sciences/radiation-therapy/>