Undergraduate Programme Specification
BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology

This specification provides a summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate where full advantage is taken of all learning opportunities offered. Further details on the learning, teaching and assessment approach for the programme and modules can be accessed on the University website and Virtual Learning Environment, GCU Learn. All programmes of the University are subject to the University's Quality Assurance processes.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION				
Programme Title	Radiotherapy and Oncology			
Final Award	Bachelor of Sciences (Honours) Radiotherapy and Oncology			
Awarding Body	Glasgow Caledonian University			
School	School of Health and Life Sciences (SHLS)			
Department	Allied Health Professionals			
Mode of Study	Full-time			
Location of Delivery	Glasgow Campus			
UCAS Code	B822			
Accreditations (PSRB)	Health and Care Professionals Council & Society and College of Radiographers			
Period of Approval	From:	September 2026	To:	August 2031

2. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF PROGRAMME

The BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology is designed to produce graduates who meet the criteria for professional registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), inspiring them with the desire for lifelong learning and the recognition of the importance of an evidence-based approach in their pursuit of excellence in professional practice. These graduates will be fit for practice and fit for purpose and will have a sound understanding of the science and technological principles underpinning radiotherapeutic practice. In addition, the programme aims to develop communication and interpersonal skills required to manage psychosocial needs of service users and carers and other healthcare professionals. Graduates will have the attributes of a GCU graduate: Active global citizenship, Entrepreneurial Mindset; System Thinking; Responsible Leadership; Resilience, Compassion and Empathy, Confidence.

During study for the BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology students will have the opportunity to gain the professional knowledge whilst developing the professional skills and attributes of a therapeutic radiographer. These are to:

1. *Practise safely and effectively within their scope of practice*
2. *Practise within the legal and ethical boundaries of their profession*
3. *Look after their health and wellbeing, seeking appropriate support where necessary*
4. *Practise as an autonomous professional, exercising their own professional judgement*
5. *Recognise the impact of culture, equality, and diversity on practice and practice in a non-discriminatory and inclusive manner*
6. *Understand the importance of and maintain confidentiality*

7. *Communicate effectively*
8. *Work appropriately with others*
9. *Maintain records appropriately*
10. *Reflect on and review practice*
11. *Assure the quality of their practice*
12. *Understand and apply the key concepts of the knowledge base relevant to their profession*
13. *Draw on appropriate knowledge and skills to inform practice*
14. *Establish and maintain a safe practice environment*
15. *Promote health and prevent illness* [1]

The main aims of the Programme, therefore, are to produce graduates equipped with the transferable skills and abilities and grounded in the knowledge that will stand them in good stead, not only for first-post competency, but for eventual advanced and consultant-level practice. The new interprofessional framework gives students the opportunity to explore health and social care environments from a number of different professional stand-points and encourages them to develop attitudes and skills to enable them to work effectively in teams and in collaboration with other health and care professional groups.

1: Health & Care Professions Council (2023) *Standards of Proficiency –Radiographers.* Available at https://www.hcpc-uk.org/standards/standards-of-proficiency/radiographers/ (Accessed 13 June 2025)

3. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The learning outcomes for the BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology have been developed to meet the curriculum content of the Education and Career Framework for the Radiography Workforce[1] and to enable graduates to meet the Standards of Proficiency[2] and Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics[3] of the statutory body (as mentioned in the previous section). In addition, the programme content is designed to meet the QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Health Studies[4].

This undergraduate programme is designed to provide an award that also confers eligibility to apply for registration as a therapeutic radiographer with the HCPC. Graduates should be able to demonstrate the following clinical skills and behaviours, underpinned by the subject knowledge and understanding described below:

A: Knowledge and understanding;

A1 Describe and explain the theoretical principles and scientific concepts that underpin radiotherapeutic practice.
A2 Describe and explain the pathophysiology associated with health and disease and evaluate methods employed in diagnosis and treatment.
A3 Evaluate the capability, applications and range of technological equipment used for imaging and radiotherapy.
A4 Describe and evaluate the role of the radiographer in the cancer pathway, prevention, pre-treatment, planning, delivery, after care and within the healthcare team.
A5 Evaluate developments in Radiotherapy and Oncology practice.
A6 Describe the principles of radiobiology, the stochastic and non-stochastic, genetic and somatic effects of radiation.
A7 Evaluate the principles and application of radiation protection and the measurement of radiation dose.

A8 Describe the organisation and management of health and social care services within the UK and evaluate developments and trends in legislation and health and social care policy.
A9 Describe the sociological and psychological aspects of care for people undergoing examinations and treatments, their families and carers.
A10 Understand the risks and benefits of different imaging and radiotherapy techniques.

B: Practice: Applied knowledge, skills and understanding;
B1 Demonstrate clinical reasoning skills regarding pre-treatment and treatment processes and competence in all aspects of the role of a therapeutic radiographer.
B2 Maintain accurate records.
B3 Judge the correctness of the radiation prescription and interpret it in such a way that radiotherapy is delivered accurately and reproducibly.
B4 Evaluate the needs of patients and demonstrate sound clinical judgement to deliver quality person-centred and context-specific care in a broad range of settings in radiotherapy and oncology practice.
B5 Recognise faults and malfunctions/deviations from normal equipment operation and the possible implications of such faults on treatment delivery.
B6 Practise safely and accurately within the legal, ethical and professional framework demonstrating anti- oppressive and anti-discriminatory practice.
B7 Work collaboratively with interdisciplinary colleagues in the best interest of the patient and carers.
B8 Demonstrate the ability to seek assistance, consult colleagues and make referrals where appropriate.
B9 Display the ability to examine and synthesise information gathered, and apply this knowledge to the service user's needs.

C: Generic cognitive skills;
C1 Employ effective information retrieval skills to identify and manage relevant resources to inform professional practice.
C2 Evaluate, analyse and synthesise research and clinical practice, in order to promote evidence based practice.
C3 Integrate theory and practice based knowledge in order to inform, implement and evaluate professional practice.
C4 Critically reflect on personal and professional practice.
C5 Engage in lifelong learning and continuing professional development to maintain and develop skills and knowledge to enable continuing fitness to practice.
C6 Use research, reasoning and problem solving skills to determine appropriate actions and critically evaluate practice.

D: Communication, numeracy and ICT skills
D1 Exhibit good numerical, written and verbal and IT skills.
D2 Incorporate effective communication and confidentiality in all dealings with service users and carers.
D3 Critically reflect on strengths and weaknesses and self-evaluate own practise.
D4 Display the ability to prioritise tasks and meet deadlines for the completion of work to required standards either individually or as part of a team.

E: Autonomy, accountability and working with others.

E1 Practise safely and accurately within the legal, ethical and professional frame demonstrating anti-oppressive and anti-discriminatory practice.

E2 Demonstrate the professional values of a healthcare professional including but not limited to honesty and integrity, reliability, self-confidence, self-reliance and regard for others.

E3 Work collaboratively with interdisciplinary colleagues in the best interest of the patient and carers.

1: Health & Care Professions Council (2023) *Standards of Proficiency –Radiographers.* Available at https://www.hcpc-uk.org/standards/standards-of-proficiency/radiographers/ (Accessed 13 June 2025)
2: SCoR 2022 *Education and Career Framework: 4th Edition.* Available at: https://www.collegeofradiographers.ac.uk/education-and-career-framework-ecf (Accessed 13 June 2025)
3: Health & Care Professions Council. 2024. *Guidance on Conduct and Ethics for Students*. Available at: https://www.hcpc-uk.org/globalassets/resources/guidance/guidance-on-conduct-and-ethics-for-students.pdf (Accessed 13 June 2025)
4: QAA . 2024, *Subject Benchmark statement Health Studies.* Available at: https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/sbs/sbs-health-studies-24.pdf?sfvrsn=4001b481_4 (Accessed 13 June 2025)

4. LEARNING AND TEACHING METHODS

The programme provides a variety of learning and teaching methods. Programme and Module specific guidance will provide detail of the learning and teaching methods specific to each module.

Across the programme the learning and teaching methods and approaches may include the following:

- Lectures
- Tutorials
- Practical classes
- Placements
- Simulation experiences
- Groupwork
- Flipped classroom approaches
- Digital learning

5. ASSESSMENT METHODS

The programme provides a variety of formative and summative assessment methods. Programme and Module specific guidance will provide detail of the assessment methods specific to each module.

Across the programme the assessment methods may include the following:

- Written coursework (essays, reports, case studies, dissertation, literature review)
- Oral coursework (presentations)
- Practical Assessment (Placement, VIVA, Laboratory work, OSCE)
- Group work
- Blogs and Wikis
- Portfolio Presentations
- Formal Examinations, Class Tests and VIVA

The above assessments may be delivered either in person and/or online as appropriate and determined at module level by the Module Leader.

6. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Specific entry requirements for this programme can be found on the prospectus and study pages on the GCU website at this location: GCU Radiotherapy and Oncology

The Course webpage specific to this Programme is:

All students entering the programme are required to adhere to the GCU Code of Student Conduct.

7. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND AVAILABLE AND FINAL EXIT AWARDS[1]

The following modules are delivered as part of this programme:

Module Code	Module Title	Core or Optional	SCQF Level	Credit Size	Coursework %	Coursework %	Examination %	Practical %
M1B130634	*Preparation for Professional Practice*	Core	7	20	100	0	0	0
M1B830877	Anatomy for Radiographers 1	Core	7	20	0	0	100	0
M1B826017	Physics for Radiographers	Core	7	20	0	0	100	0
M1B102521	Fundamentals of Human Physiology	Core	7	20	0	0	100	0
M1B826006	Radiotherapy and Oncology 1	Core	7	20	40	0	60	0
M1B830886	Radiotherapy Practice Based Learning 1	Core	7	20	0	0	70	30
M2B130635	*Community Centred Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice*	Core	8	20	100	0	0	0
M2B830881	Specialist Imaging Technologies	Core	8	20	0	0	100	0
M2B830879	Anatomy for Radiographers 2	Core	8	20	0	0	100	0
M2B826007	Radiotherapy and Oncology 2	Core	8	20	50	0	50	0
M2B830887	Radiotherapy Practice Based Learning 2	Core	8	40	50	0	0	50
M2B130636	Methodology and Research for Effective Practice	Core	8	20	100	0	0	0
M3B130638	*Leadership and Collaboration in Interprofessional Teams*	Core	9	20	40	60	0	0
M3B826021	Radiotherapy and Oncology 3	Core	9	20	40	0	60	0
M3B826010	Radiotherapy Treatment Planning and Brachytherapy	Core	9	20	50	0	50	0
M3B830888	Radiotherapy Practice Based Learning 3	Core	9	40	0	0	50	50
MHB925801	Honours Project	Core	10	40	100	0	0	0
MHB826011	Advancements and Safety in Radiotherapy	Core	10	20	100	0	0	0
MHB826020	Person Centred Care	Core	10	20	100	0	0	0
MHB830889	Radiotherapy Practice Based Learning 4	Core	10	40	0	0	50	50

Students undertaking the programme on a full-time basis commencing in September of each year will undertake the modules in the order presented above. This may be subject to variation for students commencing the programme at other times of year (e.g. January) and/or undertaking the programme on a part-time or distance learning mode of delivery.

[1] Periodically, programmes and modules may be subject to change or cancellation. Further information on this can be found on the GCU website here: www.gcu.ac.uk/currentstudents/essentials/policiesandprocedures/changesandcancellationtoprogrammes

* Modules in italics denote IPE modules

The following final and early Exit Awards are available from this programme[2]:

Certificate of Higher Education in Health and Social Care **- *achieved upon successful completion of 120 credits*

Diploma of Higher Education in Health and Social Care -** *achieved upon successful completion of 240 credits*

Bachelor of Science in Health and Social Care** - *achieved upon successful completion of 360 credits*

Bachelor of Science with Honours in Radiotherapy and Oncology*- *achieved upon successful completion of 480 credits*

** with eligibility to apply for registration with the HCPC*
*** with no eligibility to apply for registration with the HCPC*

8. ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Students should expect to complete their programme of study under the GCU Assessment Regulations that were in place at the commencement of their studies on that programme, unless proposed changes to University Regulations are advantageous to students. These can be found at: https://www.gcu.ac.uk/aboutgcu/services-and-facilities/qualityassuranceandenhancement/regulations-and-policies

In addition to the GCU Assessment Regulations noted above, this programme is subject to Programme Specific Regulations in line with the following approved Exceptions:

The programme exceptions are to follow as they are currently scheduled for review at the next Exceptions committee for approval on 30*th* Oct 2025.

Exceptions will cover:

- 100% attendance for practice based learning
- Practice Based Learning Modules all exceed the number of hours of clinical placement for the standard module hours due to PSRB requirement.
- Practice Based Learning Modules – all components must be passed at a minimum of 40%
- Compensation (Undergraduate Assessment Regulations)

[2] Please refer to the GCU Qualifications Framework for the minimum credits required for each level of award and the Programme Handbook for requirements on any specified or prohibited module combinations for each award.

VERSION CONTROL (to be completed in line with AQPP processes) **Any changes to the PSP must be recorded below by the programme team to ensure accuracy of the programme of study being offered.**			
Version Number	*Changes/Updates*	*Date Changes/Updates made*	*Date Effective From*
1.0	Re-Approval Review	October 2025	September 2026