Thank you for joining us for today’s Online Chat session. This session is for applicants to our our BSc Radiography (Diagnostic Imaging) and BSc Radiography (Oncology and Radiotherapy) courses. This session runs from 16:00 - 17:00 (GMT). This is an open chat session for you to ask any questions you have regarding these courses and life at City, University of London. During the session we may also share videos, polls or documents relating to you course.

To ask a question, please type it in the chat box. Your question will not post straight away - it will be sent to our Moderators who will type an answer back. Once their answer is complete, it will be published with you question. Please be patient as it might take some time for us to respond to your question.

Can you tell me the difference between the two Radiography courses at City?

Hi, A diagnostic radiographer employs a range of different imaging techniques and sophisticated equipment to produce high quality images of an injury or disease (e.g. x-rays, Computed Tomography, Ultrasound and Magnetic Resonance Imaging). Diagnostic radiographers will take the images and very often report on them so that the correct treatment can be given.

Hello. I am looking at both Diagnostic and Radiotherapy courses at the moment. I’m trying to get some work experience in each to help me decide but also looking at eventual job prospects. Any tips to help me decide? Also, how many places do you have on the course?

Hi, there are no literacy or maths tests on the radiography selection day

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A therapeutic radiographer is responsible for the planning and delivery of accurate radiotherapy treatments using a wide range of technical equipment. The accuracy of this process is critical to treat cancer and destroy diseased tissue, while minimising the amount of exposure to surrounding healthy tissue.

A diagnostic radiographer employs a range of different imaging techniques and sophisticated equipment to produce high quality images of an injury or disease (e.g. x-rays, Computed Tomography, Ultrasound and Magnetic Resonance Imaging). Diagnostic radiographers will take the images and very often report on them so that the correct treatment can be given.

To truly understand the differences between the professions it is advisable to undertake a clinical visit. It is recommended that you visit BOTH a diagnostic and a radiotherapy department before deciding which to study - which you have already mentioned.
Hello. I am looking at both Diagnostic and Radiotherapy courses at the moment. I’m trying to get some work experience in each to help me decide but also looking at eventual job prospects. Any tips to help me decide? Also, how many places do you have on the course?

Diagnostic recruit up to ~90 and radiotherapy ~40

Regarding job prospects, both degrees have a very high employment rate within 6 months of qualifying. Diagnostic (DR) has 100% employment rate within the field and further study, radiotherapy (RT) has 78.2%

With regard to clinical placements, do you get to work in a variety of settings or hospitals or tend to stay in one Trust / big department?

Hi,
I’m currently studying therapeutic radiography and we study at a variety of different hospitals so you get a flavour of the range of techniques used at different places.

Hi. I’m really interested in studying diagnostic radiography can you give me any advice in regards to my personal statement and is work experience a must?

Hi. I would like to know do you necessarily need to choose Biology as one of the chosen subjects for this course or is there any alternatives?

Hi, thanks for your question. You would need to take at A level one of the following: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics. Hope this helps!

Hi. I’m really interested in studying diagnostic radiography can you give me any advice in regards to my personal statement and is work experience a must?

Hi. That's correct. In order to be offered a place on the Diagnostic Radiography course, you will need to complete a clinical visit to a diagnostic radiography department. This is often a good thing, to mention within your personal statement.

Could you recommend any resources to look into for more information on diagnostic radiography?
Hi. You can find more about diagnostic radiography here on our City University website: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/radiography-diagnostic-imaging

Radiography - Diagnostic Imaging
City's degree will provide you with the skills and knowledge to help diagnose illness by producing and interpreting images.

Could you recommend any resources to look into for more information on diagnostic radiography?

There are also some other good websites out there. For example radiography careers https://radiographycareers.co.uk/ and health careers https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/diagnostic-radiographer

Radiography Careers
Radiographers take images of the insides of patients' bodies to diagnose injury or disease. They also care for and treat people with cancer.

Is it recommended to send an application off before the month of January? Could this effect a future place in the course

Hi, it's best to send an application off as soon as possible, to have the best chance of getting onto the course. Hope this helps!

When studying diagnostic or therapeutic radiography, roughly how many lectures are there in a week?

Hi, this question depends on the year of study. Year 1 students spend a significant amount of time in lectures before clinical placement. You can expect 4-5 lectures a week spread across 3-5 days. There are also mandatory sessions like personal tutor meting and clinical skills sessions.
Could I still apply to both courses at your uni?

We wouldn’t recommend applying to both courses on UCAS as diagnostic radiography is different to therapeutic radiography. To truly understand the differences between the professions it is advisable to undertake a clinical visit. It is recommended that you visit both a diagnostic and a radiotherapy department before deciding which to study. Hope this helps?

Are you able to share the rough ratio of applicants to places on your courses please? Any tips on the selection day?

Hi, roughly the ratio is 9:1 DR:RT. This is largely due to the lack of awareness of radiotherapy for school leavers.

Would BTEC applied science be fine as a chosen subject for this course? Thanks.
Hi Anika, yes this would be fine. You would need to achieve DDD overall. Hope this helps!

What have you found to be the best things about your course and your experience so far?

Hey thank you for the question.
My favourite thing would be spending time with patients during clinical placement. In second year the majority of your time is spent at hospitals and you really get to know the staff you work with and the patients you treat. Alongside the physics in the degree and understanding the technology used to deliver radiation you learn patient skills and how to empathise with individuals going through a difficult illness - which for me is very rewarding.

Are you able to share the rough ratio of applicants to places on your courses please? Any tips on the selection day?

On the selection day itself, come prepared. Read around the branch of radiography you are interested in and be sure of your decision before you apply. That way you will come across as actively wanting to study DR or RT. If possible arrange your clinical visit before the interviews, that is always useful as it shows that you have made steps to starting your career in radiography.

What will the selection day consist of?

Hi. During the selection day, there will be a presentation from some of the lecturers and from some of the students who are currently studying radiography here at City. There will then be a tour of the facilities. Lunch will be provided and after lunch you will have an interview.

A question for Laiba - what have you found to be the best things about your course and your experience so far?

Focusing on university life, our class size isn’t huge so as a result we are all quite close with each other. You make friends really quickly and this is great because we all help each other out in terms of academic stuff!

Would you still recommend this course for someone who did not study Physics as an A-Level subject?

Hi, if you haven’t studied one of these subjects at A level (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics) you can complete an access course, which you would complete at college. This needs to be in Radiography or Science only with full award (60 credits) of which a minimum of 45 credits must be at Level 3 including 30 credits at Distinction with at least 6 credits at Distinction in Physics and 15 credits at Merit. You would need to hold GCSE English and Mathematics at grade C (4) or above. Hope this helps!

How are the assessments like for this course?

Hi. On the radiography (diagnostic imaging) course, we currently have a range of assessments. Some of these include written examinations, computer based examinations, oral examinations, clinical based examinations (assessments that are carried out in the hospital) and assignments.

Thanks for the answer - and of course the flipside ;) - anything been particularly challenging?
Good question! During first year we had a lighter load of lectures so it was naturally easy to manage. Now that I have started second year the workload has increased and you need to stay on top of things during clinical placement. So the main tip I would give is as long as you stay on top of revision while achieving what you need to at the hospital you will be fine.

Thanks for the answer - and of course the flipside ;)} - anything been particularly challenging?

Also when you first start to engage with patients its totally normal for anyone to be shy or embarrassed. I would say, personally, a deciding factor between the courses for me was how much time we spend with patients and in radiotherapy it is a lot more as you treat patients for a few weeks. Something to look out for when you are getting work experience!

I’m also a BTEC student - we are doing the RCF spec as our College hasn’t switched to the newer QCF - is this still acceptable?

I have a work experience for radiotherapy at the end of December and I think that waiting to put that in my application may risk my chance of even getting in. Not mentioning work experience and sending it off not may also effect my application what could I do?

Hi, Excellent! I hope you enjoy your experience ;). If you wanted to, you could always wait until you have completed your experience before putting your application in? That way you will know that you are making the right decision as a career choice. :}

What type of questions will be asked at the interview?

Hi, the interview will last for approx. 15 mins - the panel usually being made up of a lecturer, a clinical staff member, and a service user/current student. We ask three questions that common to both branches of radiography. The questions are based around Radiography as a profession. Most are patient focused and based on the key skills of the radiographer;

- Caring and supportive
- Calm under pressure
- Able to work in a team
- A good communicator
- Able to work with technology
- Able to demonstrate accuracy
- Compassionate and empathetic
- Attentive to detail
- Interested in science and technology
- Adaptable
- Open to learning new skills

I’m also a BTEC student - we are doing the RCF spec as our College hasn’t switched to the newer QCF - is this still acceptable?

Hi, as long as you achieve D(star) D (star) D, then this should be fine.

Would BTEC applied science be fine as a chosen subject for this course? Thanks.

This should say D(star) D (star) D!
Would it be alright to have a mixture of A-level and BTEC subjects or do you have to choose just A-level subjects?

Hi, it’s fine to have a mix, however your BTEC must be in the relevant subject (applied or medical science), and your A level must make up the majority of your UCAS points, totalling 120 for Diagnostic and 112 for Therapeutic. Hope this helps!
	hank you so much for answering, would you still consider someone if they got their native language as one of the A level subject?

Hi. For A-level’s we would be looking for BBB (Diagnostic radiography) or BBC (for therapeutic radiography). One of the A-levels must include either Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics. (Please note we do not accept General Studies or Critical thinking). Hope this helps?

for the therapeutic course, how many weeks do you spend on placement each year?

So across the 3 years about 50% of your time will be spend at university and 50% of your time will be at clinical placement.

for the therapeutic course, how many weeks do you spend on placement each year?

Only in year one the split is 80:20 academic:clinical as you only spend 7 weeks in placement - year 2 and 3 is 50:50

What would the hours be like for clinical placements?

With regard to radiography (diagnostic imaging), the clinical placement hours can vary. Shifts can also vary week to week. For example on one week it might, consist of 2 long days (8am - 8pm) and a half a day (9am - 1pm) as an example. Shift work can be hugely beneficial as students get to see a range of examinations and experiences.

What do we do with filled out clinical placement forms. Do we bring them to the interview or send them beforehand?

Hi , you can email the form to health@city.ac.uk if it has not been completed before interview. If made an offer, this will part of the conditions to hand the form in. Hope this helps!

There are 10 minutes left of this chat session. Please ask any further questions you have now.

What would the hours be like for clinical placements?

...and for radiotherapy you must complete 28hrs per week spread across 4 days. Shifts range from 7:30-18:00
What would the hours be like for clinical placements?
Shift work also prepares students for employment/working in the NHS as most diagnostic radiographers are required to work shifts.

Would you say this course is heavily Maths based?
Hi, maths and in general calculations are part of both courses but we would not say that either course is 'heavily' maths based :)

I have done two work experiences but for one of the hospital placement I forgot to fill out the form, will that be a problem?
Hi Nadimah, as long as you have completed the form for the route you are applying for, this will be fine. Hope this helps!

You know after studying Diagnostic Radiography at undergraduate level, what can you do to progress in the pay band of the NHS?
Hi. As a newly qualified diagnostic radiographer, you will earn a band 5 radiographer salary. Experience will be required to progress up the salary scale.

I have done two work experiences but for one of the hospital placement I forgot to fill out the form, will that be a problem?
Hi. To record that experience you can always complete the Clinical visit form available at: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/radiography-diagnostic-imaging and email it to health@city.ac.uk

Radiography - Diagnostic Imaging
City's degree will provide you with the skills and knowledge to help diagnose illness by producing and interpreting images.

Would BTEC applied science x1 (equivalent to one a level) with biology and another A level be accepted or does it have to be BTEC applied science x3 (equivalent to three a levels)?
Hi, if you are applying using a BTEC we require DDD (Applied Science or Medical Science only).
Would BTEC applied science x1 (equivalent to one alevel) with biology and another A level be accepted or does it have to be BTEC applied science x3 (equivalent to three alevels)?

Hi, it's fine to have a mix, however your BTEC must be in the relevant subject (applied or medical science), and your A level must make up the majority of your UCAS points, totalling 120 for Diagnostic and 112 for Therapeutic. Hope this helps!

And also how much coursework and exams are there?

Hi, all of these questions are addressed on our website;

https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/radiography-radiotherapy-and-oncology
https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/radiography-diagnostic-imaging

Radiography - Diagnostic Imaging

City's degree will provide you with the skills and knowledge to help diagnose illness by producing and interpreting images.

Radiography - Radiotherapy and Oncology

This degree will give you the knowledge and skills to work on the frontline of cancer care making a vital difference to the care and support of patients and their families.

Hello do we need to take a IOT test for this course

Hi. Sorry, I haven't heard of an IOT test before. However, there are no numeracy tests that are required prior to being offered a place.

This session has now ended. Thank you so much for joining us today. If you have any further questions, please email onlineevents@city.ac.uk.