



BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Program: Medical Radiography  
Course Delivered by: Physics Department  
School of Computing and Academic Studies

Course Outline For:  
**PHYS 1275**  
**Physics: Medical Radiography I**

Instructor: Richard Saunders

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<b>Hours/Week:</b>	3.5	<b>Total Hours:</b>	56	<b>Term/Level:</b>	1/1
Lecture:	2.5	<b>Total Weeks:</b>	16	<b>Credits:</b>	3.5
Lab:	2		8		
Other:					


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### Prerequisites

Physics 12 and Math 12

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### Course Record

Developed by:	Richard Saunders	Date:	February 5, 1999
	Instructor		
Approved by:		Date:	
	Physics Department		
Approved by:		Date:	
	Program Head of Technology		

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### Course Description and Goals

Physics of Medical Radiography is an introductory level course which emphasizes the application of physical phenomena in medical radiography. Topics include structural and physical properties of matter, static electricity, direct and alternating current, magnetism, energy, heat, wave motion, electromagnetic radiation, quantum concepts, production of X-rays and interaction of X-rays with matter. Wherever appropriate, the physics of devices such as X-ray tubes, the generator, ionization chamber, photomultiplier tube, TLD, imaging devices etc. will be used to demonstrate applied physics concepts.

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## Evaluation

Students will be evaluated through a combination of tests, assignments, projects, examinations, or other means as specified by the instructor. See Course Specifications for evaluation details. BCIT Policy 5410 "Evaluation of Students" will apply.

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## Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

- define relevant physics terms with units,
- explain or discuss relevant physics concepts with defined terminology,
- draw and label diagrams for relevant applied physics topics,
- demonstrate conceptual understanding of physics by solving numerical, subjective and objective problems,
- explain the radiographic image formation process to a patient

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## Competency profile

This course provides a foundation of applied science for the Radiography program. And, in the process, covers a portion of the following competencies.

- A2.6, A4.2, A4.10, A5.4, A5.6, A5.7, A5.8, A7.5, A7.7
- B1.5, B1.6, B1.7, B1.8, B2.1, B2.2, B2.3, B2.5, B3.2, B3.3, B4.1, B4.2, B5.1, B5.2, B5.3
- C2.4, C2.7
- D1.13, D1.14, D2.2, D3.1, D3.2



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**PHYS 1275**  
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### **Effective Date**

This course outline takes effect January 5, 1999.

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### **Instructor**

Office No:	SW3-4083	Phone:	412 7442
E-mail:	rsaunder@bcit.bc.ca	Fax:	433-2132

Office Hours	Monday open	Tuesday open	Wednesday open	Thursday open	Friday open
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### **Text(s) and Equipment**

#### ***Required:***

- Bushong, Stewart C., *Radiologic Science for Technologists: Physics, Biology and Protection*, sixth edition, Mosby, (1997).
- A Manual of Experiments in Medical Radiography Technology
- Physics Laboratory Notebook

#### ***Recommended References (Not Required):***

- Ball, J.L. and A.D. Moore, *Essential Physics for Radiographers*, second edition, Blackwell, (1986).
- Carlton, R.R. and A.M. Adler, *Principles of Radiographic Imaging: an art and a science*, Delmar Publishers, (1992).
- Hay and Hughes, *First-Year Physics for Radiographers*, second, Bailliere Tindall, (1978).
- Thompson, Hall, Hattaway and Dowd, *Principles of Imaging Science and Protection*, W.B. Saunders, 1994.
- Wilks, *Principles of Radiological Physics*, Churchill Livingstone, (1981).
- Wolbarst, A.B., *Physics of Radiology*, Appleton and Lange, 1993.

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## Evaluation

Term Tests	2 at 12%	24	%
Quizzes	4 at 4%	16	%
Laboratory Tests	1 at 10	10	%
Laboratory Reports		10	%
Final Examination		40	%
		100	%

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## Evaluation Policies

- **Passing Grade:** The passing grade in this course is 60%. The final mark is a weighted average of all tests quizzes and lab work.
- **Quizzes:** will be directly related on assigned problems and class lecture notes.
- **Term Tests:** will be related to assigned problems and concepts covered in classes and tutorials. Each of the term tests will examine approximately the same amount of material.
- **Laboratory Tests:** will be directly related to the assigned laboratory sessions. You will be allowed to use your lab data book on lab tests.
- **Laboratory Reports:** will be completed each week and graded by an instructor. Students must complete the laboratory exercises and hand in finished reports on time to obtain a grade. No marks will be given for experiments from which you were absent, except by special arrangement with instructor.
- **Final Exam:** will test material covered in the whole term.

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## Other Course Policies and Information

- **Assignments:** Late assignments or projects will not normally be accepted for marking. Assignments must be done on an individual basis unless otherwise specified by the instructor.
- **Attendance:** Students are expected to attend classes regularly in accordance with the current BCIT Calendar attendance policy.
- **Class Conduct:** Students are expected to act professionally during class. Students disrupting classes or disturbing others during class will be asked to leave and their behaviour will be reported to their program head.
- **Course Outline Changes:** The material specified in this course outline may be changed by the instructor. If changes are required, they will be announced in class.
- **Ethics:** BCIT assumes that all students attending the Institute will follow a high standard of ethics. Incidents of cheating or plagiarism will be dealt with in accordance with BCIT's Conduct and Attendance Policy in the calendar and, may result in a grade of zero for the assignment, quiz, test, exam, or project for all parties involved and/or expulsion from the course.

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## Other Course Policies and Information, cont'd

- **Illness:** A doctor's note is required for any illness causing you to miss an assignment, quiz, test, or exam. At the discretion of the instructor, you may complete the work missed or have an average mark (i.e. an average is given according to your performance on other tests or assignments).
- **Labs:** Lab attendance is mandatory.
- **Makeup Tests, Exams or Quizzes:** There will be no makeup tests, exams or quizzes. If you miss a test, exam or quiz, you will receive zero marks. Exceptions **may** be made for documented medical reasons or extenuating circumstances.
- **Physics Learning Centre:** Additional help may be obtained in the Physics Learning Centre, Room SW3-4785, during posted hours.
- **Problem-Solving:** Students are expected to show all work in solving problems. Equations should be rearranged solving for the unknown quantity; numbers and units must be substituted in equations and the answer must be written with proper significant figures and units. Marks will not be given for unsupported answers.
- **Workload:** The time that you will need to succeed in this course depends on your own background and abilities. It is very important to study regularly, keep up with the work and seek the assistance of the instructor when problems arise. The course load is quite heavy and to succeed you must be prepared to make the appropriate personal time commitment.



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\* This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Chapter	Topics	Reference /Reading
1	<b>Introduction</b> 1 period <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Course objectives</li><li>• Measurements<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>SI units</li><li>accuracy and precision</li></ul></li><li>• Unit conversion</li></ul>	
2	<b>Radiological Physics</b> 2 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Historical background</li><li>• X-ray generation (brief overview)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>simplified circuit</li><li>definitions (mA, kV, time, collimator, grid and screen)</li></ul></li><li>X-ray production</li><li>X-ray attenuation</li></ul>	
3	<b>Structure of Matter</b> 2 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Atomic structure<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Evidence (review)</li><li>Atomic size</li></ul></li><li>• Bohr model of the atom</li><li>• Atomic energy level diagram<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>binding energy</li><li>ionization energy</li><li>excited states</li><li>electron transition</li></ul></li><li>• Photon energy</li><li>• Tungsten atom</li></ul>	

Chapter	Topics	Reference /Reading
4	<b>The Nucleus</b> 2 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Radioactivity <math>\alpha</math>, <math>\beta</math> and <math>\gamma</math> radiation</li> <li>Nuclear structure protons, neutrons elements and isotopes nuclides</li> <li>Applications gamma camera PET scanner</li> </ul>	
5	<b>X-ray Production</b> 2 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Characteristic production</li> <li>Brems Production</li> <li>Spectral Intensity Curve X-ray quality X-ray quantity change produced by mA and kV</li> </ul>	
6	<b>X-ray Attenuation</b> 3 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attenuation, absorption and scatter</li> <li>Subject Contrast</li> <li>Exponential attenuation linear attenuation coefficient</li> </ul>	
7	<b>Electrostatics</b> 4 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electrostatic problems in Radiography static marking of films operating room hazards</li> <li>Electric charges (review) types of charges interaction of charges methods of ionization</li> <li>X-ray dose ionization chamber exposure dose mR/mAs typical values absorbed Dose (definition)</li> <li>Electrostatic field electric field lines of force X-ray tube focusing cup</li> <li>Electric potential (voltage)</li> </ul>	

Chapter	Topics	Reference /Reading
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equipotential lines</li> <li>Electron volt energy unit</li> </ul>	
8	<b>Electric Current</b> 4 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Charge transfer               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>battery</li> <li>electric current</li> </ul> </li> <li>Circuits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>current, voltage and resistance</li> <li>energy and power</li> <li>factors determining resistance</li> <li>internal resistance</li> </ul> </li> <li>line voltage drop</li> </ul>	
9	<b>Capacitance</b> 2 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacitor               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>definition</li> <li>construction</li> </ul> </li> <li>Charging and discharging a capacitor</li> <li>Application               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>portable X-ray machines</li> <li>filtration</li> <li>exposure timing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
10	<b>AC Circuits</b> 5 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ohm's Law and AC               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>peak, average and effective (RMS)</li> <li>advantages of using AC</li> </ul> </li> <li>Transformers               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>construction</li> <li>operating principle</li> <li>types of transformers</li> </ul> </li> <li>mA changes Kv</li> <li>Vacuum diodes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>thermionic emission</li> <li>principle of operation</li> <li>X-ray tubes</li> <li>Gassy X-ray tubes</li> </ul> </li> <li>Rectification               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>full wave</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
11	<b>Solid State</b> 3 periods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solids</li> <li>Energy bands               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>conductors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



Chapter	Topics	Reference /Reading
	insulators semiconductors • Solid state diodes rectifiers X-ray detectors • Applications fluorescence (scintillation) phosphorescence thermoluminescent dosimeters imaging plate	
12	<b>X-ray Generators</b> <span style="float: right;">2 periods</span> • Single phase • Three phase voltage generator voltage wave form • Three phase rectification 6 pulse 12 pulse (mention only) percent ripple • High frequency generators constant kV • Vacuum triode • Triode applications high voltage switching grid controlled X-ray tubes	