

Bergen Community  
College Health Professions  
Division  
Radiation Therapy Technology Program

Course Syllabus  
RTT- 110-001 Introduction to Radiotherapy and Patient Care Management

Date of Most Recent Syllabus Revision: Summer, 2024  
Course Typically Offered: Fall semester  
Syllabus last reviewed by: Curriculum Committee

**Basic Information about Course and Instructor**

Fall Semester  
RTT – 110-001  
Meeting Times: Tuesday/ Wednesday @ 9:00am-9:50am  
Health Professions 323  
  
Instructor: Amy Diaz  
Health Professions – 330  
201-493-5034  
Office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday: 12:45pm – 1:45pm  
Off campus - Tuesday: 9:00am-10:00pm  
E-mail: [adiaz@bergen.edu](mailto:adiaz@bergen.edu)  
Department Secretary: Amanda Sanzari

**Course Description**

**RTT-110-001 Introduction to Radiotherapy and Patient Care Management** - This course is an exploration of the foundation of radiation therapy practices and the variety of roles for the professional in the delivery of health care. Principles of practice, professional responsibilities, medical law and ethics will be addressed.  
2 lecture / 2 credits  
Prerequisites: None  
Co-requisites: RTT 120, RTT 121, RTT 130, RTT 150

## Student Learning Objectives:

As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, students will be able to:

1.	Examine the structure of the health care organization with emphasis on the radiation therapist scope of practice and code of ethics for clinical application.
2.	Explain the dynamics of communicating with the cancer patient and family, including end of life issues and patient emotional response.
3.	Assess the physical condition of the patient before, during and after treatment delivery.
4.	Define the principles of health safety.
5.	Describe the proper care of patients with tubes. Explain proper use of the principles of patient safety and transfer.
6.	Compare and contrast the use of common medications used in the care of the cancer patient, including indication, administration, side effects and adverse reactions.
7.	Define medical emergencies, give examples and describe emergency response procedures.
8.	Explain the Bill of Rights for Patients and provide patient education appropriate for patient needs.
9.	Assess the nutritional status of the cancer patient to provide nutritional education or intervention.
10.	Explain patient care in brachytherapy procedures, including principles of radiation protection.
11.	Discuss alternative and complementary treatments for cancer.
12.	Identify theories and principles that guide ethical decision making for practice situations.
13.	Define practice situations that carry high potential for dilemmas that require ethical scrutiny including cultural and ethnic diversity.
14.	Differentiate between provider and patient relationships.
15.	Discuss confidentiality and standards of disclosure.
16.	Explain age related ethical issues.
17.	Discuss sources of law, causes of action and litigation processes related to the professional practice of radiation therapy.
18.	Analyze the inter-relatedness of standards of care and ethical standards to negligence, competence, safety issues, risk management and documentation and maintenance of clinical practice records.

### **Means of Assessment:**

The Student Learning Objectives (SLO) in this course are intended to be aligned with the Patient Care and Education accreditation requirements of The Joint Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. They are also correlated with the content specifications for the national registration examination in Radiation Therapy administered by The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Additional student learning objectives may be specified in particular units. The major assessment types (means of assessment) utilized in this course is quizzes and assignments, objective exams, and class participation.

### **Course Content:**

Content is designed to provide the student with foundation concepts and competencies for service delivery in patient care and education, and applied ethics and medical care law relevant to the professional practice of radiation therapy.

### **Course Website:**

**RTT 110 - Patient Care and Education** is a “web-enhanced” class. The class has its own website and each member of the class has an account for the website. The BCC online course management system is known as “Moodle”. This website will provide the student with review and assessment materials.

### **Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials:**

All textbooks are available through the Bergen Community College Bookstore.

Washington, Charles M., Leaver, Dennis. Principles and Practice of Radiation Therapy. St. Louis, MO: Mosby Elsevier Publishing, Inc., 4<sup>th</sup>.ed. 2015. ISBN: 978-0-323-28752-4. (referred to as “W&L”)

## **Course Requirements and Learning Assessment:**

### **Overall Class Participation (5% of final grade)**

In order to participate in particular lectures and discussions, all related reading and assignments must be completed prior to that class session. Please be advised that you must be present to participate, yet that alone does not constitute active participation.

**Assignments** (15% of final grade) Homework assignments will be used to reinforce classroom presentations. The assignments will be collected, graded and returned. Late assignments will not be accepted.

### **Quizzes (30% of final grade)**

Students are expected to be prepared for a quiz in each lecture session. Missed quizzes may not be made up.

### **Examinations (50% of final grade)**

A mid-term and a final exam will be administered in class. Each exam will be worth 25% of your final grade. The exam schedule will follow the classroom presentation and the content of the exam will be based on the required textbook readings, classroom presentations and handouts. PowerPoint presentations and supplemental handouts are distributed in class and are available through Moodle. Both exams are required. In the event that a exam is missed, the student will be given a comparable test. A make-up exam is at the discretion of the instructor of the course.

## **Grading Policy:**

The grading policy and course grade appeal policy of the program are stated in the Radiation Therapy Student Handbook. The program grading policy utilizes the standards of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist national registry exam.

Letter Grade	Numerical Range	Conversion
A	92% to 100%	Excellent
B+	89% to 91.9%	Very Good
B	83% to 88.9%	Good
C+	80% to 82.9%	Marginal / Acceptable
C	77% to 79.9%	Poor / Failing
I	Incomplete	
E	Unofficial withdrawal	
W	Official Withdrawal	
D / F	Does not apply to RTT courses	

77% is minimal passing cut-off score.  
There is no extra credit opportunities in this course.

### **Attendance Policy:**

**BCC Attendance Policy:** All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These are to be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.

**Radiation Therapy Program Attendance Policy:** Classroom attendance policy for the Radiation Therapy Program is stated in the Radiation Therapy Student Handbook. The student is responsible for adherence to this policy.

**Attendance Policy in this Course:** Students are expected to attend class regularly and punctually and for the full class period. Attendance will be taken at each class session. In the event of a late arrival, the student is expected to enter quietly without disturbing the class. In the event of an absence, it is the responsibility of the student to acquire the missed material. The attendance policy of this course will adhere to the attendance policy of the Radiation Therapy Program as stated in the Radiation Therapy Student Handbook.

Absences, lateness and early departures will diminish your overall performance in the course and, subsequently, will increase your risk of diminished performance on the ARRT national registry exam and the administration of responsible patient care. Additionally, the BCC Radiation Therapy Program provides employment assistance upon graduation from the program and ARRT registration; your classroom attendance behavior may be used by your instructor as an indicator to your employment attendance behavior.

**Quizzes:** If late or absent from class, any quiz given, student will receive a 0 for that quiz.

### **Other College, Divisional, and/or Departmental Policy Statements**

The Radiation Therapy Program adheres to all Bergen Community College policies, including drug and alcohol use and smoking on campus, discrimination and harassment, rules and

regulations governing conduct, rules governing academic integrity and acceptable use of information technology resources as stated in the BCC College Catalog – Policies.

The Bergen Community College Radiation Therapy Program adheres to a no cell phone policy in the classroom, laboratory and clinic.

## **Student and Faculty Support Services:**

Bergen Community College is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability (or think you may have a disability) and, as a result, need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this class, complete course requirements, or benefit from the College's programs or services, contact the Office of Special Services (OSS) as soon as possible at 201-612-5270 or [www.bergen.edu/oss](http://www.bergen.edu/oss). To receive any academic accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with OSS. The OSS works with students confidentially and does not disclose any disability-related information without their permission. The OSS serves as a clearinghouse on disability issues and works in partnership with faculty and all other student service offices.

## **Student Support Services**

Bergen Community College provides exemplary support to its students and offers a broad variety of opportunities and services. A comprehensive array of student support services including advising, tutoring, academic coaching, and more are available online at <https://bergen.edu/currentstudents/>.



Sidney Silverman Library Online Resources:

Guides BY SUBJECT - LibGuides at Bergen Community College  
General Search and Databases: Library | Bergen Community College

### **Course Outline and Calendar**

**Note to Students:** The following Course Outline and Calendar is tentative and subject to change, depending upon the progress of the class.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presentation/Activities/Assignments</b>	<b>Readings</b>
		W&L-Chapter(s)
1	Cancer: An Overview	1
2	Medical Terminology	
3	Communication/Karnofsky	10
4	Tubes/ Vitals / Transfers	Pg. 162-163
	Mid - Term Review	
	Mid-Term Exam	
5	Radiation Side Effects	Pg. 69 - 78
6	Radiation Therapy Tech. and Chemotherapy	Pg. 10-14
7	Ethics and Legal Consideration	2
8	Health and Safety	9
9	Medications and Administrations	11
10	Hematopoietic and Lymphoid System	11
11	Insurance and Billing	
12	RadOnc Emergencies	
	Final Review	
	Final Exam	