

Radiography

A radiographer is an allied health professional that uses ionizing radiation (x-rays) to produce images of the internal structures of the human body. A radiographer assists the radiologist (doctor who specializes in the interpretation and diagnosis of disease or injury) by positioning the patient, administering contrast agents, operation of diagnostic imaging equipment, image processing, radiation exposure factors, and radiation protection.

Skills and Competencies

A radiographer must have good interpersonal skills to deal with patients and healthcare workers. Radiographers should be sensitive to a patient's physical and psychological needs. They must pay attention to detail, follow instructions, and work as part of a team. Physical stamina is required in this occupation. Managers are likely to be on their feet most of the day, may be required to lift or position their patients, and may have to perform radiographic procedures at a patient's bedside. Computer and digital equipment skills are utilized. With additional education a diagnostic image may perform more specialized imaging procedures further assisting in the diagnosis of disease.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with general education courses and graduation requirements.

Radiography Core

- RAD109 Introduction to Radiography (2 cr.)
- RAD261 Radiation Biology and Protection (2 cr.)
- RAD262 Methods of Patient Care (3 cr.)
- RAD263 Radiography Clinical Experience I (2 cr.)
- RAD264 Radiographic Procedures I (5 cr.)
- RAD265 Principles of Radiation Protection, Characteristics and Equipment (3 cr.)
- RAD266 Radiography Clinical Experience II (6 cr.)
- RAD267 Radiographic Procedures II (5 cr.)
- RAD361 Diagnostic Image Production (3 cr.)
- RAD362 Sectional Imaging and Anatomy (2 cr.)
- RAD363 Radiography Clinical Experience III (4 cr.)
- RAD364 Image Processing/Quality Mgmt (3 cr.)
- RAD365 Radiographic Pathology (2 cr.)
- RAD366 Radiographic Clinical Experience IV (8 cr.)
- RAD367 Issues in Radiography (1 cr.)
- RAD368 Radiography Clinical Practicum V (8 cr.)

Other Required Courses

- BI207 Human Anatomy & Physiology I (4 cr.)
- BI208 Human Anatomy & Physiology II (4 cr.)
- CH105 Chemical Principles (4 cr.) or
CH109 Intro Org & Biochem for Health Sciences (4 cr.)
or CH111 General Chemistry 1 (4 cr.)
- CLS100 Obtaining a Blood Specimen (1 cr.)
- HL101 Medical Terminology (1 cr.)
- MA111 College Algebra (4 cr.)

General Education

- EN111 College Composition I (4 cr.)
- EN211 College Composition II (4 cr.)
- Social Responsibility in a Diverse World Elective

Detailed course descriptions can be found at www.nmu.edu/bulletin.

Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better the chances are that you will find a job. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

Radiography is an Associate of Applied Science degree that requires 89 credits to complete. This should take approximately three years to finish all required classes.

Forty of the fifty states require additional licensing for the profession of radiography or radiology.

Higher prestige careers will require at least a bachelor's degree and further experience. This degree can be used towards the Clinical Health Science bachelor's degree.

Job Outlook

Radiography is expected to grow at a faster than average rate of 9% in the next ten years. The annual median salary for this profession is \$58,960 or \$28.35 per hour. Those with years of experience and additional qualifications may earn 20% or more of the median salary.

Potential Careers

NMU's Radiography Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

- Radiography
- Computed Tomography (CT)
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Mammography

Additional Resources and Information

For Career Planning and Opportunities:
Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
www.nmu.edu/acac

School of Clinical Sciences
3515 West Science
906-227-2885
www.nmu.edu/clinicalsciences

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:
Career Services
3502 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:
Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

Internet Resource Links:
www.careers.org
www.bls.gov

For Career Information with National Organizations:
www.asrt.org -American Society of Radiographic Technologist
www.acr.org -American College of Radiography
www.arrt.org -American Registry of Radiologic Technologists



**NORTHERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY**

The Academic & Career Advisement Center
2021



What to do with
a major in...

Radiography

Associate's Degree

