

General Course Information

MDPH 404 Radiation Biology and Radiation Protection

0.125 EFTS 15 Points
First Semester 20 Feb 2023 - 4 June 2023

Course Coordinator

Steven Marsh
Room 408, Beatrice Tinsley Building.
steven.marsh@canterbury.ac.nz

Lectures:

Monday	1pm – 2pm	Jack Erskine 242
Friday	11am – 1pm	Jane Soons 608

Description

An introduction to the ICRP system of radiation protection, radiation safety, radiation measurement, radiation biology and carcinogenesis.

Assessment

Written report	15%
Presentation of report	10%
Mid-term test	15%
Final exam	60%

 [Note that a pass in the final exam is required to pass the course.](#)

Pre-requisites

Subject to approval of the director of the programme

Textbooks

- Radiobiology for the Radiologist (6th edition), E Hall, (2006).
- Radiation Oncology Physics: A handbook for teachers and students, E Podgorsak, (2005)

Learning Outcomes

On completing this course you should be able to

- Use appropriate units to quantify radiation exposure
- Describe the principles underlying risk reduction
- Discuss relevant regulations pertaining to radiation safety
- Suggest procedures to minimise risk of radiation exposure
- Perform basic procedures that involve use of radiation
- Describe approaches for monitoring staff and work areas
- Understand cell survival curves
- Understand the effects of different types of radiation and biological materials
- Understand dose response curves
- Understand the use of radiation for treatment of cancer
- Understand mathematical modelling in radiobiology

Summary of Course Content

The general topics covered by this course are:

- The development of radiation protection
- Radiation protection organisations
- ICRP system of radiological protection
- Effects of ionising radiation
- Quantities and units of radiation protection
- Basic principles for dose reduction technical aspects
- Basic principles for dose reduction – external and internal hazards
- Safety of the radioactive patient
- Effects of total body irradiation
- Natural and man-made radiation
- Organisation of radiation protection
- Transport, storage and disposal of radioactive material
- Basic radiation biology
- Structural shielding
- Radiation detection and measurement
- Radiation biology – survival curves
- Radiation biology – Fractionation, accelerated RT, Oxygen effect
- Radiation biology – Normal tissue tolerance
- Radiation biology – Heritable and foetal effects

Learn

All important course information can be accessed through the UC *Learn* system available at <http://learn.canterbury.ac.nz/>. You need to login with your UC login and password and then select the course code on the left hand side. Make sure you check the *Learn* page regularly for relevant information and course updates. Note that all course related emails will be sent to your UC email address. No other email addresses will be accepted. It is your responsibility to check your UC email regularly.

Lecture timetable

A detailed timetable can be found on *Learn*.

General Physics and Astronomy Information

Please consult the document General Information for Physics and Astronomy Students on the Physics and Astronomy Web Page: [Department of Science \(canterbury.ac.nz\)](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/department-of-science/)
Or <https://apps.canterbury.ac.nz/1/science/phys-chem/PHYS%20-%20Course%20Outlines/General.PDF>