

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY

Nuclear medicine is the medical specialty that utilizes the nuclear properties of radioactive substances and stable nuclides to make diagnostic evaluations of the physiologic and/or anatomic conditions of the body and to provide therapy with unsealed radioactive sources. The nuclear medicine technologist is an allied health professional who, under the direction of an authorized user, is committed to applying the art and skill of diagnostic evaluation and therapeutics through the safe and effective use of radiopharmaceuticals and pharmaceuticals.

The nuclear medicine technologist exhibits professionalism in the performance of duties, demonstrates an empathetic and instructional approach to patient care, and maintains confidentiality of information as required. Responsibilities include but are not limited to preparation, quality control testing and administration of radioactive and non-radioactive compounds; execution of patient imaging procedures including computer processing and image enhancement; laboratory testing; patient interviews; instruction and preparation for administration of prescribed radioactive compounds for therapy; quality control; and radiation safety. The nuclear medicine technologist applies knowledge of radiation physics and safety regulations to limit the radiation exposure to the general public, patients, fellow workers and self to as low as reasonably achievable. Professional growth and development are achieved through appropriate utilization of new technologies, participation in continuing education and involvement in research to enhance the quality of patient care.

Program Description

Saint Joseph's University offers a two-year curriculum of full-time study in nuclear medicine leading to an Associate in Applied Science degree. The University also offers a 12-month academic certificate program in nuclear medicine technology to students who have completed college-level courses in Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II, Physics, Mathematics (a minimum of college algebra), Chemistry, and English composition. Clinical education offers a variety of supervised experiences through which students gain competency-based, entry-level nuclear medicine technology skills. Class size is limited in order to provide the learner with individual attention in a wide variety of clinical areas. Upon completion of the program, the graduate is eligible for a national certification exam in nuclear medicine technology.

Mission

The mission of the Nuclear Medicine Technology program is to provide didactic and clinical education to persons who wish to serve the community as competent, entry-level nuclear medicine technologists.

Learning Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Work effectively with members of the health care team.

Goal 2: Demonstrate competency in the performance of nuclear medicine procedures.

Goal 3: Show ability to think critically by applying didactic knowledge to clinical situations.

Goal 4: Assume responsibility for continuous learning, professional growth and service to the community.

Goal 5: Respect the ethical, legal, moral and cultural issues that impact the care of patients.

Associate Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
General Education		
ENG 101	Craft of Language	3
BIO 175	A&P for Nursing & Allied Health	4
BIO 175L	A&P Nursing & Allied Health Lab	0
MAT 112	College Algebra	3
CHM 101	Chemistry for Allied Health	3
CHM 101L	Chemistry Allied Health Lab	0
BIO 176	A&P Nursing & Allied Health II	4
BIO 176L	A&P Nursing & Allied Hlth II Lab	0
PHY 200	Survey of Physics	3
PHY 200L	Survey of Physics Laboratory	1
SOC 101	Intro to Sociology	3
or SOC 270	Special Topics	
CSS 101	College Studies Seminar	3
Free Elective		6
Nuclear Medicine		
NMT 201	Nuclear Medicine Theory I	4
NMT 211	Nuclear Med Clin I	5
INT 103	Methods of Patient Care	1
HSC 390	Medical Terminology	1
PHL 490	Ethical & Legal Dimen Hlth Sci	1
NMT 202	Nuclear Med Theory II	6
NMT 212	Nuclear Med Clin II	5
NMT 195	Cross-Sectional Anatomy	1
NMT 203	Nuclear Med Theory III	2
NMT 213	Nuclear Med Internship	6
Total Hours		65

Certificate Requirements

Students already holding an associate or baccalaureate degree, or who will have met the degree requirements from their primary educational program upon completion of the certificate program, may apply for the 12-month academic certificate program. Admission is given on a space available basis. Academic affiliates include Millersville University, Cedar Crest College, York College, and Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Code	Title	Hours
NMT 201	Nuclear Medicine Theory I	4
NMT 211	Nuclear Med Clin I	5
NMT 202	Nuclear Med Theory II	6
NMT 203	Nuclear Med Theory III	2
NMT 212	Nuclear Med Clin II	5
NMT 213	Nuclear Med Internship	6
NMT 195	Cross-Sectional Anatomy	1
INT 103	Methods of Patient Care	1
PHL 490	Ethical & Legal Dimen Hlth Sci	1
HSC 390	Medical Terminology	1
Total Hours		32

Typical Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Fall		
Associate Degree Only		
ENG 101	Craft of Language	3
BIO 175	A&P for Nursing & Allied Health	4
BIO 175L	A&P Nursing & Allied Health Lab	0
MAT 112	College Algebra	3
CSS 101	College Studies Seminar	3
Free Elective		3
Hours		16
Spring		
Associate Degree Only		
CHM 101	Chemistry for Allied Health	3
CHM 101L	Chemistry Allied Health Lab	0
BIO 176	A&P Nursing & Allied Health II	4
BIO 176L	A&P Nursing & Allied Health II Lab	0
PHY 200	Survey of Physics	3
PHY 200L	Survey of Physics Laboratory	1
SOC 101 or SOC 270	Intro to Sociology or Special Topics	3
Free Elective		3
Hours		17
Second Year		
Fall		
Associate Degree and Certificate Program		
NMT 201	Nuclear Medicine Theory I	4
NMT 211	Nuclear Med Clin I	5
HSC 390	Medical Terminology	1
PHL 490	Ethical & Legal Dimen Hlth Sci	1
INT 103	Methods of Patient Care	1
Hours		12
Spring		
Associate Degree and Certificate Program		
NMT 202	Nuclear Med Theory II	6
NMT 212	Nuclear Med Clin II	5
NMT 195	Cross-Sectional Anatomy	1
Hours		12
Summer		
Associate Degree and Certificate Program		
NMT 203	Nuclear Med Theory III	2
NMT 213	Nuclear Med Internship	6
Hours		8
Total Hours		65