RT SECTION IX: GRADING

1. **GRADING (SHS Policy 305)**
   SHS policies are located at: http://www.readinghospital.org/sohs/policies

2. **RT PROGRAM GRADING PROCESS**

Students enrolled in the Radiologic Technology Program are evaluated in both the academic and clinical components of their education. The grading scale for the Radiologic Technology Program is based on a percentage system for both the academic and clinical curricula. Grade Point Average (GPA) nor letter grades are assigned by the RT program. The grading system employed by the RT Program is numerical and student progress is assessed as follows:

100-93	Excellent
92-89	Above average
88-84	Average
83-75	Below Average
74-0	Failure

Overall semester and final grades will be weighted as follows:

	Academic Grading	**Clinical Grading**
1st Semester	75%	25%
2nd Semester	65%	35%
3rd Semester	50%	50%
4th Semester	50%	50%
5th Semester	30%	70%
6th Semester	NA	100%

Students must maintain a passing grade of 75% for each course. All students are required to maintain an overall didactic average of 80% and an overall clinical average of 80%. Failure to achieve the minimum academic or clinical requirements will result in involuntary separation from the program. Clinical and academic grades are recorded to the nearest tenth. At the close of each semester, students achieving a 90% or above overall average* are recognized for their achievement by being placed on the Director's List. *Overall average is comprised of academic and clinical performance grades; weighted as listed above.

Honor cords are distributed to RT students graduating with academic distinction. The SHS grading system is effective for all programs and is used as the framework for determination. Averages are cumulative for the two years of education and encompass academic and clinical performance. RT graduates documenting a final program average within one of the ranges below will be given honor cords of the appropriate color:

Gold Cords: Summa cum laude for RT program average of 93.5-100%

Silver Cords: Magna cum laude for RT program average of 90.0 – 93.4%
Bronze Cords: Cum Laude for RT program average of 89.0- 89.9%

3. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (SHS Policy 307)

SHS policies are located at: http://www.readinghospital.org/sohs/policies

4. RT ACADEMIC GRADING

Students are evaluated by the instructors through the use of tests, quizzes, homework, worksheets, research projects, laboratories, oral presentations, term papers, role-playing and/or computer projects. Faculty notify students of their progress periodically during the course and issue written academic warnings to students achieving course averages below 83% . Students have access to academic grades via WebConnect:

Go to http://trhshs.readinghospital.org

- Enter your last name
- Student ID (the six digit number on the back of your ID card)
- Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number

WebConnect Security protection - trying to logon with wrong information more than 9 times will lock the account. Contact the School of Heatlh Sciences IT Specialist to remove the lock.

The faculty is responsible for submitting periodic and final course grades to the program office for entry into the student's permanent file; grade entry into the student's permanent file is completed by the Program Secretary.

Final program grades are calculated at the end of each academic year. Grades for repeated or remediated courses are documented on the student's official transcript as Pass/Fail; final averages for Level I, Level II and academic honors are calculated using the original grade earned. The final Level I and final Level II grades are averaged to determine the final program grade.

4a. Core Academic Courses

The following courses are considered the **core academic curriculum** of radiologic imaging. A fundamental knowledge of this core material is essential in order to progress through the program. Failure of any core course automatically results in academic dismissal from the program.

Level I Core Courses

Medical Terminology
Patient Care
Radiation Production and Characteristics I (Physics I)
Radiation Production and Characteristics II (Physics II)
Image Production and Evaluation I
Image Production and Evaluation II
Radiation Protection
Radiographic Procedures I

Radiographic Procedures II
Radiographic Procedures III

Level II Core Courses
Imaging Equipment
Radiation Biology
Radiographic Procedures IV
Radiographic Procedures V
Digital Image Acquisition and Display

Academic & Clinical Performance Concerns: see Advisement

5. CLINICAL GRADING

Clinical grades are weighted and are calculated by combining the grades earned in the various areas of clinical education: Clinical Competency Evaluations, Performance Evaluations and advanced imaging area Mini-Modules (CT, MRI etc.).

5a. Clinical Competency Evaluations account for 80% of the clinical grade during the first level of education and 70% during the second level. The student must successfully complete each procedure in order to prove clinical competency.

- Grades earned for the required competencies are averaged at the end of the year:
  - Level I – 26 total grades – comprises 80% of the Level I clinical grade
    - Fall Semester – General Clinical Objective Check-off Grade and 1 general equipment competency grade
    - Spring Semester – 7 radiographic competency grades; 2 general equipment competency grades; 2 radiology skills lab equipment competency grades; and the Computed Radiography Reader equipment competency grade
    - Summer Session – 7 radiographic competency grades; 3 general equipment competency grades; C-arm and Portable equipment competency grades
    - All outstanding unsuccessful competency attempts will be carried forward until a successful grade has been recorded.
  - Level II – 37 total grades – comprises 70% of the Level II clinical grade
    - Fall Semester
      - 10 radiographic competency grades; 1 Fluoroscopy specific and Cystoscopy equipment competency grades
    - Spring Semester – 13 radiographic competency grades
    - Summer Session
      - 11 radiographic competency grades and 1 Fluoroscopy specific equipment competency grade

5b. Clinical Performance Evaluations account for 20% of the clinical grade.

- Students are graded on their ability to perform categorized tasks in each clinical area of assignment.
- The grades earned in each category are averaged to determine the overall percentage grade for each Performance Evaluation.
- At the end of each semester, the student's final performance evaluation grade is calculated from the end of semester evaluation and any advanced imaging performance evaluations. In the event that there are advanced imaging performance evaluations for the semester, the average achieved on the advanced imaging performance evaluations will account for 5% of the final performance evaluation grade for the semester. The final performance evaluation grade comprises 20% of the clinical grade for the semester.
- Students are required to maintain an overall average of 80% or higher on clinical performance evaluations.

5c. Mini-Modules Mini-module grades are averaged per semester and account for 10% of the clinical grade during Level II.

- An assignment must be completed by the end of each advanced imaging area rotation (Computed Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Ultrasound (US), Advanced Interventional Radiology (AIR), Nuclear Medicine, Cardiac Catheterization Lab, On-Site/Radiology Managers, Radiologist Assistant, Women's Center and Radiation Oncology) based on the student's research (mini-modules) and observation.
- These grades will then be averaged, per semester, to obtain the final average. This average comprises 10% of each senior semester clinical grade.
- Students are required to maintain an overall average of 80% or higher on mini-module evaluations.

6. ADVANCEMENT

In order to advance to the second level of education, Level I students must meet the following requirements:

1. Document an overall academic average of 80%.
2. Document an overall clinical average of 80%.
3. Fulfill all attendance requirements.
4. Maintain a passing grade of 75% for each course. If any Level I non-core course is failed, advancement to the second level is contingent upon repeating the failed course along with completing all other Level II course requirements. This opportunity is provided for a maximum of **2** non-core courses.
5. Complete all clinical rotation assignments.
6. Complete all clinical competency requirements.
7. Complete all clinical area objectives.
8. Achieve a minimum score of 75% on each Presentation Board Assignment.

7. ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Due to the absence of standardized curriculum sequencing in radiography programs, advanced placement is not offered to any student.

8. RE-ADMISSION POLICY (SHS Policy 301)

SHS policies are located at: http://www.readinghospital.org/sohs/policies

9. PRESENTATION BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

Students are required to successfully complete poster board presentations in order to progress through the curriculum. Guidelines will be provided at the start of the semester each assignment is due.

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