

## 680J Radiation Oncology

**Course Description:**

The principal objective is to provide a clinical experience in Radiation Oncology with the evaluation and treatment of cancer patients. A secondary goal is to acquaint the student with the methodologies of modern cancer therapy. Emphasis will be on the concepts, methods, and principles of radiation therapy; both external beam (teletherapy) and internal (brachytherapy). Opportunities to participate in clinical or laboratory research are available.

**Department:** Radiation Oncology

**Prerequisites:** Extramural students must be in the final year of undergraduate medical education.

**Restrictions:** Minimum final year of medical school status.

**Elective Director:** Jeffrey Kuo, MD, UC Irvine Medical Center, Department of Radiation Oncology, 101 The City Drive, South, B-23, Rt-26, Orange, CA 92868 (714) 456-8074  
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**Site Coordinator:** Linh Nguyen, Residency Coordinator, UC Irvine Medical Center, Department of Radiation Oncology, 101 The City Drive, South, B-23, Rt-26, Orange, CA 92868 (714) 456-8074  
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**Instructing Faculty:** Dr. Ramsinghani, Dr. Chen, Dr. Kuo, and Dr. Daroui

**Course Website:** [none](#)

**Who to Report to First Day:** Dr. Kuo, education coordinator Ms. Linh Nguyen, or resident on UCI rotation. **Location to Report on First Day:** Department of Radiation Oncology, 1st Floor, Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, UC Irvine Medical Center, Orange, CA 92868

**Time to Report on First Day:** 8:00 AM - Students must report with a white coat and identification badge. We recommend you check in with us ahead of the rotation in case there are special procedures scheduled early on the first day.

**Site:** Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center – UC Irvine Medical Center

**Periods Available:** Throughout the year

**Duration:** 2-12 weeks

**Number of Students:** 2 maximum

**Scheduling Coordinator:** UC Irvine students please email: [comsched@uci.edu](mailto:comsched@uci.edu) or call (714) 456-8462 to make a scheduling appointment. Please read the following information carefully. Any student enrolled at a U.S. LCME medical school will use VSAS to apply. To apply please refer to this website <http://www.aamc.org/programs/vsas/>

International and osteopathic students will not use VSAS. To apply please refer to the application link towards the top-left of this page.

**Course Objectives:** At the end of this rotation the student will be able to:

- The objective of this elective is to acquaint the student with the role of radiation therapy in the management of malignant diseases.

**Key Topics:**

- Oncology
- Basic technologies of radiation therapy
- Definitions of radiation therapy
- Oncologic applications of ionizing radiation

**Competencies:**

The School of Medicine requires attainment of 4 Core Competencies. For the rotation, the program specific objectives are:

- Knowledge
  - Knowledge of the major definitions and principles of radiation oncology
  - Knowledge of basic principles of oncology
  - Knowledge of the relevant literature or evidence base for cases seen
- Skill
  - The ability to conduct a medical interview and to perform an appropriately detailed physical examination
  - The ability to articulate a cogent, accurate assessment and plan
  - The ability to work effectively and compassionately with patients and their families
  - The ability to execute assigned duties
  - The ability to conduct a literature search and present the findings to the team
  - The ability to function effectively within the context of complexity and uncertainty in health care and medical education
- Altruism
  - Honesty and integrity reflecting the standards of the profession in one's conduct with colleagues, patients, families, and professional organizations

- Sensitivity and awareness of diverse cultures, health beliefs, and social factors
- Duty (accountability)
  - A commitment to improving one's knowledge and skills
  - A commitment to patient care and to the community
  - A commitment to personal well being

**Attitudes and Commitments:** See the Core Competencies

**Educational Activities:** Student will attend several weekly Tumor Boards, Multi-disciplinary Tumor Boards, and departmental conferences.

**What Students Should do to Prepare for the Rotation:** Reading on basic principles of oncology will be helpful.

**Clinical Responsibilities of the Student:** Perform thorough histories and physicals; write up findings; follow up on assigned patients.

**Patient Care Responsibilities:** Not Stated

**Call Schedule of the Student:** None

**Procedures to be Learned by the Student:** Not Stated

**Percentage of Time Student will Participate in Ambulatory Setting:** Approximately 75% in clinic, 20% in radiation treatment planning or conferences, 5% in lectures.

**Conference/Lecture/Small Group Sessions:** contact Site Coordinator

**Course Hours Weekly Summary:** Not Stated

**Content Theme Integration:**

- Communications
- Decision making
- Technology and medicine
- Palliative Care
- Health education

**Recommended Reading:**

- Edward C. Halperin, Carlos A Perez, Luther W. Brady, David E. Wazer, Carolyn Freeman, eds. Perez and Brady's Principles and Practice of Radiation Oncology, 6th Ed. Lippincott Williams and Wilkins (2013).

- Leonard L. Gunderson and Joel E. Tepper. Clinical Radiation Oncology, 4th Ed. Elsevier (2015).
- Eric K. Hansen and Mack Roach, II, ed. Handbook of Evidence Based Radiation Oncology. Springer (2017).

**Official Grading Policy:**

The student will receive a grade of Honors, Pass or Fail. Please note that **the UCI School of Medicine wants <15% of clerkship grades to be Honors**. The UCI student's final grade will be submitted on the standard UC Irvine elective form and extramural students will need to submit their school's evaluation form to the course director. The student will be evaluated by faculty and residents in the areas of:

- Interest, attendance, and participation
- Quality of presentations of H&Ps in clinic and in teaching rounds
- Presentation of a selected topic.

Written evaluation by supervising physician(s). If the student fails the elective a grade of "F" will be permanently recorded on his/her transcript. The student can repeat the course for a second grade; however, the "F" will not be removed from the transcript. Written evaluation by supervising physician.