

## COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Aim and Title	BSc (Hons) Midwifery
Intermediate Awards Available	Certificate of Higher Education in Women`s Health Diploma of Higher Education in Women`s Health
Teaching Institution(s)	University of East London
Alternative Teaching Institutions (for local arrangements see final section of this specification)	N/A
UEL Academic School	The School of Health, Sport and Bioscience (HSB)
UCAS Code	UCAS code B741
Professional Body Accreditation	NMC
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statements	NA
Additional Versions of this Course	NA
Date Specification Last Updated	May 2023

### Course Aims and Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Develop the skills, knowledge and professional attributes necessary to undertake the role of the midwife in accordance with the Standards of Proficiency for Midwives (NMC 2019)
- Be a critical practitioner utilising reflective and evidence-based practice
- integrate theory with practice and developing practice from grounded research
- Develop the skills for decision-making and interdisciplinary team working in health and social care
- Contributing to the debate and discussion of future developments in midwifery
- Continue to engage with life-long learning, develop skills to enhance their midwifery practice
- Engage with a programme with a 50:50 ratio of theoretical and practical elements to meet the requirements of the professional body.
- Prepare you for registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council
- To enable you to learn from and alongside experienced midwives who will act as supervisors and professional role models

What you will learn:

#### Knowledge

1. A comprehensive knowledge about the role of the midwife in the universal care of all women and newborn infants
2. A deep understanding of the legal and professional accountability of the role of the midwife

### Thinking skills

3. Ability to act as an accountable, autonomous professional midwife with critical thinking skills to problem solve
4. Numeracy and literacy skills to support the role of the midwife in medicine calculation and accurate record keeping and information sharing.

### Subject-Based Practical skills

5. Promoting safe midwifery care, and providing continuity of care and carer to women and families
6. Ability to provide additional care when caring for women and newborns with complications.
7. The first line actions required in emergency situations

### Skills for life and work (general skills)

8. Searching, reading and critically appraising literature relevant to the practice of midwifery.
9. Presentation of information to professionals and members of the public
10. Skills in managing your own workload and supporting others through teaching and coaching

## Learning and Teaching

The midwifery course seeks to build on learning by starting with modules relating to biosciences as it pertains to midwifery practice. Modules on mental health, universal care and public health move on to developing learners' knowledge in the holistic examination of the newborn. Building on their previous successes, learners are given the opportunity to continue to develop their study skills and enhance their ability to develop skills in lifelong learning and reflection to continue to enhance practice and contribute to service development.

Blended approaches are used across all modules including online learning, face to face lectures, seminars, group study and skills-based simulation activities in the state-of-the-art skills facilities

### Knowledge is developed through

- Guided study activities, workbooks and reading
- Knowledge-based activities with feedback
- Online and face to face discussions and activities

### Thinking skills are developed through

- Reflective activities with feedback
- Group discussions and activities
- Feedback on formative and summative tasks
- Practice of online calculations through use of Safe Medicate

### Practical skills are developed through

- Simulation and skills rehearsal
- Ongoing feedback and feedforward in supported placement learning environments. The NMC Standards for student support and supervision enable clinical learning support.

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through

- Class based presentations
- Use of library resources for research
- Engagement with local communities

## Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by

- Workbooks
- Essays
- Timed assessment
- Role play
- Coursework

Thinking skills are assessed by

- Safe Medicate - examinations for medicine calculations
- Project work

Practical skills are assessed by

- OSCE
- Ongoing Record of Achievement for Midwifery in practice placement modules

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by

- Project work
- Group work
- Development of Personal Development Plan

Learners with disabilities and/or learning needs should discuss assessments with the Course Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the course.

## Work or Study Placements

The programme has a 50:50 ratio of practice and theory learning.

The practice placements span the year in each of the three years fitting in the weeks between the blocks of theory. A total of 2300 hours of practice learning is the minimum requirement for registration with the NMC. Level 4,5, and 6 will each have 22 weeks of placement learning to meet the requirements.

There are three professional practice 40 credit modules containing practice placement: Professional Midwifery Practice, 1,2 and 3. Each comprises 22 weeks during which learners will be required to attend shifts in the allocated Trust, learning that will include night duty and weekend and long day shifts. Full attendance is required by the NMC, so any missed time will have to be made up and this can be arranged with the placement Trust.

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Learners will be placed with one Trust partner and will have the opportunity to experience all aspects of midwifery care in order to gain skills in antenatal, labour care and postnatal care including the care of newborn.

Responsibility for the allocation of learners is shared between Trust partners and the University Placement Team and Employer Partnerships Office and is supported by Trust-based Clinical Practice Facilitators and Link Lecturers. Collaboration between the Trust and HEI ensures that the practice learning environments are conducive to meeting the individual learning needs of the learners and there is a robust process for quality monitoring of practice areas in place.

The Placement Officer informs learners of their allocations in advance, along with contact details, and it is the learner's responsibility to contact the placement area as instructed for details of their duty rota. Learners are required to work throughout the 24 hours period, on any days of the week, including nights and weekends. Duty rotas will reflect this and will include early shifts, late shifts, long days, nights, weekends and bank holidays.

Each level enables time to learn, rehearse and be assessed in midwifery proficiencies, professional behaviour, healthcare values and the application of knowledge to midwifery practice.

Learners are supervised in all placement allocations by NMC registered midwives or by registered nurses or other registered health and social care professionals. All Trusts employ one or more Clinical Practice Facilitators who work in collaboration with the University and are responsible for overseeing the support for learners in clinical practice and for, in collaboration with Link Lecturers, ensuring that all midwives are prepared for their role as Practice Supervisors and/or Practice Assessors.

All Trusts have allocated Midwifery Link Teachers who support learner's and Practice Supervisors/Practice Assessors. Each Trust may have several named Link Teachers and contact details are available in all clinical areas. All clinical areas have access to practice placement support resources including the University attendance policy and escalating concerns policy. Practice learning is assessed using the Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement (MORA) which documents all their assessed competencies and achievement of their EU requirements.

Learners will be supervised and assessed in practice in accordance with the NMC (2018) Standards for Student Supervision and Assessment. On a day-to-day basis learner will be allocated to a supervisor who will provide written and verbal feedback on performance based on the proficiencies documented in the Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement. This standardised document is used across all HEIs in England. There will be two opportunities in each year for a formative discussion of progress with a practice assessor who will review the learners own reflection alongside the documented feedback from supervisors. At the end of each year a

holistic summative assessment of performance will be undertaken by the practice assessor and shared with the academic assessor based in UEL.

Theory and practice are integrated throughout the course and progress is assessed through a variety of assessment methods. Practice assessment is through completion of the Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement (MORA) which has been developed through partnership working with practice partners, academic staff, learners and service users, across England and Northern Ireland.

The Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement (MORA) will be used to document that Learners have met the required professional proficiencies and skills throughout the three years of the programme. Learners in practice must be supported to learn and to this end they need to be supernumerary throughout their programme, this means they are not counted as part of the staffing required for safe and effective care in that setting. The decision on the level of support required by students will be made locally and will be based on the developing knowledge and skills of the learner. The level of supervision can decrease with the learner's increasing proficiency and confidence.

All learners are allocated an Academic Adviser at the commencement of the programme who is there to offer support and advise on any aspects of the programme or the learners success. Learners are required to meet with the Academic Adviser at regular intervals throughout the year. Learners are also supported by Academic Assessors who review their MORA prior to submission and liaise with Practice Assessors regarding learners' progress.

## Course Structure

All courses are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g., lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 3 Equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree course.
- 4 Equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 5 Equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 6 Equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 7 Equivalent in standard to a master's degree.

Courses are made up of modules that are each credit weighted.

The module structure of this course:

<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credit Weighting</b>	<b>Core/Option</b>	<b>Available by Distance Learning? Y/N</b>
4	MW4001	Biosciences for midwifery	20	Core	N
4	MW4002	Mental wealth and professional midwife	20	Core	N
4	MW4005	Universal care in pregnancy and birth	20	Core	N
4	MW4004	Public health and the midwife	20	Core	N
4	MW4003	Professional Midwifery Practice 1	40	Core	N
5	MW5005	Promoting excellence as a midwifery scholar	20	Core	N
5	MW5003	Complexity in pregnancy	20	Core	N
5	MW5001	Care and assessment of the newborn infant	20	Core	N
5	MW5002	Complexity in labour and postnatal care	20	Core	N
5	MW5004	Professional Midwifery Practice 2	40	Core	N
6	MW6002	Maternity and Neonatal urgent and emergency care	20	Core	N

6	MW6003	Preparing for registration	20	Core	N
6	MW6001	Leadership and Management	20	Core	N
6	MW6005	Service innovation – promoting excellence	20	Core	N
6	MW6004	Professional Midwifery Practice 3	40	Core	N

#### Additional detail about the course structure

Modules on the provision of antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care are focused on the provision of care to all women and the provision of care for women with complications. Similarly, modules relating to neonatal care are threaded through the programme developing students' skills in providing care in normal and more complex situations. Learners will qualify able to carry out the full systematic physical examination of the newborn, in line with local and national evidence-based protocols.

The overall credit-rating of this course is 360 credits. If for some reason you are unable to achieve this credit you may be entitled to an intermediate award, the level of the award will depend on the amount of credit you have accumulated. You can read the University Student Policies and Regulations on the UEL website.

### Course Specific Regulations

- No pass compensation on modules
- All components must be passed at 40% (No thresholds)
- Professional midwifery Practice Modules are graded Pass/Fail
- The course comprises 4600 hours – 100% attendance is a requirement, and all missed time is required to be made up
- All midwifery students must comply with professional standards (Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)). During the programme any concerns about professional conduct, can be referred to Fitness to Practice

### Typical Duration

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The expected duration of this course is 3 years full-time.

A Learner cannot normally continue study on a course after 4 years of study in full time mode unless exceptional circumstances apply, and extenuation has been granted.

The limit for completion of a course in part time mode is 7 years from first enrolment.

Learners must demonstrate that they have good health and good character on entry to, and their continued participation on the programme. On successful completion of the programme a final declaration about good health and good character, supported by the Lead Midwife for Education, is submitted to the NMC prior to registration.

## Further Information

More information about this course is available from:

- The UEL web site ([www.uel.ac.uk](http://www.uel.ac.uk))
- The course handbook
- Module study guides
- UEL Manual of General Regulations (available on the UEL website)
- UEL Quality Manual (available on the UEL website)
- School web pages
- All printing and copying required for study
- Self-service laptops available for loan for a maximum of 24 hours,

All UEL courses are subject to thorough course approval procedures before we allow them to commence. We also constantly monitor, review and enhance our courses by listening to learner and employer views and the views of external examiners and advisors.

Additional costs:

- Required:
  - Travel expenses to placement
  - For off-campus online learning, access to Wi-Fi is necessary and the use of a computer or other suitable device
  - Suitable shoes for practice placement
  - Fob watch and other equipment will be recommended to be purchased for use in clinical practice (can be purchased via online retailers)
- Recommended:
  - Books may be optionally purchased but some will always be available as eBooks in the UEL library
  - Additional optional journal subscriptions and professional body subscriptions



