BSc (Hons) Midwifery (Three year programme)

Programme Specification



| 1. Programme title | BSc (Hons) Midwifery |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 2. Awarding institution | Middlesex University |
| 3a. Teaching institution | Middlesex University |
| 3b. Language of study | English |
| 4a. Valid intake dates | September |
| 4b. Mode of study | F/T |
| 4c. Delivery method | ⊠ On-campus/Blended |
| | ☐ Distance Education |
| 5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body | Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) |
| 6. Apprenticeship Standard | N/A |
| 7. Final qualification(s) available | BSc Hons |
| 8. Year effective from | 2022/2023 |

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Middlesex University has a flexible and personalised approach to admissions and we accept applications from students with a wide range of qualifications and a combination of qualifications. The requirements for our most common entry qualifications are as follows:

120-128 UCAS Tariff points including GCSE Grade C/4 in English and Maths or equivalencies such as Level 2 Functional Skills

A-levels BBB BTEC DDM

Access Requirements: Overall pass (must include 45 credits at level 3 of which 15

must be at Distinction and 30 credits at Merit or higher

Combinations: A combination of A-Level, BTEC and other accepted qualifications that total 56-64 UCAS Tariff points

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Please note that we can only accept your application for consideration if you have already obtained your GCSE (or equivalent) Maths and English at the appropriate level **prior** to applying i.e. five GCSEs including Maths and English Language grade A-C (or 5 to 9). We also accept functional skills or key skills and equivalency tests by Equivalency Testing, A Star Teachers or other appropriately accredited providers.

Further requirements:

- You must demonstrate that you have experience of working this does not have to be in the field of health care
- You are required to provide evidence of study within the last five years
- You must complete a satisfactory enhanced DBS check, Occupational Health check and provide suitable references.
- You must have completed at least 12 years of general school education, or possession of a certificate attesting success in an examination of an equivalent level.
- A minimum IELTS score of 7.0, or equivalent, is required for those for whom English is not their first language
- A face to face interview is normally required as part of the admissions process. Practice learning partners and service users form part of this process.

Applicants need to be digitally literate as all recruitment processes, and many teaching and learning activities within the programme, involve the use of technology and digital processes, reflecting the realities of healthcare practice.

We are unable to accept applications for deferred entry or defer existing offers for this programme to the next possible start date.

Recognition of prior learning is **not** permitted for pre-registration midwifery programmes.

10. Aims of the programme

Our Pre-registration Midwifery programme aims to produce a graduate midwife who is able to provide high quality, safe and effective care and who is self-aware and willingly takes responsibility for self and others.

This programme aims to prepare a midwife that is accountable for their own actions and work autonomously, or as an equal partner with a range of other professionals in interdisciplinary teams. This graduate midwife will have developed the knowledge, skills and behaviours to embrace the role and scope of the professional midwife. This will enable them to provide midwifery care across the whole continuum of care for women, newborn infants, partners and families.

They will personalise care for a diverse population across a range of settings, including midwifery led services. This means they will consider the social context of care and be able to assess and manage risks in that environment. They will demonstrate warmth and empathy, cultural competence, emotional intelligence, adaptability and be able to manage their own personal health and wellbeing and know when and how to access support.

They will be committed to working in partnership with women, partners, families, advocacy groups and colleagues demonstrating a personal commitment to life-long learning. They will have the required knowledge, skills and behaviours in caring for women and newborn infants when complication and additional care needs arise, including physical, psychological, social, cultural and spiritual factors.

They will be able to work effectively in the context of continual change, challenging environments, different models of care delivery, shifting demographics, innovation, and rapidly evolving technologies.

Students accessing the BSc Midwifery programme will develop critical and analytical skills to explore the philosophical basis of midwifery practice, debate current issues in midwifery and consider the future development of midwifery as a profession.

Our Pre-registration Midwifery programme aims to enable students to achieve:

- Programme outcomes and proficiencies in-line with the Nursing and Midwifery Council Professional requirements for entry to the register as a midwife
- Be a critical practitioner utilising reflective and evidence-based practice as a catalyst for change and service improvement
- Adopt a critical and analytical approach to care delivery and recognise the challenges of integrating theory with practice and developing theory emergent from practice
- Develop the skills required for autonomous practice, decision-making and interdisciplinary team working in health and social care
- Acknowledge the changing face of midwifery, the on-going development of midwifery as a profession contributing to the debate and discussion of future developments in midwifery
- Engage with life-long learning, develop transferable skills to enhance their midwifery role and appreciate the value of education for health and society

11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

- Technical, professional and clinical skills underpinned by a sound understanding of the principles of accountability
- 2. The principles of autonomy, responsibility and accountability and role as a midwife within the multi-professional team
- 3. Strategies available to deliver safe and effective midwifery care while

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through 50% of learning occurring in the practice setting and 50% of learning occurring through theory based in the University. This includes:

Lectures, seminars, workshops, e-learning packages, self-directed study, guided study, discussion boards, videos, reflection, discussion groups, personal tutor support, Learning Teaching and Enhancement Team support

- promoting continuity of care and carer to women.
- 4. The midwives' role in providing universal care for all women and newborn infants
- 5. Ethical principles which support midwifery practice to be sustainable, resourceful and using their initiative where appropriate.
- Understanding of complex problem solving required for providing additional care for women and newborn infants with complications
- 7. Scientific principles underpinning midwifery practice
- 8. Health informatics, digital literacy in the context of a complex healthcare system.
- Promoting excellence as a colleague, scholar and leader
- 10. Political influences on professional practice
- 11. Cultural competence, diversity, inclusivity and its elements

Clinical skills sessions, use of virtual and augmented reality resources, clinical practice experience, including caseloading

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by

formative and summative assessments using a range of approaches including: written work, presentations, digital reports, online tests, practice assessments, literature critiquing, caseload reflection, report writing and self, peer and teacher assessments

Specific assessment methods are specified in each module outline.

B. Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

- Engage in critical self-reflection to support lifelong learning and professional, autonomous and accountable practice
- Maintain professional standards, improve safety and quality of care and clinical skills to enhance midwifery practice
- 3. Generate, use and appraise complex data for practice improvement
- 4. Provide assessment, screening, planning, care and support across the continuum of midwifery practice
- Develop a professional identity drawing on and appraising influences of the development of professional identity
- 6. Practice confidently a range of effective communication skills sharing information and relationship management skills

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognative skills through a range of lecturers, seminars, discussions, formative and summative assessments, peer-review, problem solving, debates and directed reading

Students learn practical skills through demonstration, observation, participation and feedback, clinical skills sessions with the use of virtual augmented reality, case studies, reflection, role-play; tutorials

Assessment methods

Students' skills are assessed by formative and summative assessments, Objective Structured Clinical Assessment (OSCA) completion of Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement (Practice Assessment Document),

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The midwifery programme has been developed in collaboration with local NHS Trusts, students, service users and Maternity Voice Partnership (MVP) groups.

The BSc(Hons) midwifery programme comprises of three academic years, each being 45 weeks in length, excluding annual leave. The student will take four 30 credit modules each year at Level 4, 5 and 6. The programme is 50% theory and 50% practice with a requirement to complete 4,600 hours across the three year, 2,300 practice hours and 2,300 theory hours. The practice learning and assessment components of the programme take place in a range of clinical placements to give student the opportunity to obtain a wide range of experiences to enable them to meet the programme outcomes.

Modules are thematic and threaded through the programme giving the opportunity to build on knowledge gained in the previous year. The theme of being and becoming a midwife runs throughout the programme and gives the opportunity for students to understand the role of the midwife and the provision of care and develop their leadership skills so that by the end of the programme they learn to recognise their own skills, and the skills of others, and develop skills in leadership, effective team working and service improvement. Students are also given the opportunity to develop their own study skills and develop the ability to achieve skills in lifelong learning and reflection so as to continue to enhance practice and contribute to service development.

Modules on the provision of antenatal and postnatal care and the provision of care in labour and birth, take place in each year of the programme building on the provision of care for all women to the provision of care for women with complications, in keeping with the framework for quality maternal and newborn health from the Lancet Series (2014). Similiarly, modules on fetal and neonatal care are also threaded through the programme developing students skill in providing care in normal and more complex situations. Students will qualify able to carry out the full systematic physical examination of the newborn, in line with local and national evidence-based protocols.

Theory and practice are integrated throughout the programme 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, students and service users, across England and Northern Ireland.

In order to meet the requirement of 2,300 clinical hours, students will need to work on average 34.5 hours in practice in each allocated week of practice. They are required to work shifts to experience a 24 hours/7 day work pattern in order to develop an understanding of the needs of women and babies throughout the 24 hour period. Students are supported in practice by Practice Supervisors and Practice Assessors in keeping with the NMC requirements (NMC, 2019). The NHS is currently developing a continuity of carer module aimed at improving the continuity of care for women. This model is at varying stages of development but students on this programme will be given the opportunity to carry a small caseload of women, supported by a midwife, in order to experience this way of working.

| | | Мо | dules | | Credits | Exit Award |
|-----------|---|--|--|--|-------------|---|
| Year 1 | MWY1800 Introduction to being and becoming a midwife 30 credits | MWY1801 Foundations of antenatal and postnatal care 30 credits | MWY1802 Foundations of midwifery care in labour and birth 30 credits | MWY1803 Introduction to fetal and neonatal care 30 credits | 120 credits | Cert HE Healthcare Practice (awarded if students exit with 120 credits) |
| Year 2 | MWY2800 Developing, being and becoming a midwife | MWY2801 Developing antenatal and postnatal care in complex situations 30 credits | MWY2802 Developing care in labour and birth for women in complex situations 30 credits | MWY2803 Developing knowledge of fetal and neonatal care in complex situations 30 credits | 120 credits | Dip HE in Healthcare Practice (awarded if students exit with 240 credits) |
| Year 3 | MWY3800 Being and becoming a midwife | MWY3801 Consolidating antenatal and postnatal care 30 credits | MWY3802 Consolidating midwifery care during labour and birth 30 credits | MWY3803 Consolidating fetal and neonatal care 30 credits | 120 credits | BSc(Hons) Midwifery with Professional Registration (Complete with 360 credits) BSc Healthcare Practice (awarded if students exit with 300 credits) |

| 12.2 Levels and modules | | |
|--|-----------|---|
| Level 4 | | |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL* | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Students must take all of the following: | N/A | In order to progress on the |
| MWY1800 Introduction to being and becoming a midwife 30 credits | | programme students are required to successfully complete all theoretical and practice modules at Grade 16 or above. |
| MWY1801 Foundations of antenatal and postnatal care 30 credits | | All assessments must be completed and all clinical practice assessments must normally be passed before |
| MWY1802 Foundations of midwifery care in labour and birth 30 credits | | progression to the next year. Student also need to have met the attendance requirements for |
| MWY1803 Introduction to fetal and neonatal care 30 credits | | both theory and practice outlined in the attendance policy for the programme. |
| Level 5 | | |
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL* | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Students must take all of the following: | N/A | |
| MWY2800 Developing, being and becoming a midwife 30 credits | | In order to progress on the programme students are required to successfully complete all theoretical and practice modules at Grade 16 or |
| MWY2801 Developing antenatal and postnatal care in complex situations 30 credits | | above. All assessments must be completed and all clinical practice assessments must |
| MWY2802 Developing care in labour and birth for women in complex situations 30 credits | | normally be passed before progression to the next year. |
| MWY2803 Developing knowledge of fetal and neonatal care in complex situations 30 credits | | Student also need to have met the attendance requirements for both theory and practice outlined in the attendance policy for the programme. |

| Level 6 | | |
|---|------------|---|
| COMPULSORY | OPTIONAL * | PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS |
| Students must take all of the following: | N/A | |
| MWY3800 Being and becoming a midwife 30 credits MWY3801 | | In order to progress on the programme students are required to successfully complete all theoretical and practice modules at Grade 16 or above. |
| Consolidating antenatal and postnatal care 30 credits | | All assessments must be completed and all clinical practice assessments must normally be passed before |
| MWY3802 Consolidating midwifery | | progression to the next year. |
| care during labour and birth 30 credits | | Student also need to have met the attendance requirements for both theory and practice outlined in the attendance |
| MWY3803 Consolidating fetal and neonatal care 30 credits | | policy for the programme. |

12.3 Non-compensatable modules

No compensation allowed as per PSRB requirements:

'Student midwives must successfully complete an NMC approved pre-registration midwifery programme in order to meet the *Standards of proficiency for midwives* and be eligible for entry to the NMC register' (NMC, 2019, page 4).

13. Information about assessment regulations

This programme will run in line with general University Regulations:

- Where there is more than one component part to a module, students are required to achieve a Grade 16 or above in all components in order to pass the module.
- Where there is more than one component part to a module, marks are aggregated and a grade given using the University 20 point scale.
- Practice Assessment is graded as pass/fail only for that component part, however, indicative level of achievement will be given but does not contribute to the overall module grade.
- Students must normally receive a pass grade for all modules within a year, to progress to the next stage of the programme.
- Automatic deferral is not permitted for students on the programme

- Students must normally meet the attendance requirements in order to successfully complete the programme. Students who accumulate sickness or absence exceeding over 10 days per year may be discontinued or deferred.
- This programme does not allow students to re-take modules.
- Infringement of assessment regulations and/or academic misconduct may require referral to a Fitness for Practice panel.

14. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

Students are normally allocated to the same NHS Trust for their midwifery placements but may need to travel to other Trusts for some of their out of midwifery experience. Students need to gain a total of 2,300 hours in the course of their programme in order to successfully complete. Responsibility for allocation of students is shared between Trust partners and the University Placement Office and is supported by Trust based Clinical Practice Facilitators and Link Lecturers. Collaboration between the Trust and HEI ensure that the practice learning environments are conducive to meeting the individual learning needs of the students and there is a robust process for quality monitoring of practice areas in place.

The Placement Office informs students of their allocations in advance, along with contact details, and it is the student's responsibility to contact the placement area as instructed for details of their duty rota. Students 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.

All student will be given an induction at the start of each new learning experience and support and guidance will be given to students with diverse needs. Students will work alongside Practice Supervisors and will have allocated Practice Assessors in keeping with the NMC Standards for Student Supervision and Support (NMC, 2019). Students 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 students 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 students and Practice Supervisors/Practice Assessors. Each Trust may have a number of named Link Teachers and contact details are available in all clinical areas. All clinical areas has 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 of their assessed competencies and achievement of their EU requirements.

Students 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 student. The level of supervision can decrease with the student's increasing proficiency and confidence.

All students are allocated a Personal Tutor at the commencement of the programme who is there to offer support and advice on any aspects of the programme or the students success. Students are required to meet with the Personal Tutor at regular intervals in the year. Students are also supported by Academic Assessors who review their MORA prior to submissions and liaise with Practice Assessors regarding students' progress. Students' Academic Assessors change in each year of the programme in keeping with the NMC Standards for student support and supervision (NMC,2019).

15. Future careers / progression

Successful students are awarded a BSc(Hons) in Midwifery and are eligible to enter the NMC professional register. Students are required to register their qualification with the NMC within 5 years of completion of the programme, failure to do so will mean that students will need to supply additional evidence in order to successfully register. Successful students are able to practice in the UK, EU and many parts of the world. Graduates will be able to progress to a range of taught Masters programmes including the MSc Midwifery Studies and the Midwifery Advanced Clinical Practice Programme.

16. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

- Personal Tutor
- Academic Assessor
- Link Tutors
- Practice Supervisors/Practice Assessors
- Clinical Practice Facilitators
- Clinical Skills laboratories with a range of resources including virtual and augmented reality
- Learning enhancement Team
- Progression Officers
- Disability Support team for specific learning needs
- Online resources through the learning platform, MyLearning

17. HECos code(s)

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)

The QAA subject benchmarks for midwifery are currently under review. This programme has been written with reference to the previous subject statements.

19. Reference points

European Union Standards for Nursing and Midwifery: Information for Accession

Countries: Midwifery Training Articles 40-42 of 2005/36/EC

NMC (2018) Part 1: Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education

NMC (2019) Part 2: Standards for students supervision and assessment

NMC (2019) Part 3: Standards for pre-registration midwifery programmes

NMC (2019) Standards of proficiency for midwives

Middlesex University Regulations 2021/2022

Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook 2020/2021

20. Other information

In the event that students wish to transfer from another approved HEI, this would be subject to availability of clinical placements and subject to successful mapping of the other HEI programme to this programme. Students would be responsible for supplying all required information and would be interviewed as per the pre-registration recruitment policy. Acceptance would be subject to satisfactory references, successful completion of assignments, record of attendance, achievement of EU requirements and occupational health and DBS clearance. In addition, student must study no less than one third of their total credits with Middlesex University and need to have met the University's criteria for entry.

Students must demonstrated 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.

The programme must be completed within six years, including interruptions, from the commencement date.

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

21. Curriculum map for BSc(Hons) Midwifery

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

| Knov | vledge and understanding |
|--------|--|
| A1 | Technical, professional and clinical skills underpinned by a sound understanding of the principles of accountability |
| A2 | The principles of autonomy, responsibility and accountability and role as a midwife within the multi-professional team |
| A3 | Strategies available to deliver safe and effective midwifery care while promoting continuity of care and carer to women |
| A4 | The midwives' role in providing universal care for all women and newborn infants |
| A5 | Ethical principles which support midwifery practice to be sustainable, resourceful and using their initiative where appropriate |
| A6 | Understanding of complex problem solving required for providing additional care for women and newborn infants with complications |
| A7 | Scientific principles underpinning midwifery practice |
| A8 | Health informatics, digital literacy in the context of a complex healthcare system |
| A9 | Promoting excellence as a colleague, scholar and leader |
| A10 | Political influences on professional practice |
| A11 | Cultural competence, diversity and its elements |
| Skills | |
| B1 | Engage in critical self-reflection to support lifelong learning and professional, autonomous and accountable practice |
| B2 | Maintain professional standards, improve safety and quality of care and clinical skills to enhance midwifery practice |
| В3 | Generate, use and appraise complex data for practice improvement |
| B4 | Provide assessment, screening, planning, care and support across the continuum of midwifery practice |
| B5 | Develop a professional identity – drawing on and appraising influences of the development of professional identity |
| В6 | Practice confidently a range of effective communication skills sharing information and relationship management skills |

| Progr | amme | outcon | nes | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|--------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| A1 | A2 | А3 | A4 | A5 | A6 | A7 | A8 | A9 | A10 | A11 | B1 | B2 | В3 | B4 | B5 | В6 |
| Highe | Highest level achieved by all graduates | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |

| Module Title | Module Code | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | by Level | A1 | A2 | А3 | A4 | A5 | A6 | A7 | A8 | A9 | A10 | A11 | B1 | B2 | В3 | B4 | B5 | B6 |
| Introduction to being and becoming a midwife | MWY1800 | Х | Х | | Х | Х | | | | Х | | | Х | Х | | | Х | Х |
| Foundations of antenatal and postnatal care | MWY1801 | | | Х | | | | Х | | | | | | | | Х | | Х |
| Foundations of midwifery care in labour and birth | MWY1802 | | | Х | | | | Х | Х | | | Х | | | | | | |
| Introduction to fetal and neonatal care | MWY1803 | | Х | | Х | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Developing, being and becoming a midwife | MWY2800 | Х | Х | | Х | Х | | | | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | | | Х | |
| Developing antenatal and postnatal care in complex situations | MWY2801 | | | Х | | Х | Х | Х | Х | | | | | | | Х | | |
| Developing care in labour and birth for women in complex situations | MWY2802 | | | Х | | | Х | Х | Х | | | Х | | | | | | |
| Developing knowledge of fetal and neonatal care in complex situations | MWY2803 | | Х | | Х | Х | Х | Х | | | | | | Х | | Х | | |
| Being and becoming a midwife | MWY3800 | Х | Х | | Х | Х | | | | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | | Х | Х | |
| Consolidating antenatal and postnatal care | MWY3801 | | | Х | | | | | | | | Х | | | Х | | | Х |
| Consolidating midwifery care during labour and birth | MWY3802 | | | | | Х | Х | Х | Х | | | | | | | | | |
| Consolidating fetal and neonatal care | MWY3803 | | Х | | Х | Х | Х | Х | | | Х | | | Х | Х | Х | | Х |