

## ***BSc (Hons) Midwifery (Shortened programme)***

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### **Programme Specification**



<b>1. Programme title</b>	BSc (Hons) Midwifery with professional registration (Shortened programme for registered adult nurses)
<b>2. Awarding institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>3a. Teaching institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>3b. Language of study</b>	English
<b>4a. Valid intake dates</b> <b>4b. Mode of study</b> <b>4c. Delivery method</b>	September F/T <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-campus/Blended <input type="checkbox"/> Distance Education
<b>5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body</b>	Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
<b>6. Apprenticeship Standard</b>	N/A
<b>7. Final qualification(s) available</b>	BSc Hons
<b>8. Year effective from</b>	2024/2025

<b>9. Criteria for admission to the programme</b>
<p>This programme is tailored towards qualified adult nurses who are on the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Professional Register. Candidates are required to hold 120 credits at Level 4 and 60 credits at Level 5, by virtue of their adult nursing qualification.</p> <p>Applicants whose first language is not English must have competence in English language. The most common English Language requirement for European students is IELTS and an overall score of 7.0 (with a minimum 7.0 in all four components) is required.</p> <p>Candidates must complete a satisfactory enhanced DBS check, Occupational Health check, and provide suitable references.</p>

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. The programme builds on the student's existing knowledge and experience of healthcare systems and practice.

This programme aims to prepare a midwife that is accountable for their own actions and works autonomously, or as an equal partner with a range of other professionals in interdisciplinary teams. This graduate midwife will build on their existing 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.

Students 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 an ongoing personal commitment to life-long learning. They will have the required knowledge, skills and behaviours in caring for women and newborn infants when complications 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 build on their 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 further 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
- Continue to 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 :

1. 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 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.
6. 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
9. Promoting excellence as a colleague, scholar and leader
10. Political influences on professional practice
11. Cultural competence, diversity, inclusivity and its elements

### **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:

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

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

#### **Assessment methods**

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by

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

Specific assessment methods are specified in each module outline.

#### **B. Skills**

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

1. Engage in critical self-reflection to support lifelong learning and professional, autonomous and accountable practice
2. 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
5. 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 cognitive skills through a range of 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 Examination (OSCE), 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 programmes have been developed in collaboration with local NHS Trusts, students, service users and Maternity Voice Partnership (MVP) groups.

The BSc (Hons) Shortened midwifery programme requires students to study full-time for 86 weeks, including 10 weeks annual leave and public holidays. The programme is made up of 50% theory and 50% practice. The programme is divided into two 10 month parts and students will undertake three 30 credit modules in each part of the programme. This is divided up as two Level 5 modules and one Level 6 module in the

first 10 months of the programme, and three Level 6 modules in the final 10 months of the programme.

Students are required to complete 3,000 hours across the programme, 1,500 theory hours and 1,500 practice 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.

In acknowledgement of students previous learning and experience as an adult nurse the midwifery programme seeks to build on this learning by starting with modules relating to anatomy and physiology as it pertains to midwifery practice, and an introduction to the foundations of midwifery practice. It then moves on to developing students' knowledge in the holistic examination of the newborn, management of emergencies and development of the student as an autonomous midwifery practitioner. Building on their previous successes, students are given the opportunity to continue to develop their own study skills, and enhance their ability to develop skills in lifelong learning and reflection so as to continue to enhance practice and contribute to service development.

Modules on the provision of antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care take place in both parts of the programme and are focused on the provision of care to all women and the provision of care for women with complications, in keeping with the framework for quality maternal and newborn health from the Lancet series (2014). Similarly, modules relating to neonatal care are threaded through the programme developing students' skills 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.

You will be allocated sufficient weeks in practice to meet the requirement of 1500 clinical hours. You will be required to work the full range of 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.

## **Modules**

First 10 months

MWY2900: Anatomy and physiology for midwifery practice

MWY2901: Foundations for midwifery practice

MWY3900: The role of the midwife in examination of the newborn (Part 1)

<p>Credits 60 credits at Level 5, 30 credits at Level 6</p> <p>Exit Award N/A</p>
<p>Second 10 months</p> <p>MWY3901: Complex care and managing emergencies in midwifery practice</p> <p>MWY3902: The role of the midwife in examination of the newborn (Part 2)</p> <p>MWY3903: The professional midwife in autonomous midwifery practice</p> <p>Credits 90 credits at Level 6</p> <p>Exit Award BSc (Hons) Midwifery with Professional Registration</p>
<p><b>12.2 Levels and modules</b></p>
<p><b>Level 5</b></p> <p>Compulsory</p> <p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MWY2900: Anatomy and physiology for midwifery practice (30 credits)</li> <li>• MWY2901: Foundations for midwifery practice (30 credits)</li> </ul> <p>Optional*</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Progression Requirements</p> <p>In order to progress on the programme students are required to successfully complete all theoretical and practice modules at Grade 16 or above.</p> <p>All written assessments must be completed and all clinical practice assessments must normally be passed before progression to the next year.</p> <p>Students also need to have met the attendance requirements for both theory and practice outlined in the attendance policy for the programme.</p>
<p><b>Level 6</b></p> <p>Compulsory</p> <p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MWY3900: The role of the midwife in the examination of the newborn (Part 1) (30 credits)</li> <li>• MWY3901: Complex care and managing emergencies in midwifery practice (30 credits)</li> <li>• MWY3902: The role of the midwife in the examination of the newborn (Part 2) (30 credits)</li> <li>• MWY3903: The professional midwife in autonomous midwifery (30 credits)</li> </ul>

Optional\*

N/A

#### Progression Requirements

In order to progress on the programme students are required to successfully complete all theoretical and practice modules at Grade 16 or above.

All written assessments must be completed and all clinical practice assessments must normally be passed before progression to the next year.

Students also need to have met the attendance requirements for both theory and practice outlined in the attendance policy for the programme.

#### 12.3 non-compensable 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 part of the programme, to progress to the next part 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 3,000 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 students 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 advise on any aspects of the programme or the students success. Students are required to meet with the Personal Tutor at regular intervals throughout the year. Students are also supported by Academic Assessors who review their MORA prior to submission and liaise with Practice Assessors regarding students' progress. Students' Academic Assessors change in each part 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 as a qualified midwife. 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. In order for the qualification to be recognised in EU member states the programme must be followed by a year of professional practice. 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)**

- Academic Advisor
- 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  
 Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook

#### **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 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.

The programme must be completed within 3.5 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

<b>Knowledge and understanding</b>																	
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																	
<b>Skills</b>																	
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																	
B3: 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																	
B6: Practice confidently a range of effective communication skills sharing information and relationship management skills																	
Programme outcomes	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6
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	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B5
Anatomy and physiology for midwifery practice	MWY2900							X					X			X		
Foundations for midwifery practice	MWY2901	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
The role of the midwife in the examination of the newborn (Part 1)	MWY3900	X	X		X			X						X	X	X		X
Complex care and managing emergencies in midwifery practice	MWY3901			X		X	X	X						X				X
The role of the midwife in the examination of the newborn (Part 2)	MWY3902	X	X				X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X
The professional midwife in autonomous midwifery practice	MWY3903	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X