

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MSc Midwifery (2 year)
2	Course Code	TBC
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	Birmingham City University
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)

6	Course Description
	<p>This two year MSc in midwifery is aimed at those with an NMC adult nurse registration who wish to further their academic development and practice as a midwife. It has been designed to comply with the Realising professionalism: Standards for education and training publications; Future midwife: Standards of proficiency for registered midwives; Part 1: Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education; Part 2: Standards for student supervision and assessment (Nursing and Midwifery Council, 2018) and Part 3: Standards for pre-registration midwifery programmes and Standards of proficiency for midwives (Nursing and Midwifery Council, 2019). Successful completion of this course provides eligibility to apply and be entered onto the NMC register as a midwife. This is a full-time course, with an equal balance of theory and practice learning, which meets the minimum requirement of 3600 hours (Nursing and Midwifery Council, 2019).</p> <p>You will study various modules, which will allow you to develop the skills, knowledge and behaviours required to care for women, and newborn infants across the care continuum from pre-pregnancy, pregnancy, labour and birth, postpartum, and the early weeks of a newborn infant's life. Your core nursing skills will be further developed and applied in the field of midwifery. There is a strong emphasis on developing your ability to work as an autonomous practitioner, and within the multi-disciplinary team, who can advocate for women and their families. The utilisation and evaluation of research to underpin midwifery practice is embraced throughout the course with the expectation that you will apply this to both the theory and practice elements. The course philosophy places women and their families at the centre of midwifery practice irrespective of their complexity or health care setting. Each year, you will engage in yearlong practice exposure, which forms part of a module assessment. This module, alongside varied clinical placements, will provide you with preparation and support to develop your confidence and competence in practice, working towards autonomously leading and co-ordinating care at the end of your course. Clinical practice will be assessed using the nationally, NMC approved Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement (MORA).</p> <p>We work with our practice partners to ensure you will have practice learning experiences in a wide range of settings - including community, hospital or home settings. You will be exposed to diverse populations and you will learn to work as part of the interdisciplinary and multiagency teams. Whilst on placement you will be supported, supervised and assessed by suitably prepared practice and academic staff to develop your knowledge and skills.</p> <p>The Midwifery Department is committed to providing you with excellent, innovative, learning, teaching and assessment experiences. We use technology to enhance your learning, through</p>

lectures, seminars, skills, simulation and virtual learning. Engagement of practice partners and service users in all areas of learning, teaching and assessment is integral to our approach. Our evidence-based curriculum will empower you to contribute to the provision of high-quality holistic care both during your studies and in your future profession.

7 Course Awards			
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	MSc Midwifery	7	180
7b Exit Awards and Credits Awarded			
	PG Cert in Studies in Health Care	7	60
	PG Diploma in Studies in Health Care	7	120
<i>These interim awards do not allow for application to the NMC for registration as a midwife.</i>			

8 Derogation from the University Regulations	
	<p>The following derogations will be applied to the course:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For modules with more than one item of assessment, all items of assessment must be passed in order to pass the module 2. For modules with more than one item of assessment, the MAB is permitted to ratify marks for the assessments before both items of assessment have been completed 3. For modules with more than one item of assessment, resits that are allocated a grade are capped at the item level 4. Compensation of marginally failed modules is not permitted 5. Condonement of failed modules is not permitted 6. The maximum registration period within which to complete the course is 4 years 7. For clinical practice assessments/modules there is no in-year retrieval and a maximum of two attempts only for practice assessments is permitted

9 Delivery Patterns			
Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
Full Time 50% practice: 50% theory to achieve NMC minimum requirements of 3600 hours in total with an equal balance of theory and practice.	City South Campus	2 years	TBC
10 Entry Requirements			
Home:	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/		

		<p>Admissions will be through direct entry to the University and partner NHS Trusts.</p> <p>Entrants to the programme must be a registered adult nurse with ideally a minimum of a 2:1 at BSc (Hons) in a health related degree.</p> <p>A minimum of 6 months full time equivalent prior to commencement is desirable.</p> <p>Consideration may be given for applicants with significant clinical experience who have not completed a first degree but have level 6 credits, or applicants whose academic level 6 credits were awarded less than 5 years prior to applying to undertake the course.</p> <p>Candidates may be required to complete pre-offer work for assessment by the course team to deem suitability for entry onto the course.</p> <p>In addition, applicants should note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must provide evidence of having been in general education for a minimum of 12 years • You must provide evidence of study within the last five years • No offers are made without a face-to-face interview • All offers are subject to satisfactory Occupational Health Clearance and Disclosure and Barring Service report • You should be aware that qualifications, personal statement, interview and references all form part of the selection criteria for this course. <p>RPL into this course is not permitted as per NMC requirements.</p>
	EU:	N/A
	International:	International students cannot be accepted onto this programme. Registration with the NMC is required.
	Access:	Access students are unable to apply for this programme.

11	Course Aims
	To transition registered adult nurses to become future midwives, able to lead and provide skilled, knowledgeable, respectful, and compassionate care for all women, newborn infants and their families through autonomous and evidence base practice.

12	Course Learning Outcomes
	Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:
1	Act as an accountable and autonomous practitioner in managing and promoting safe and effective evidenced based care for women and families
2	Manage and promote continuity of care and carer
3	Appraise and manage universal care for all women and families, including those presenting with complications and additional care needs
4	Evaluate strategies for health promotion, including informing and educating women and families
5	Assess and screen for maternal and fetal wellbeing
6	Optimise physiological processes, supporting safe psychosocial and cultural situations, and work to promote positive outcomes and prevent complications
7	Work within the multidisciplinary team to care for and support women requiring medical, obstetric, neonatal, mental health, social care and other services
8	Appreciate and promote the need for leadership and role modelling within the midwifery profession
9	Undertake the role of a support for students undertaking their training
10	Apply legal and ethical frameworks to practice and theory

13	Level Learning Outcomes
	N/A

14	Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
	<p>The core principle of undertaking this programme at Master's level is for you to develop as an independent learner. A variety of teaching and learning methods will be used to link theory and practice in developing students' knowledge, skills and understanding. Methods of learning and teaching include Moodle based activities and on line learning, face to face engagement, group work, case studies, skills and simulation, peer support and feedback, practice learning exposure, interprofessional learning, and service user feedback. The focus will be on facilitating students in meeting the Standards for pre-registration midwifery programmes (NMC, 2019), and Standards of proficiency for midwives (NMC, 2019). Students will be encouraged and guided to identify and reflect on their own learning needs and personal and professional development. Continuous learning will also be supported by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your course lead who will provide leadership and overview of the students' journey. And when required, pastoral support and support and evaluate teaching and learning experiences. • The LME (Lead Midwife for Education) who will have an oversight of your midwifery education here at BCU and will be supporting the team in assuring the quality of provision. The LME will be able to provide supporting declarations of health and character for all students who have successfully completed all elements of the course. • Access to Personal Development Department, IT, Library and Learning Resources to support your development of academic and numeracy skills and digital and technology literacy skills to facilitate meeting course outcomes. • Practice supervisors who will supervise and support you in practice to enable proficiency and autonomy as part of their professional role. • Practice assessors who will make the final assessment of practice to ensure competence.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic assessors who, in collaboration with practice assessors, will collate and confirm achievement of proficiencies and programme outcomes in the academic environment at the end of each part of the programme. • Your Personal tutor who will be able to support and guide you throughout your course and sign post you to University support services as necessary. • Practice education facilitators (e.g. Practice Placement Managers, Practice Placement Educators) within placement provider organisations.
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15	Course Requirements
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15a	<p>In order to fully complete this course and be eligible for application for entry onto the NMC register, a student must successfully achieve all 180 credits.</p> <p>Level 7 There are no optional modules. In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 180 credits):</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; background-color: #ffff00;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>tbc</td> <td>Universal midwifery care for the mother and newborn</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>tbc</td> <td>The midwife as a professional, scholar and leader</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>tbc</td> <td>Challenging inequalities in childbearing</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>tbc</td> <td>Enhanced midwifery care and obstetric emergencies</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>tbc</td> <td>Enhanced care of the newborn infant and NIPE skills</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>tbc</td> <td>Advancing maternal and newborn care through research and clinical practice</td> <td>40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Please note: Completion of the EU directives as outlined in Annexe 1 (Article 40; 41 and 42) and Annex 5 2005/36/EC (NMC, 2019) is required to complete the programme and be eligible for application to the NMC for registration as a midwife. The course has been designed to ensure that recruitment/selection processes and achievement of all elements of the course (theory and practice) ensures that all elements required have been completed.</p> <p>Numeracy related to medicines management must be passed at 100% as per NMC requirements.</p>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	tbc	Universal midwifery care for the mother and newborn	40	tbc	The midwife as a professional, scholar and leader	20	tbc	Challenging inequalities in childbearing	20	tbc	Enhanced midwifery care and obstetric emergencies	40	tbc	Enhanced care of the newborn infant and NIPE skills	20	tbc	Advancing maternal and newborn care through research and clinical practice	40
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15b Structure Diagram

There will be one intake annually commencing in January. Assessments are categorised as coursework, exam or in-person. These will encompass a range of assessments, which will facilitate achievement of learning outcomes. Assessments are distributed throughout each year.

Year 1

80 L7 credits on successful completion of all elements of assessment

January - June
Welcome week activities and launch theory of:
Universal midwifery care for the mother and newborn (40)
The midwife as a professional, scholar and leader (20)
March – June completion of semester one modules plus:
Challenging inequalities in childbearing (20)
ALL YEAR PRACTICE EXPOSURE
Universal midwifery care for the mother and newborn

Assessments this year include: case studies; reflections; numeracy exam; presentation and MORA (Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement)

Year 2

100 L7 credits on successful completion of all elements of assessment

January - December
Welcome week activities and launch of:
Enhanced midwifery care and obstetric emergencies (40)
Enhanced care of the newborn infant and NIPE skills (20)
Advancing maternal and newborn care through research and clinical practice (40)
ALL YEAR PRACTICE EXPOSURE
Advancing maternal and newborn care through research and clinical practice

Assessments this year include: BFI; reflections; exams; OSCEs; essay and MORA (Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement)

16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

In order to meet the NMC (2019) requirements there is a minimum of 3600 hours in total with a 50/50 split of theory and practice the following workload applies. This is based on the equivalent of 40 hours theory per week and 6 weeks annual leave per year. Whilst on placement students are expected to complete 37.5 hours of clinical hours and 2.5 hours of clinical reflection (40 hours a week in practice based activity).

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

Level 7
Workload: Year 1
27.5% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity (of the nominal 800 hours)

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	220
Directed Learning	140 (plus clinical practice hours)
Private Study	440
Total Hours	800 hours (plus clinical practice hours)

Balance of Assessment: Year 1

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	41.7%
Exam	16.6%
In-Person	41.7%

Workload: Year 2
22% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity (of the nominal 1000 hours)

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	220
Directed Learning	80 (plus clinical practice hours)
Private Study	700
Total Hours	1000 hours (plus clinical practice hours)

Balance of Assessment: Year 2

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	13.3%
Exam	33.3%
In-Person	53.4%