Programme Specification

Midwifery (2020-21)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution: University of Southampton
Teaching Institution: University of Southampton
Mode of Study: Full-time
Duration in years: 3
Accreditation details: Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)

Final award: Bachelor of Science with Honours (BSc (Hons))
Name of award: Midwifery
Interim Exit awards: Certificate of Health Studies, Diploma of Health Studies

FHEQ level of final award: Level 6
UCAS code: B720
Programme code: 8169
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference: Midwifery 2001, NMC (2009) Standards for Pre-Registration Midwifery Education 2009
Programme Lead: Ellen Kitson-Reynolds (elkr)

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

The award of Bachelor of Science (Honours) Midwifery with eligibility to apply for registration on the Midwifery Part of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) register is a 3 year, full time, 156 week programme, designed to meet Professional Regulatory Body (NMC) and University academic award requirements.

The programme is underpinned by a set of beliefs and values that espouses a holistic woman centred approach to care, which is provided by competent and knowledgeable practitioners in an empathetic, trustworthy, and compassionate manner. This is consistent with the principles of the 6 C’s (Cummings and Bennett, 2012), Midwifery 2020 (2010) and the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) (2011) definition of a midwife. This programme has adopted a values based approach from recruitment to graduation. It recognises the need for midwives to have a clear vision of their own potential in order to embrace a greater public health role and to meet
the challenges of reducing inequalities and improving maternal and family health and well-being.

The programme embraces an adult learning philosophy to support your development as an autonomous midwife who provides evidence based care within an ethical and legal framework. Midwives need to have leadership and management capabilities to respond flexibly, and effectively, to the changes and technological advances in the health care environment. Through reflective practice you will develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to ensure you are fit for the profession, award and practice. This includes the development of skills for lifelong learning.

The modular design of this programme is based on the University agreed modular curriculum structure reflecting the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) that requires all programme based learning activities to be valued and awarded credit. All modules are core. For registration as a midwife on the NMC professional register (NMC, 2009), this programme has to be three years with 45 weeks programmed activity per year. The School endeavours to recognise all student learning with one ECTS equating to 25 hours of student effort/workload. As a result of these two factors, the Bachelor of Science (HONS) Midwifery has more credits than a traditional BSc to capture the student effort associated with clinical practice activity and the NMC (2009) and EU legislation requirements.

The programme runs in parallel with the Master of Science Midwifery, which is also a 3 year, 156 week programme with eligibility to apply for registration on Part Two of Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Register. As both Bachelor of Science (HONS) Midwifery and Master of Science Midwifery require the same professional knowledge, skills and attitudes, the programmes have been planned in parallel with identical practice requirements so practice modules are common to both programmes. In addition, there are shared taught components. The programmes have been designed so that each group has academic modules appropriate to their programme based on the level descriptors from the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA 2014). This includes programme specific module learning outcomes and assessments, learning resources, seminars covering theory and practice aspects of the programme, and academic tutorial support to facilitate academic development appropriate to the level of study. You will be assigned a personal academic tutor to support your programme requirements.

The Midwifery programme team are committed to the provision of high quality education that is responsive to the changing state and knowledge in health and to meet client needs and expectations (WHO, 2013; Fraser, 2011). We are committed to working in a way that is consistent with domains within the midwifery educator core competencies (WHO, 2013) as well as National and School standards.

The School is committed to interprofessional learning so a number of core modules are offered in a shared learning capacity with other professional student groups e.g. healthcare scientists, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and podiatry. The programme comprises a minimum of 50% practice activity, including caseload practice, and to a minimum of 40% academic learning. This includes the opportunity for you to undertake a personal development learning (choice) activity in year 2, which can range from specialist knowledge/skills development, to international experiences. Practice delivery is designed so that on successful completion of the programme, you will have met the requirements of the professional and statutory bodies (NMC 2009), and thus complied with the current European Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (2005) on the recognition of professional qualifications. This programme fulfils the incoming Modernised Directive 2013/55/EU requirements of a minimum of 4600 programme hours.


Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching

The School is committed to providing you with a student-centred, friendly, supportive and receptive environment in which you will be able to reach your full potential and assume responsibility for your own learning (Fraser, 2011). The education content is underpinned by the sciences, research & evidence-based practice, which together provide the essential components for reflective practice and life-long learning. This means you will have the potential for a diverse and stimulating career in midwifery. You are supported to develop your analytical skills through an experiential, problem-solving learning approach to acquire knowledge and skills in a contextual and integrated manner. This is achieved through the use of: key-note and expert lectures; student and tutor-led tutorials and seminars; debates, case-based learning; interprofessional and trans-disciplinary learning; group work; directed and self-directed learning activities; practical and simulation skill based sessions; experiential learning; practice placement experience; web-based learning and digital resources. The programme team will
draw upon established and proven approaches embedded in other successful programmes to support your transition to academic study and the requisite academic skills. You are expected to apply learning from interprofessional education to your own professional context. One strategy to achieve this is through the Values BasedEnquiry journey (VBE).

This programme has a strong values based ethos which supports your development as a midwife who is prepared for the predicted challenges of the future, demonstrating the personal qualities and character which identify you as University of Southampton graduate.

Midwives graduating from the University of Southampton will be:
- Committed to delivering person-centred care underpinned by values of care and compassion.
- Self-aware, possessing self-belief and self-efficacy and will have developed the courage and character necessary to speak out and to ‘make a difference’ as practitioners and leaders.
- Insightful analytical thinkers with the ability to problem solve and to generate evidence for the enhancement of practice.
- Knowledgeable and skilled professionals who are competent and confident in practice.

To foster the VBE philosophy there are timetabled seminars throughout each academic year. These facilitated sessions are planned to integrate theory and practice, to promote reflective practice and to challenge yourselves and others to achieve best practice.

**Assessment**

The School enables you to demonstrate your successful learning using fair and reliable assessment methods. These include formative and summative assessments such as: essays; written case studies; unseen examinations; conference style presentations; professional conversations; critical appraisal of literature; practical examinations; group guided learning activities, projects and presentations. There are practice placement assessments in each year, some of which incorporate feedback from women to whom you have provided care, along with regular assessment and feedback from clinical midwives.

**Special Features of the programme**

- The programme leads to eligibility to register with the NMC with very high employability for successful students.
- At least 50% of programme time is spent in professional practice.
- There is some opportunity to identify, plan and undertake a learning activity of particular interest to you.
- Learning aspects of the curriculum are undertaken with other health and social care professionals.
- You will have the opportunity to work towards the Baby Friendly standards.
- Learning includes access to simulation for clinical skills and also the Values Based Enquiry journey.
- All modules are core.

**Please note:** As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our [Disclaimer](#) to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student’s programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University’s [programme validation process](#) which is described in the University's [Quality handbook](#).

**Educational Aims of the Programme**

- Provide you with the detailed knowledge and skills necessary to equip you for a career in Midwifery (Midwifery 2020, 2010).
- Provide you with sufficient clinical experience to equip you for a career in Midwifery.
• Develop your competence in applying professional skills to the autonomous practice of normal Midwifery in accordance with the Midwives Rules and Standards (NMC 2012) and ‘The Code: Standards of conduct, performance and ethics for nurses and midwives’ (NMC 2015).
• Provide a values-based journey through which you will develop your own beliefs and values, while demonstrating the appropriate attitudes for high quality holistic midwifery practice.
• Develop key, transferable skills for general use in graduate employment to enable you to become a provider of quality maternity care for women and families.
• Develop critical and analytical competence so that you become a thinking user of research evidence to improve care and outcomes for women, neonates and families.
• Provide opportunities for you to learn with, and from, other healthcare professionals so that you develop competence in inter-professional practice to meet the needs of women and their families requiring maternity services.
• Develop you to be skilled and safe, empathic and trustworthy, with the capacity to influence future midwifery care based upon the principles of autonomy and accountability within multidisciplinary and multi-agency teams.
• Prepare you to meet the requirements of:
  o The Nursing and Midwifery Council Standards for pre-registration Midwifery education (2009) for entry to the Midwifery Part of the NMC professional register.
  o International Confederation for Midwives (ICM) education standards (2010 amended 2013)
  o The University criteria for the award of an honours degree.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

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

A1. the philosophical foundations of Midwifery practice;
A2. current theoretical perspectives on Midwifery practice;
A3. the anatomical, physiological, neurological, biomechanical, psycho-social, pharmacological and pathological principles related to maternal, fetal and neonatal wellbeing;
A4. the ethical, moral and legal issues in relation to Midwifery practice;
A5. the importance of clinical governance and its relevance and application within Midwifery and the Supervision of Midwifery;
A6. the requirements of clinical governance as demonstrated through the theoretical and scientific basis of research, research methodology, clinical audit, and evidence-based practice;
A7. the connections between clinical leadership, management and health outcomes;
A8. current local, national and international public health agendas and the role of the midwife in contributing to health outcomes;
A9. the modern provision of midwifery care in the public and private sectors including structure, drivers of change and policies.
Teaching and Learning Methods

In the context of midwifery, the methods will include:

- an emphasis on developing a focussed approach to midwifery to assist you in engaging with learning resources so that you may understand their relevance and enhance your scholarly and academic development
- a sequence of lectures and seminars to introduce new and review knowledge, concepts and processes
- self-directed learning activities and opportunity for preparation in order to make choices and present outcomes to peers
- opportunity to work individually, in pairs/teams and value based learning groups to complete given tasks and take part in reflection and peer review processes
- personal and/or interactive group activities specifically supported by facilitators/experts/resources/ technology/mixed media
- varied learning activities (course completion/compulsory) – which introduce an element of choice in learning and assessment in order to more fully meet individual learning needs and preferences, thereby fulfilling HE responsibilities under the equality and diversity agenda

Assessment Methods

A range of assessment methods are adopted which ensure that graduates demonstrate academic knowledge, critical thinking and practical ability. Links between module learning outcomes and a range of learning activities (including course completion), formative and summative assessment methods are developed and matched carefully match to ensure relevance to practice. The types of assessments adopted include:

- essays, protocols, unseen exams, multiple choice questions, short answer questions, case studies, viva/practical exams, creative/interactive use of media and technology, individual/group presentations, poster work/displays and teamwork activities.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

B1. formulate strategies for selecting appropriate and relevant information from a wide range of professional and inter-professional sources of knowledge;
B2. synthesise and critically appraise information from a variety of sources to gain a coherent and evidence-based understanding of midwifery theory and practice;
B3. reflect critically on your and other professionals’ practice to recognise the limits of your competency and the possibilities for innovation in practice;
B4. utilise appropriate study skills to facilitate your own learning;
B5. engage in debate and discussion in areas of professional controversy and future professional development;
B6. construct reasoned argument concerning the funding and ethics of modern health and social care;
B7. identify the needs of women and their families from physical, psychological, environmental, social, emotional and spiritual perspectives to understand and value the diversity and complexity of human behaviour;
B8. communicate with other professionals and agencies working in collaboration with maternity services, to ensure that the needs of individuals, families and communities are met.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Will include:
- Active participation in learning groups
- Reading, critiquing and applying a range of evidence courses and research publications
- Lectures, seminars, and group projects
- Self-directed investigation and critique

Assessment Methods

Will include:
- Critical review of literature applied to chosen module focus
- Significant evidence/research based project in the final year
- Presentations and posters

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

C1. communicate effectively in a variety of forms to a variety of audiences;
C2. critically evaluate academic, clinical and professional performance and utilise research skills to facilitate woman centred care;
C3. effectively manage time and prioritise workload to sustain efficient and effective practice while demonstrating self-management;
C4. work autonomously and develop leadership skills to influence and supervise others;
C5. demonstrate care and compassion for clients and colleagues through the promotion of individual rights, respecting their dignity and diversity in a culturally sensitive manner;
C6. use risk assessment and management strategies to demonstrate adherence to safe practice by ensuring the safety of yourself as a practitioner, your client and others who utilise your service;
C7. utilise creative problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations;
C8. utilise information management/technologies to support learning, practice and research activities and take responsibility for this;
C9. contribute confidently and appropriately to discussion utilising evidence based practice to support and justify your argument;
C10. manage time and resources appropriately and demonstrate self-management;
C11. manage own well-being, for example, professional and personal emotions and stress;
C12. manage change effectively and respond to changing demands;
C13. recognise and take responsibility for your ongoing personal and professional development.
C14. evaluate your own personal, academic, clinical and professional performance through reflective practice;
Teaching and Learning Methods

Will include:
- Inter-disciplinary group work and practical skills workshops
- Lectures and seminars
- Guided reading
- Active engagement with e resources
- Portfolio development
- Learning in practice

Assessment Methods

Will include:
- Course completion requirements for statutory and mandatory skills
- Completion of a group health education/promotion pack targeted at a selected audience
- Practice Placement assessment

Subject Specific Practical Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

D1. role model the practise of autonomous, professional, responsible and safe midwifery care which underpins the delivery of intelligent high quality compassionate, women-centred, evidence-based midwifery practice;

D2. promote and advocate the concept, knowledge and practice of women and family centred care

D3. work in partnership with other health and social care professionals and agencies, service users, and families in all settings ensuring decisions about care are informed, shared and owned;

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D4. appropriately apply current legislation paying special attention to the protection of vulnerable individuals and groups;

D5. plan, implement and evaluate, in partnership with women and their family, high quality care within normal pregnancy, labour and the puerperium;

D6. recognise and respond accordingly to care for all women including those with complex mental health, medical, surgical obstetric and social needs;

D7. empower women to have the capacity to take responsibility for their own health;

D8. intelligently apply the patho-physiology of medical/surgical and obstetric conditions, including relevant pharmacology, which may affect maternal, fetal or neonatal wellbeing;

D9. use appropriate diagnostic and decision-making and risk assessment skills and safely use invasive and non-invasive procedures, medical devices, and current technological and pharmacological interventions;

D10. understand and incorporate the role of the Supervision of midwifery, within clinical governance processes, to maintain and improve the quality of midwifery practice and standards;

D11. identify the clinical leadership skills inherent in managing midwifery care and, when appropriate, to initiate and coordinate interprofessional care;
D12. develop practical skills (including statutory and mandatory) appropriate to the role of the midwife, gained across both theory and practice environments.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Will include:
- Learning in practice opportunities
- Lectures, seminars, tutorials to introduce new and review knowledge, concepts and processes that support the development of practical skills
- Opportunities for experiential learning which focus initially on personal experience to inform professional development of skills and empathy
- Self-directed learning activities
- Opportunity to work individually and with others in pairs and learning groups to complete given tasks and develop reflection and peer review skills
- Personal and interactive group activities specifically supported by facilitators/experts/resources/technology/mixed media
- Active engagement with local and national resources available through Health service resources

Assessment Methods

Will include:
- Case based practical assessments
- Written assignments
- Critical reflection
- Presentation / viva voce
- Assessment of, and in, practice

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:
Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Part I

TYPICAL COURSE CONTENT

The programme is divided into academic and practice modules, although these are interdependent. There are learning group activities and seminars (including VBE) to help you integrate theory and practice, and to foster your professional and academic development.

At least 50% of the programme is allocated learning in practice, (NMC, 2009) which is mainly undertaken within local
NHS Trusts. You will normally have the opportunity to work in a variety of settings for example the community, midwifery-led birth centres, children’s centres, health centres as well as within the local hospital. You will be supported by midwives, and other professionals as appropriate to develop the knowledge and skills you will need to be an autonomous midwife and to meet the NMC professional requirements and the programme outcomes. Practice is assessed throughout the programme by the midwives you work with, with contributions from the women you care for, using an electronic assessment of practice portfolio. You will work with the interprofessional team in many of these locations. There will be some opportunities to gain an insight into other areas of health care, such as gynaecology, neonatal nursing, health visiting, and sexual health practice.

The academic modules develop in breadth, detail and complexity from one year to the next but encompass the following areas:

- The principles of the bio-health sciences and their application to the process associated with normal health, and in particular with normal, complex and abnormal events from conception to the puerperium.
- The principles of the psychosocial/human sciences and their application to the process associated with normal physical and mental health, and in particular with normal, complex and abnormal physical and mental health events from conception to the puerperium.
- The principles of pharmacology, pharmakinetics and medicines management in the context of midwifery practice.
- The role of the midwife in the provision of competent, empathetic care to the woman and her family throughout her child birth experience, including risk assessment and management of care.
- Public health from an individual, family, population and societal perspective.
- Safeguarding the woman and neonate (and other vulnerable individuals).
- The provision of culturally sensitive/appropriate care for vulnerable groups.
- Inter professional education and working.
- Communication and interpersonal skills, including leadership.
- Research knowledge and skills of critical inquiry.
- Working in an ever changing and technological environment.

There will be opportunities to undertake learning and practice alongside other students on health care programmes. There will also be some opportunity to identify learning activity of particular interest to you and to follow this up in professional development activity. This might include one of the following; working with practitioners specialising in an aspect of care; working with a particular client group; working with a researcher; undertaking a module from across the wider School/University that is pertinent to your programme ( curriculum innovation project module); gaining experience outside the NHS, or internationally. There is no opportunity for a part time route.

The opportunity exists for you to undertake an elective experience within year 2. This must be in line with NMC educational guidelines for professional midwifery practice, covered by University and School guidelines for elective/independent activity, consistent with the educational commissioning of the programme, aligned with programme learning outcomes and appropriate to professional development needs.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

The award of Bachelor of Science (HONS) Midwifery with eligibility to apply for registration on Part Two of Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Register is a full time, 3 year, 156 week programme. It is modular in design based on the University agreed modular curriculum structure reflecting the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) that requires all programme based learning activities to be valued and awarded credit. Successful Completion requires a minimum of 180 ECTS, of which at least 60 ECTS undertaken at academic level 4, 60 at level 5 and 60 at level 6. In addition, to meet the European Union directive 2005/36/EC, professional requirements of the programme and to achieve NMC accreditation, there are an additional 7.5 ECTS at academic levels 4 and 5 (see table 1 below). You must satisfy the entry requirements as set out in the Programme Specification. Each academic year requires 45 weeks attendance. There is no opportunity for a part time route.

The School is committed to shared learning and inter-professional education. You may take a University of Southampton Curriculum Innovation Programme (CIP) module in year 2 or year 3 depending on the start date of your programme.

The programme is divided into study modules of 7.5 and 15 ECTS. Each credit corresponds to 25 hours of student effort. There is a minimum of 50% practice activity (NMC, 2009) including caseload practice (Fraser, 2011), and at least 40% academic activity. The programme is designed so that on successful completion of the programme, you will have met the current requirement of the United Kingdom, Nursing and Midwifery Council (2009) Standards for pre-
registration Midwifery education (appendix D) for entry to the NMC Register as a first level registered Midwife and thus fulfill the requirements of Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications with respect to the training of midwives (Article 40 and associated Annex). This programme fulfills the incoming Modernised Directive 2013/55/EU including a minimum of 4600 programme hours.

All modules are core to meet professional requirements. The ECTS allocation across the programme reflects student effort. There is no compensation between modules. The classification is based on the 100 point Mark Scheme for the final degree average as follows (University of Southampton 2014 University Calendar section IV 8)

**Classification for BSc**

- 70% and over  First Class (I)
- 60% - 69% Second Class, Upper Division (IIi)
- 50% - 59% Second Class, Lower Division (IIii)
- 40% - 49% Third Class (III)
- Less than 40% Fail

These boundaries refer to the Final Average Mark rounded to the nearest integer. The modules that contribute to classification are all level 5 and 6 modules (apart from the practice experience 4a and 6a) (total 120 ECTS). Credit values capture student effort. Satisfactory completion is a course requirement, but as there is no grading attached to the practice experience2a, 4a and 6a modules, they do not contribute to the classification. Year 1 work shall be excluded from the final degree classification. A weighting of 0.1:2 shall be used to obtain the Final Average Mark for the three Parts of an Honours degree programme.

The programme is based on the core areas of midwifery and you will study subject matter relating to these throughout the programme. The VBE philosophy detailed above is integral to the programme. The programme will also contain aspects of theory, professional practice and support for the final year project that culminates in the preparation and presentation of a substantial independent study activity.

The clinical practice component will be integrated into the programme and you will have the opportunity to consolidate what you learn at university under the supervision of an experienced midwifery mentor. You will also be expected to integrate what you learn during the clinical placements into the university based modules. You will be sharing this learning with the rest of the cohort and this will contribute towards your award.

The study modules within the programme, the academic level at which they are studied, the credit ratings of the modules and the awards that can be gained are shown below. Successful completion of this programme provides eligibility to apply for registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). It is a legal requirement that anyone who wishes to practice using a title protected by the Nursing and Midwifery Order 2001 is registered with the NMC. For more information, please see the NMC website at: www.nmc-uk.org.

The minimum pass mark for all assessments is 40%; modules and practice placements must be passed. In cases where a practical component forms part of an overall assessment of a module this component must be passed and compensation will not be allowed. Re-sit for any referred assessments will be scheduled at the first available assessment opportunity. You must meet the pass criteria in both academic and, when required, practice assessment to pass overall. Non-assessed work may also be a course and /or professional requirement. The School programmes handbook presents a summary of process for the submission of coursework.

The maximum period of registration shall normally be five years. This period of registration will incorporate periods of suspension or interruption of studies. The award must be completed within five years of the commencement date.

NMC (2009) Standards for Pre-registration Midwifery Education apply, together with any subsequent revised Standard from the NMC that operates during the validation period of this programme. These Professional Statutory and Regulatory Bodies requirements apply to special considerations, progression from one Part of the programme to another, length of suspension periods and recognition of prior learning. Due to professional requirements and the nature of the 45 week attendance, students are allowed to progress from one Part of the programme to another Part where special considerations apply. In these cases, the referral must be achieved by the 12th week of the next part of the programme being entered (NMC, 2009).

All modules are classified as core and there is no compensation between modules.

**Intermediate Exit Points:**

Please note there is no exit award that equates to professional practice or NMC registration. You will be eligible for an interim exit award if you successfully complete part of the programme but not all of it as follows:
Diploma of Health Studies - at least 120 ECTS credits (successful completion of year 1 and successful completion of all academic modules plus 30 credits in practice at level 5)

Certificate of Health Studies - at least 60 ECTS credits (successful completion of all academic modules plus 30 credits in practice at level 4)

The learning outcomes associated with the Certificate or Diploma is aligned to the National Qualifications Framework in the field of midwifery.

Part I Core

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Part II

Part II Core

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NPMS2036 Practice Experience 4a 2021-22 7.5 Core

Part III

Part III Core

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Progression Requirements

The programme will follow the University's regulations for *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes* or the University's regulations for *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Standalone Masters Programmes* as set out in the General Academic Regulations in the University Calendar: [http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html](http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html)

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:
- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
• computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
• standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
• access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
• IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
• Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
• assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
• the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
• Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
• Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
• A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students’ Union provides
• an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students’ views to the University.
• opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
• an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
• Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:
• Your programme lead, the Lead Midwife for Education, personal academic tutor, senior tutor, module leader, midwife mentor, practice educator for midwifery students, Supervisor of Midwives as well as the wider School and support resources while in placement via the School support for learning in practice processes;
• facilities based at some of the sub campuses/study centres.

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

• Completing module survey questionnaires for each module of the programme.
• Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff: Student Liaison Committees, School Programmes Committee, Midwifery programme sub-committee OR
• providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
• Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation.
• Providing feedback directly to your personal academic tutor, programme lead, or the Lead Midwife for Education.
• Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group.
• Serving as student representative at practice lead meetings.

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:
• Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the School (including practice placements).
• Programme validation, normally every five years.
• External examiners, who produce an annual report.
• NMC accreditation/monitoring.
A national Research Assessment Exercise (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience).
- Institutional Review by the Quality Assurance Agency.
- Reviews by Health Education England (Wessex), who commission, fund and monitor all aspects of your programme.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the Quality Handbook.

Career Opportunities

The Bachelor of Science (Hons) Midwifery gives you the preparation for a life-long career as a midwife that is different, stimulating and rewarding every day. You will have the opportunity to enhance the health of individual women, their families and the nation by promoting good health, such as breast feeding, diet, exercise and general health.

As you consolidate your midwifery experience as a Midwifery graduate you can move into specialist roles, such as caring for vulnerable groups, or wider public health roles, or related professional groups such as Health Visiting.

You could move into leadership. As you consolidate your midwifery experience as a Midwifery graduate you will lead the care of a client group, supervising with support workers, and other midwives. You will develop the expertise to supervise, challenge and lead teams to provide high quality midwifery practice. You have choices from then on to develop your clinical expertise to provide expert care to clients with particular/complex care needs. You might wish to develop your leadership of midwifery teams, service projects, with the potential of moving into significant NHS leadership activity, such as supervisor of midwives, consultant midwife, Head of Midwifery services, or into more general Healthcare leadership roles.

Other choices include undertaking postgraduate studies at Masters/or and Doctorate level, leading to a career in research, which can be grounded in practice, or across education and research leading to an academic career. Research and/or education can impact national and international agendas. Alternatively you may like to consider a joint appointment role between two or more of the following: practice/management/research/academia.

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Ms Amanda Hutcherson - City University

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the
learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.
Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

### Additional Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>You will be expected to self-fund textbooks, travel outside of placements including any elective experiences, a university approved calculator for medicines management examinations, and a laboratory coat for your health sciences module. These requirements will be made explicit in the module specifications.</td>
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In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University’s Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.