

Template C4



Programme Specification

Title of Course: *MMid Midwifery with Registered Midwife*

Date first produced	01/11/2019
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Version number	5
Faculty	Faculty of Health, Science, Social Care & Education
School	School of Education, Midwifery and Social Work
Department	Department of Midwifery
Delivery Institution	Kingston University

This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, academic staff and employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes and content of each module can be found in the course VLE site and in individual Module Descriptors.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Award(s) and Title(s): <i>Up to 10 pathways</i>	MMid Midwifery with Registered Midwife
Intermediate Awards(s) and Title(s): <i>There are 4 Intermediate awards for each pathway</i>	Diploma of Higher Education in Maternal and Newborn Healthcare Postgraduate Diploma in Maternal and Newborn Healthcare
Course Code <i>For each pathway and mode of delivery</i>	
UCAS code <i>For each pathway</i>	TBC

RQF Level for the Final Award:	
Awarding Institution:	Kingston University
Teaching Institution:	Kingston University
Location:	Kingston Hill Campus
Language of Delivery:	English
Modes of Delivery:	Full-time
Available as:	Full field
Minimum period of registration:	Full-time - Two years
Maximum period of registration:	Full-time - Four years
Entry Requirements:	<p>The minimum entry qualifications for the programme are: Registration as an Adult Nurse on the NMC professional register. Honours degree in Adult Nursing at lower second class Plus: A minimum IELTS score of 7.0, or equivalent is required for those for whom English is not their first language. Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) and Occupational Health clearance are requirements for entry to the course. These are undertaken by the allocated employing NHS Trust. A face to face interview is required as part of the admissions process.</p>
Programme Accredited by:	Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)

QAA Subject Benchmark Statements:	<p>The QAA subject benchmarks for midwifery are currently under review. This programme has been written with reference to the previous subject statements.</p>
Approved Variants:	<p>Choice of assessment mode. No compensation (PSRB requirement) <i>“Student midwives must successfully complete an NMC approved pre-registration midwifery programme in order to meet the Standards of proficiency for midwives and to be eligible to apply, and be entered onto, the NMC register.”</i> (NMC, 2019 p3)^[1]</p> <p>This statement also precludes provision for aegrotat for students on midwifery programmes. ‘Midwife’ is a protected title under UK legislation. Therefore exit awards which do not contain the title ‘midwife’ are conferred. No pay and repeat option following two failed attempts for practice modules. Modules studied at level 6 will be subject to the KU undergraduate regulations in terms of the number of attempts permitted and maximum credit loads for reassessment. Modules studied at level 7 will be subject to the KU postgraduate regulations in terms of the number of attempts permitted and maximum credit loads for reassessment</p>
Is this Higher or Degree Apprenticeship course?	

For Higher or Degree Apprenticeship proposals only

Higher or Degree Apprenticeship standard:	n/a
Recruitment, Selection and Admission process:	n/a
End Point Assessment Organisation(s):	n/a

SECTION 2: THE COURSE

A. Aims of the Course

The overarching aim of the programme is to produce registered midwives of the highest calibre, who are able to confidently join their chosen profession and make an immediate contribution to the care of women and their babies. The programme will enable enthusiastic and committed adult nurses to successfully achieve the academic, professional values and clinical practice outcomes of the MMid with Registered Midwife programme. These requirements fulfil the Kingston University Corporate Plan (2018) and the NMC Standards for Pre-registration Midwifery Education (2019).

The Department of Midwifery is committed to supporting students in their journey to midwifery registration. Student experience is at the heart of the midwifery team philosophy:



In order to achieve this overall objective, the programme will facilitate the student to develop personally and professionally to become a competent, sensitive practitioner and future midwifery leader who is able to perform effectively in a variety of settings; working both independently and in collaboration with other professionals to ensure the best possible outcomes for women and their families.

Additionally, the MMid Midwifery will provide a programme of education which will develop the student's abilities in advanced scholarship, including clinical research, leadership and management. It will provide the student with the opportunities to hone their professional and academic abilities to a very high standard, emphasising the need for evidence-based practice and promoting an ethos of research activity and lifelong learning.

In achieving these objectives, students completing the MMid Midwifery at Kingston University will be sought-after practitioners; with the necessary personal and professional attributes to enjoy rewarding midwifery careers as clinicians, researchers, educationalists or leaders who are able to contribute meaningfully to the development and enhancement of the profession.

B. Intended Learning Outcomes

The QAA subject benchmarks for midwifery are now out of date and have been archived.^[1] The course outcomes are referenced to the previous subject benchmarks and the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2018)^[2]. Additionally the learning outcomes reflect the NMC Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education^[3] and the Standards for Student supervision and assessment^[4]. The course provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding specific to the subject, key skills and graduate attributes in the following areas:

The programme learning outcomes are the high-level learning outcomes that will have been achieved by all students receiving this award. They must align to the levels set out in the ['Sector Recognised Standards in England'](#) (OFS 2022).

Programme Learning Outcomes					
	Knowledge and Understanding		Intellectual Skills		Subject Practical Skills
	On completion of the course students will be able to:		On completion of the course students will be able to		On completion of the course students will be able to
A6	The public health agenda and implications for the woman and her family.	B6	Draw upon professional judgment to make evidence-based, problem-solving and autonomous informed decisions, across all areas of practice.	C6	Establish and monitor standards of practice and contribute effectively to advanced quality improvement strategies to bring about continuous improvement in clinical practice.
A5	The legal and ethical framework, to include human rights relating to pregnancy, childbirth, parenting and midwifery practice in general.	B5	Demonstrate logical, systematic thinking and draw reasoned conclusions and sustainable judgments.	C5	Coordinate, lead and manage the complex midwifery and integrated care needs of people through partnership, collaboration and interagency working, demonstrating a critical understanding of the roles of other healthcare professionals.
A4	Medical, social and cultural factors affecting pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium.	B1	Solve complex problems in the provision and management of maternity care and justify their decision-making in prioritising the needs of individuals.	C4	Recognise and respond appropriately to complex and unpredictable situations in day-to-day clinical practice; demonstrating technical competence, problem-solving skills and expertise.
A2	The social, cultural, political and spiritual issues that influence women's experience of childbearing and family life; recognising the implications of these factors in relation to the development of maternity and other healthcare systems.	B3	Demonstrate the skills and attributes of an autonomous and reflexive learner and a commitment to systematic professional development, through evidence-based knowledge and enquiry.	C3	Justify the choice of evidence-based strategies to promote and protect health, and prevent ill health in order to improve outcomes and reduce health inequalities in childbearing women and their families.

A1	The anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology necessary to underpin reproductive health and midwifery practice.	B2	Critically appraise and analyse both primary and secondary sources; interpreting data to establish connections discern meaning.	C2	Exhibit professional behaviours as an accountable, reflective, adaptable, compassionate, skilled and confident registered midwife. Demonstrate the ability to critically select and apply professional, ethical and legal frameworks to deliver evidence-based care in all areas of clinical and professional practice.
A3	Fetal development, adaptation to extra-uterine life and neonatal physiology and care in the context of contemporary healthcare.	B4	Extend research based knowledge and skills and be able to evaluate research critically.	C1	Sustain and promote excellent standards of evidence-based midwifery care in partnership with women, their families and other health professionals.

In addition to the programme learning outcomes, the programme of study defined in this programme specification will allow students to develop the following range of Graduate Attributes:

1. Creative Problem Solving
2. Digital Competency
3. Enterprise
4. Questioning Mindset
5. Adaptability
6. Empathy
7. Collaboration
8. Resilience
9. Self-Awareness

C. Outline Programme Structure

Recognition of NMC adult nurse registration allows eligible students to complete a shortened programme leading to NMC midwifery registration. Students enrolling on this programme will share teaching and learning with the second year students on the three year MMid Midwifery course. In order to support transition to midwifery practice, students will undertake an extended induction period before their first practice learning experience. The transition period will include key midwifery theory and skills teaching, following student self-assessment of their anatomy, physiology and essential clinical skills proficiency. Following the first practice learning experience, students will have a further opportunity to review their learning needs in relation to their transition to midwifery practice. This process enables an individualised approach to be taken to the students' learning needs.

Each academic year is made up of four modules each worth 30 credits. Typically a student must complete 120 credits in each year to progress. All students have access to the University regulations and specific variations and additions that are required for accreditation by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) the statutory body conferring professional accreditation. Full details of each module will be provided in module descriptors and student module guides.

[MMid Midwifery with Registered Midwife](#)

MMid Midwifery with Registered Midwife							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Bodies and Birth 2	MW6019	30	6	1&2			
Midwifery Profession and Practice 2A	MW6021	30	6	1&2			
Midwifery Profession and Practice 2B	MW6022	30	6	1&2			
Optional Modules							

Level 6 requires the completion of

Progression to the final year requires all first year modules to be passed and completion of minimum practice hours.

This course does not normally permit progression from level 6 to level 7 with the trailing of any credit due to module pre-requisites. This means that 120 credits must be passed before progression to the next academic year/level of study.

Students exiting the programme at this point who have successfully completed 120 credits are eligible for the award of Postgraduate Certificate in Maternal and Newborn Healthcare.

Level 7							
MMid Midwifery with Registered Midwife							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Bodies and Birth 3	MW7017	30	7	1&2			
Midwifery Profession and Practice 3A	MW7019	30	7	1&2		0	0
Midwifery Profession and Practice 3A	MW7019	30	7	1&2			
Midwifery Profession and Practice 3B	MW7020	30	7	1&2			
Social and Political Context of Birth 2	MW7021	30	7	1&2			
Social and Political Context of Birth 3	MW7018	30	7	1&2			
Optional Modules							

Level 7 information

Progression to the final award requires all final year modules to be passed and completion of minimum practice hours.

Course completion leading to NMC registration also requires NMC and EU requirements to be achieved.

D. Principles of Teaching, Learning and Assessment

A wide range of teaching and learning methods are utilised to enable all students to actively engage throughout the course. Using the principles of inclusive curriculum design, they are carefully planned to suit the content and learning outcomes of modules and include lectures, workshops, skills teaching in laboratories, student-led seminars, debates, on-line activities, artwork, work-based and problem-based learning. Those utilised in previous programmes with proven effectiveness and positive evaluations have been retained and new approaches developed. This variety of learning methodologies enables students to engage fully with the curriculum and to develop their understanding and skills.

The principles of critical thinking and evidence-based practice are embedded within the midwifery programmes. A bespoke, critical-thinking toolkit has been devised to support students' development of the key characteristics necessary for contemporary midwifery practice. Likewise a 'ways of knowing' thread is integrated into all modules to ensure the assimilation of research knowledge and its application to practice is emphasised throughout the programme. This element of the curricula is co-ordinated by an allocated thread lead, who has research expertise, to ensure that the thread is integrated, coherent and relevant.

The MMid programme provides additional support and resources necessary for students to develop the advanced scholarship required at postgraduate level. Activities designed to enhance these capabilities are provided throughout the programme, but especially during the final year to ensure postgraduate students are able to demonstrate the attributes required of Master's graduates. These activities will include seminars, additional tutorial support and guided learning, as well as regular meetings with the Postgraduate Lead Tutor to review progress and engagement.

An inclusive, technology-enhanced approach to learning is a key component of the programme. The use of blended learning opportunities supports students learning at their own pace, revisiting topics as necessary and engaging with academic staff in a convenient and time-efficient way. The virtual learning environment (VLE) Canvas is utilised extensively to support students' learning experience. Information regarding the programme, modules and learning materials are available via the desktop site or mobile app. Learning resources are embedded within the VLE to enhance students' learning opportunities. These include: films to illustrate and develop concepts raised in lectures, electronic workbooks to support anatomy and physiology sessions, digital reading lists offering e-book access recommended reading materials. Recordings of lectures are also used to enable students to review and clarify concepts.

Lecturers have also trialled the recording and embedding of films within the VLE to introduce their modules and explain the assessment strategy to students. This has been well reviewed since its introduction and will be continued.

This extensive use of the VLE helps to meet the needs of the significant number of commuter students and encourages continuous engagement with the learning material; particularly whilst students are on clinical placements and away from the University.

Whilst on placement, students are supernumerary; in that all clinical experience is education-led and they are not employed to provide midwifery care during their programme of study. This principle is stipulated in the NMC Standards for Pre-registration Midwifery Education^[1] and is supported by partner Trusts.

Assessment Strategy:

The assessment strategy is designed to be authentic, synoptic and relevant, in order to enable students to develop a set of skills that demonstrate their knowledge and understanding. Authentic assessment enables students to develop transferable skills that are applicable to their professional midwifery practice. Synoptic assessments acknowledge the coherence of the programme and the learning which is gained across modules and practice learning environments. Following the spiral curriculum model, the assessment strategy takes an approach which enables students to utilise their feedback and make effective plans for subsequent assessments.

A range of assessment methods have been designed to suit students' differing aptitudes, whilst ensuring rigour and credibility are maintained. Written, oral and practical assessments all feature in each year of the programme; with students having a choice of assessment mode in years two and three. This level of flexibility aims to provide students with the best opportunity to succeed, whilst enabling them to develop key skills required for their chosen profession.

The use of a professional portfolio enables students to consider the integration of theory and practice. Portfolio tasks are attached to each module and designed to be undertaken during the practice learning experience to encourage students to make links between theoretical module content and its application to midwifery practice.

Feedback and feedforward are integrated throughout the programme, with formative review and self-assessment opportunities in all modules. These are scheduled strategically through the year to enable students to receive relevant input and guidance. All skills assessments are filmed, both at formative and summative stages in order to enhance student learning and development. This has proved beneficial to students and has been well-reviewed. Further, detailed assessment strategies are provided in the module guides.

E. Support for Students and their Learning

Kingston University offers a comprehensive range of support services, designed to maximise students' opportunities to succeed. These are available to all KU students via the MyKingston pages of the website. Specific support processes available to pre-registration student midwives include:

Postgraduate Lead Tutor:

The lead tutor for the Master's programmes will work in collaboration with the cohort and module leads and is responsible for quality assurance of the master's programmes; ensuring students undertaking this pathway have the required additional support to succeed at this level. The postgraduate lead tutor will liaise closely with the course leader to assure the coherence and integration of the student learning experience.

Cohort Lead:

A member of the academic team takes overall responsibility for a cohort; ensuring the smooth running of their programme, both in University and on placement. They have an overview of students' progress and attainment and can act as a first point of contact for students in relation to the management and organisation of the programme.

Personal Tutor:

Kingston University has a well-established and successful Personal Tutor Scheme (PTS), which is designed to provide students with personalised academic and pastoral support for the duration of their course; maximising their potential to succeed and flourish.

Each student at KU is allocated a personal tutor when they first enrol. The personal tutor will meet regularly with their students throughout their time at KU; however, the emphasis is placed on establishing a rapport early in the students' journey, to ensure a smooth transition to university life and to welcome them to Kingston University. First year students meet with their personal tutor on multiple occasions. This gives planned opportunities to offer support and guidance on a range of topics. Meetings can be one-to-one or in small groups, depending on students' needs.

Ongoing support for continuing students is tailored more individually, but will always involve at least one meeting per term. Personal tutors are able to advise on academic practice, study habits and signpost students to the range of services available through KU.

The personal tutor system has been thoroughly embedded in the pre-registration midwifery programme for a number of years. Students are required to meet with their personal tutor at least once per term in order to review their practice assessment document and portfolio.

Module Lead:

Each module lead takes responsibility for the planning, organisation and delivery of their designated module(s). This includes supporting and guiding students with the relevant study and assessments.

Liaison Lecturers:

Each practice placement has at least one liaison lecturer. These are members of the academic team who regularly meet with students in their practice placement. The format of these meetings will vary to meet the needs of the students and may include one-to-one meetings, small group sessions or planned student fora. Liaison lecturers will also meet students with their practice supervisors, assessors or CPFs in order to ensure assessments are on schedule and to resolve any concerns.

Clinical Placement Facilitators/Student Support Midwives:

There are designated, student-focussed midwives based in all partner Trusts whose specific role is to support student midwives in practice. They are responsible for organising the student rota, ensuring high-quality support and supervision in the practice area. They provide a single point of contact for students and support midwives to provide the best possible learning experience. They meet regularly with liaison lecturers so any issues can be addressed quickly. They also support students' clinical practice learning; holding drop-in sessions and ensuring students are invited to learning events within the maternity unit.

CPFs are always singled out for praise by students in placement evaluations and surveys.

Academic Mentors:

The Department of Midwifery participates in the KU academic mentoring programme, supporting current second-year students to work with first years. Academic mentors currently support midwifery skills teaching sessions, in the dissecting room. They also have an invaluable teaching role on the student nurse maternity care programme. The scheme benefits both mentors and the students they support and has been very well evaluated. Mentors report increased confidence and knowledge. First years appreciate the different perspective of the mentor.

Learning to Learn:

The concept of 'learning to learn' is embedded in the curriculum, with students receiving guidance on study skills, good academic habits and development of academic writing, reading and assessment skills threaded through the programme. A wide range of resources are used to support this principle, with online modules, library tutorials and activities within the VLE all contributing to this process.

Academic Success Centres:

Student midwives are able to access academic support via the Academic Success Centre (ASC) at both Kingston Hill and St George's campuses. The ASC provides a comprehensive service offering guidance on all aspects of academic writing and study.

Student Achievement Officer:

The KU Student Achievement Officer scheme is designed to offer a single point of support for students with complex needs, or who need to access services from a wide range of providers. They may be accessed by the student directly, or by referral from the personal tutor.

F. Ensuring and Enhancing the Quality of the Course

The University has several methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of its provision. These include:

- External examiners
- Boards of study with student representation
- Annual Monitoring and Enhancement
- Periodic review undertaken at subject level

- Student evaluation including Module Evaluation Questionnaire (MEQs), level surveys and the National Student Survey (NSS)
- Moderation policies
- Feedback from employers
- NMC revalidation every five years

G. Employability and work-based learning

This programme has been designed to fulfil the core curriculum requirements of the Nursing and Midwifery Council and as such prepares students for employment as qualified midwives. The majority of KU midwifery graduates choose partner Trusts as their first employers, but some prefer to work further afield. Exit data shows that all KU qualifying students who wish to be employed immediately are successful at securing posts.

The collaborative working with practice partners, in developing, delivering and assessing the curriculum ensure its relevance for the modern practice setting. Additionally, student midwives spend fifty percent of their learning in clinical practice settings, helping to prepare them for life as registrants.

Professional values are thoroughly embedded and assessed throughout the programme, so that students' understanding is enhanced in respect of these essential criteria.

Activities specifically designed to enhance employability are included in the curriculum. The application and interview process is included in the final year curriculum and facilitated by practice partners. Information regarding revalidation, future study and continuing professional development are also provided. The use of a portfolio throughout the programme emphasises this principle and supports revalidation.

Access to senior midwifery leaders and academics is ensured, in order to highlight career development options in specialist roles, management, research and education.

Work-based learning, including sandwich courses and higher or degree apprenticeships

n/a

H. Other sources of information that you may wish to consult

Further information relating to the programme may be found at www.healthcare.ac.uk with information on wider KU processes and facilities at www.kingston.ac.uk Additional regulatory information may be accessed at www.nmc.org.uk

I. Development of Course Learning Outcomes in Modules

This table maps where course learning outcomes are **summatively** assessed across the modules for this course. It provides an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the course aims, a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the course progresses and a checklist for quality assurance purposes.

Module Code		Level 6			Level 7				
		MW6022	MW6021	MW6019	MW7021	MW7019	MW7020	MW7018	MW7017
Knowledge & Understanding	A6							S	
	A5		S			S		S	
	A4			S					S
	A2			S					S
	A1			S					S
	A3							S	
Intellectual Skills	B6								
	B5	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
	B1		S			S			
	B3	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
	B2	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
	B4	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Practical Skills	C6	S					S		
	C5	S	S			S	S		
	C4	S					S		
	C3	S	S			S	S		
	C2	S					S		
	C1	S	S			S	S		

Students will be provided with formative assessment opportunities throughout the course to practise and develop their proficiency in the range of assessment methods utilised.