

# HLT121 Midwifery Foundations

School: School of Health - Midwifery

2026 Trimester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast

**BLENDED  
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

*Please go to [unisc.edu.au](http://unisc.edu.au) for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.*

## 1. What is this course about?

### 1.1. Description

This course introduces you to the discipline of midwifery, and the roles, responsibilities and scope of practice of midwives. Political and social influences on the development of the discipline will be discussed. Foundational knowledge and skills necessary for the promotion of health and wellbeing for women, infant and family will be developed.

### 1.2. How will this course be delivered?

| ACTIVITY  | HOURS | BEGINNING WEEK | FREQUENCY |
|---|-------|----------------|-----------|
| <b>BLENDED LEARNING</b>   |       |                |           |
| <b>Learning materials</b> – Online asynchronous learning and teaching recording | 1hr   | Week 1         | 12 times  |
| <b>Tutorial/Workshop 1</b> – On campus tutorial                                 | 2hrs  | Week 1         | 12 times  |

### 1.3. Course Topics

Module 1: Historical influences and the contemporary context of midwifery

Module 2: Fundamental aspects of midwifery practice

Module 3: The mother-midwife relationship

## 2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

## 3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

#### 4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

| COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES   | GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING   | PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *          |
|--|--|--|
| On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...  | Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming... | Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia |
| 1 Analyse maternity services and midwifery practice by applying knowledge of historical and contemporary influences. | Knowledgeable  | 4.1, 4.4                                 |
| 2 Apply professional, ethical and legal codes and standards to midwifery practice and maternity services.            | Ethical  | 3.2                                      |
| 3 Understand and apply midwifery philosophies to midwifery practice and maternity services.                          | Knowledgeable  | 1.7                                      |
| 4 Identify ways in which midwives can advocate for women within the maternity services.                              | Ethical  | 1.5, 1.6, 2.1                            |
| 5 Application of the principles and practices of academic communication.   | Ethical  | 1.2, 1.6                                 |

\* Competencies by Professional Body

| CODE  | COMPETENCY   |
|---|--|
| <b>NURSING AND MIDWIFERY BOARD OF AUSTRALIA</b> |  |
| 1.2   | The midwife accesses, analyses, and uses the best available evidence, that includes research findings, for safe, quality midwifery practice              |
| 1.5   | The midwife supports access to maternity care for the woman  |
| 1.6   | The midwife supports the development, implementation and evaluation of evidenced-based health initiatives and programs                                   |
| 1.7   | The midwife identifies and promotes the role of midwifery practice and the midwifery profession in influencing better health outcomes for women          |
| 2.1   | The midwife supports the choices of the woman, with respect for families and communities in relation to maternity care                                   |
| 3.2   | The midwife practises within relevant legal parameters and professional standards, codes and guidelines  |
| 4.1   | The midwife works in partnership to determine factors that affect, or potentially affect, the health and wellbeing of women, communities and populations |
| 4.4   | The midwife assesses the resources that are available to inform planning   |

#### 5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

##### 5.1. Pre-requisites

Enrolled in Program SC393

##### 5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

##### 5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

5.5. Microcredential Information

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

In week 4 students will complete Task 1 which will provide early feedback on their progress within the course.

6.3. Assessment tasks

| DELIVERY MODE | TASK NO. | ASSESSMENT PRODUCT                     | INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP | WEIGHTING % | WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH? | WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT? | WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?                          |
|---------------|----------|--|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| All           | 1        | Quiz/zes                               | Individual          | 15%         | 1 hour                         | Week 4                | Online Test (Quiz)                                 |
| All           | 2        | Written Piece                          | Individual          | 40%         | 1200 words                     | Week 7                | Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check |
| All           | 3        | Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece | Individual          | 45%         | 750 words                      | Week 12               | Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check |

**All - Assessment Task 1:** Online Test (Quiz)

|                              |   |  |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>GOAL:</b>                 | Revise key concepts introduced in the first 4 weeks   |  |
| <b>PRODUCT:</b>              | Quiz/zes  |  |
| <b>AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:</b> |   |  |
| <b>FORMAT:</b>               | You will complete a timed online quiz via Canvas. The quiz will be open for 24 hours on the Friday of Week 4. You will enter the quiz area for a maximum of 1 hour and answer multiple-choice questions. The questions will be based on key concepts introduced in weeks 1-4 of the course. |  |
| <b>CRITERIA:</b>             | <p><b>No.</b></p> <p>1 Demonstrate knowledge of key course concepts</p>   | <p><b>Learning Outcome assessed</b></p> <p>1 3</p> |
| <b>GENERIC SKILLS:</b>       | Applying technologies   |  |

### All - Assessment Task 2: Evaluation of Maternity Models of Care

|                              |  |   |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>GOAL:</b>                 | This task will allow you to evaluate models of maternity care  |   |
| <b>PRODUCT:</b>              | Written Piece  |   |
| <b>AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:</b> |  |   |
| <b>FORMAT:</b>               | You will evaluate models of maternity care using a template and guidance provided on Canvas. You will submit your written evaluation via Turnitin. |   |
| <b>CRITERIA:</b>             | <b>No.</b>   | <b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>  |
|                              | 1  | Identify and describe models of maternity care available in Australia. ①          |
|                              | 2  | Apply and discuss research evidence in relation to models of maternity care. ② ③  |
|                              | 3  | Identify and discuss the role of the midwife in relation to models of care. ② ③ ④ |
|                              | 4  | Demonstrate appropriate academic written expression. ⑤                            |
| <b>GENERIC SKILLS:</b>       | Information literacy   |   |

### All - Assessment Task 3: Creative artifact and written piece

|                              |   |   |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>GOAL:</b>                 | To demonstrate your developing understanding of midwifery.  |   |
| <b>PRODUCT:</b>              | Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece  |   |
| <b>AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:</b> |   |   |
| <b>FORMAT:</b>               | You will produce a creative artefact of your choice and accompanying written piece (750 words) to demonstrate your understanding of midwifery philosophy and practice, using guidance provided on Canvas. |   |
| <b>CRITERIA:</b>             | <b>No.</b>  | <b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>                              |
|                              | 1   | Demonstrate reflection and self-appraisal ③                   |
|                              | 2   | Demonstrate an understanding of midwifery philosophy ③        |
|                              | 3   | Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the midwife ① ② ④ |
|                              | 4   | Demonstrate appropriate academic written expression ⑤         |
| <b>GENERIC SKILLS:</b>       | Information literacy  |   |

## 7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

## 8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site— Please log in as soon as possible.

### 8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

You need regular access to the resource(s) below. Many texts are available as ebooks through the [Library](#) at no additional cost.

| REQUIRED? | AUTHOR   | YEAR | TITLE                               | EDITION  | PUBLISHER |
|-----------|--|------|-------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Required  | Editors: Sally Pairman,<br>Sally Tracy, Hannah<br>Dahlen, Lesley Dixon | 2022 | MIDWIFERY PREPARATION FOR PRACTICE. | 5th edn. | Elsevier  |

### 8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

## 9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

## 10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

### 10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

### 10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

#### Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- (a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
- (b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying: The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4% The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

### 10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:

- (a) One day: deduct 5%;
- (b) Two days: deduct 10%;
- (c) Three days: deduct 20%;
- (d) Four days: deduct 40%;
- (e) Five days: deduct 60%;
- (f) Six days: deduct 80%;
- (g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:

- Less than 15 minutes: No penalty
- From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty
- More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

#### 10.4. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

#### 10.5. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

#### 10.6. General Enquiries

For course-specific questions, contact your teaching staff or Course Coordinator.

For other enquiries or to access support, please contact Student Central:

- [UniSC Student Central](#)
- [UniSC Adelaide Student Central](#)