COURSE OUTLINE

MID701 Introduction to the Midwifery Profession

School: School of Health - Midwifery

2026 | Session 3

Online	ONLINE	You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Please go to 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

The aim of this course is to explore maternity care from a feminist perspective and identify historical and contemporary national and international gender-based and social justice issues, that impact upon women, maternity care providers, childbirth and models of care. Legal, regulatory, professional frameworks and ethical issues are examined. You will critically reflect on personal, social, cultural, and professional identity in relation to midwifery practice.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ONLINE			
Learning materials – Online asynchronous learning and teaching materials and options for lecturer and peer to peer collaborations, and lecturer and peer zoom drop ins.	5hrs	Week 1	8 times
Placement – Clinical placement onsite	120hrs	Week 1	Once Only

1.3. Course Topics

- National and global historical and contemporary maternity care provision and models of care.
- Midwifery as a feminist profession and professional identity.
- Legal, regulatory, and professional ethical, gender-based and women's rights and social justice in the maternity context.
- Providing quality, safe and culturally appropriate midwifery care.
- Refection and reflexivity.

1.4. Mature Content

Adult themes

2. What level is this course?

700 Level (Specialised)

Demonstrating a specialised body of knowledge and set of skills for professional practice or further learning. Advanced application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING * Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
1 Critically evaluate the impact of historical maternity care provision on contemporary midwifery care and models of care.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker	1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.5, 2.6, 4.1
2 Critically analyse from a feminist perspective and reflect upon your own social/cultural identity, personal and professional beliefs, and their impact on your midwifery care provision.	Creative and critical thinker Ethical	1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 2.2, 3.4, 5.4, 7.1, 7.3
3 Critically examine national and international legal, regulatory, professional, and ethical concepts and contextualise gender-based and women's rights (social justice) as they relate to childbearing across the continuum.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Ethical	1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.2, 3.4, 5.4, 7.1, 7.3
4 Demonstrate a satisfactory level of progression towards the ANMAC Midwifery Professional Experience (MPE) requirements and hours for the course	Ethical Engaged	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
5 Apply principles and practices of academic writing and referencing and research.	Knowledgeable Ethical	1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6, 3.3, 7.3

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
NURSING AND MIDWIFERY BOARD OF AUSTRALIA	
1	Standard 1: Promotes health and wellbeing through evidence-based midwifery practice
1.1	The midwife identifies what is important to women as the foundation for using evidence to promote informed decision-making, participation in care, and self-determination
1.2	The midwife accesses, analyses, and uses the best available evidence, that includes research findings, for safe, quality midwifery practice
1.3	The midwife uses health assessment and health education to support birth and reproductive health, and minimise the potential for complications
1.4	The midwife undertakes ongoing processes of reflection to ensure professional judgements acknowledge how personal culture impacts on practice
1.6	The midwife supports the development, implementation and evaluation of evidenced-based health initiatives and programs
2	Standard 2: Engages in professional relationships and respectful partnerships
2.1	The midwife supports the choices of the woman, with respect for families and communities in relation to maternity care
2.2	The midwife partners with women to strengthen women's capabilities and confidence to care for themselves and their families

CODE	COMPETENCY
2.5	The midwife practises cultural safety that is holistic, free of bias and exposes racism
2.6	The midwife practises in a way that respects that family and community underpin the health of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples
3	Standard 3: Demonstrates the capability and accountability for midwifery practice
3.3	The midwife participates in own continuing professional development to maintain the required knowledge and skill base for safe and effective practice
3.4	The midwife contributes to a culture that supports learning, teaching, knowledge transfer and critical reflection
4	Standard 4: Undertakes comprehensive assessments
4.1	The midwife works in partnership to determine factors that affect, or potentially affect, the health and wellbeing of women, communities and populations
5	Standard 5: Develops a plan for midwifery practice
5.4	The midwife documents, evaluates and modifies plans to facilitate the anticipated outcomes
6	Standard 6: Provides safety and quality in midwifery practice
7	Standard 7: Evaluates outcomes to improve midwifery practice
7.1	The midwife evaluates and monitors progress towards planned goals and anticipated outcomes
7.3	The midwife uses evaluation and reflection to inform future practice and professional development

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

MID700

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

Early feedback will be provided by the clinical facilitator when completing the Progressive component of the Clinical Assessment Tools. This feedback includes assessment of your competency in all standards. The facilitator will discuss the deliberations with you and you will have the opportunity to provide comment on the tool during both the Progressive and Summative components.

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	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	50%	1000 words	Week 3	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Written Piece	Individual	50%	1500 words	Week 7	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Placement performance	Individual	0%	120 hours	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Creative and written

GOAL:	This assignment gives you an opportunity to demonstrate critical analysis, and principles of reflection using a feminist lens.
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:	
FORMAT:	Further details provided on Canvas.
CRITERIA:	

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Critical analysis on the provision of midwifery care from a feminist perspective linked to legal, regulatory and professional frameworks.	2
2	Critical analysis of your social/cultural identity, professional and personal beliefs and their impact on their provision of midwifery care and personal midwifery philosophy.	2
3	Video and written summary clearly reflect and connect to the concept map and marking criteria 1 and 2.	2
4	Use of relevant scholarly literature and ethical use of intellectual property. APA 7 is applied. There is no evidence of artificial intelligence or academic integrity.	5
5	Demonstrate appropriate written expression.	5

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 2: Models of care

GOAL:	This assignments provides the opportunity to explore how historical events impact woman-centred care and contemporary midwifery care and models of care.
PRODUCT:	Written Piece
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:	
FORMAT:	Further details provided on Canvas.

CRITERIA:

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Critical evaluation regarding why your chosen historical event happened and how gender-based and women's rights and social justice were impacted within maternity care in the corresponding time frame.	1
2	Critically discuss the impact of these historical events on contemporary midwifery practice.	3
3	Critically examine how contemporary national and international legal, regulatory, professional documents promote ethical concepts and contextualise gender-based and women's rights as they relate to childbearing across the continuum.	3
4	Use of relevant scholarly literature and ethical use of intellectual property. APA 7 is applied. There is no evidence of artificial intelligence or academic integrity.	5
5	Demonstrate appropriate written expression.	5

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 3: Placement Performance & Portfolio

GOAL:	To demonstrate completion of allocated placement for this course and satisfactory competency based on the NMBA Midwife Standards for Practice as measured in the Clinical Assessment Tools. Each competency must be satisfactorily met to pass the course.
PRODUCT:	Placement performance
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:	
FORMAT:	Further details provided on Canvas.

CRITERIA:

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Practice behaviours as measured against NMBA Midwife Standards for Practice and as detailed in the assessment tool.	4
2	Evidence of adherence to Code of Professional Conduct and Code of Ethics criteria and Standards as well as ICM definition of a midwife	4
3	Completion of 120 hours clinical placement, evidence of recruitment of minimum 3 continuity of care women (CONNECT) and recommended completion of 60 MPEs (a total 100 MPEs) and total of 2 CSATs.	4

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving, Applying technologies

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	Sally Pairman,Sally K. Tracy,Hannah Dahlen,Lesley Dixon,Priscilla Peart,Bernadette Pulis	2023	Midwifery Preparation for Practice	5	Elsevier
Required	RUTH JOHNSON,Wendy Taylor	2021	SKILLS FOR MIDWIFERY PRACTICE 5E	5	Elsevier
Required	Elaine Jefford,Julie Jomeen	2019	Empowering Decision-Making in Midwifery	1	Routledge

8.2. Specific requirements

Your clinical placement may have specific requirements, and information will be provided during your placement orientation. UniSC uniform as outlined on Canvas is to be worn on all placements.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Risk assessments have been performed for all studio and laboratory classes and a low level of health and safety risk exists. Some risk concerns may include equipment, instruments, and tools; as well as manual handling items within the laboratory. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the 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

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