

MID702 Care of the unwell neonate

School: School of Health - Midwifery

2025 | Session 4

Online

ONLINE

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

Please go to usc.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 provides the opportunity to critically explore the fetal and newborn developing complexities during pregnancy, birth and the perinatal period within a multidisciplinary approach. This will encompass, national and international gender-based and social justice issues diagnostic testing, screening and management, digital health, pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapeutic approaches that impact upon midwifery care for the unwell neonate when going home. Legal, regulatory, professional frameworks and ethical issues are examined. You will undertake clinical experience in a variety of clinical settings (80 hours) and continuation of continuity of care experiences (CoCE).

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	80hrs	Week 1	Once Only

1.3. Course Topics

- Neonatal circulation and transition to extra-uterine life.
- Culturally appropriate midwifery care for the unwell neonate including genetic and metabolic or medical disorders.
- Infant nutrition.
- Family-centred care and collaboration with the multidisciplinary team when going home.
- Pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapeutic approaches.
- Diagnostic testing, screening, and digital health.
- Legal, regulatory, and professional ethical, gender-based and social justice in the neonatal care context.

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	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 the role of the midwife in discussing culturally and ethically safe midwifery care during complex situations.	Creative and critical thinker	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 1.7, 2, 3.2, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2, 6.3
2 Critically explore factors that contribute to normal and altered transition of the foetus to neonate that result in an unwell infant.	Knowledgeable	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 3.3, 3.6, 4.1, 5.1, 6.3
3 Discuss advanced pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapeutic approaches to an unwell neonate.	Knowledgeable	1.2, 1.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3
4 Critically examine national and international legal, regulatory, professional, and ethical concepts, including gender-based and social justice as they relate to care of an unwell neonate.	Creative and critical thinker	1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.6, 7.3
5 Apply principles and practices of academic writing, referencing and research.	Knowledgeable Ethical	1.2, 1.4, 1.6, 3.3, 7.3
6 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

* 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

CODE	COMPETENCY
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	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
2.3	The midwife practises ethically, with respect for dignity, privacy, confidentiality, equity and justice
2.4	The midwife practises without the discrimination that may be associated with race, age, disability, sexuality, gender identity, relationship status, power relations and/or social disadvantage
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
3.1	The midwife understands their scope of practice
3.2	The midwife practises within relevant legal parameters and professional standards, codes and guidelines
3.3	The midwife participates in own continuing professional development to maintain the required knowledge and skill base for safe and effective practice
3.5	The midwife engages in timely consultation, referral and documentation
3.6	The midwife uses relevant processes to identify, document and manage complexity and risk
3.7	The midwife recognises and responds appropriately where safe and quality practice may be compromised
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
4.2	The midwife uses assessment techniques to systematically collect relevant and accurate information
4.3	The midwife analyses information and data and communicates assessments and anticipated outcomes as the basis for midwifery practice
5	Standard 5: Develops a plan for midwifery practice
5.1	The midwife interprets assessment data and best available evidence to develop a plan for practice
5.2	The midwife collaboratively develops plans until options, priorities, goals, actions, anticipated outcomes and timeframes are agreed with the woman, and/or relevant others
6	Standard 6: Provides safety and quality in midwifery practice
6.3	The midwife is responsible for consultation and referral and/ or escalation in situations that are outside the individual's scope of practice
7	Standard 7: Evaluates outcomes to improve midwifery practice
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

MID701

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

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

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 Tool. 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	Case Study	Individual	50%	1000	Week 3	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Artefact - Creative, and Oral	Individual	50%	10 minute narrated PowerPoint	Week 7	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Placement performance	Individual	0%	80 hours	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	SONIA

All - Assessment Task 1: Case Study

GOAL:	Explain the pathophysiology of a complex neonatal condition from a scenario provided. Consider collaboration within the multidisciplinary team and the midwives role in advocating for the infant parent dyad.		
PRODUCT:	Case Study		
FORMAT:	You will choose a case study from the options provided on Canvas.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Critical exploration of the pathophysiology in relation to the transition to extrauterine life.	2 4
	2	Critically discuss the significance of collaboration and a multidisciplinary approach to care of the neonate with a complex condition.	1 4
	3	Critically discuss strategies the midwife can employ and advocate for in the neonatal unit to promote emotional and physical closeness in the infant-parent dyad.	1 3
	4	Discussion of pharmacological and non pharmacological approaches to neonatal care.	3
	5	Application of the principles and practices of academic writing. Use of relevant scholarly literature and ethical use of intellectual property. There is no evidence of AI sourced information.	5
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving		

All - Assessment Task 2: Narrated PowerPoint

GOAL:	As a midwife you will be required to communicate through a wide range of mediums to a diverse audience. The goal of this assessment is to apply your knowledge to demonstrate your understanding of neonatal health care and the specific needs of the family.		
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Oral		
FORMAT:	You will produce a 10 minute PowerPoint presentation to demonstrate your understanding of neonatal health care and the specific needs of the family, using guidance provided on Canvas.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the midwife in neonatal care	1
	2	Critically examine national and international legal, regulatory, professional, and ethical concepts in relation to care of the neonate.	4
	3	Demonstrated effective written communication skills including presentation and referencing.	5
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Information literacy		

All - Assessment Task 3: Clinical assessment tools and portfolio

GOAL:	<p>The purpose of this assessment is for you 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 Tool.</p> <p>Evidence of your MPE is collected progressively throughout the program in a portfolio. Details regarding MPE evidence will be provided by the course coordinator on the course Canvas site.</p>		
PRODUCT:	Placement performance		
FORMAT:	<p>The clinical facilitator will complete the Clinical Assessment Tool including assessment of your competency in all standards and completion of the required hours. The course coordinator provides the final decision and outcome. If you are not meeting satisfactory practice standards at any point of the placement, learning processes will be implemented to support you to attain the necessary behaviours to satisfactorily meet each standard. Unsatisfactory behaviours which put client safety at risk or which do not adhere with the NMBA Midwife Standards for Practice, Code of Professional Conduct and/or Code of Ethics criteria and standards may result in your removal from placement. If you do not meet each standard at a satisfactory standard you will fail this course. Please refer to Canvas for details.</p>		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Practice behaviours as measured against NMBA Midwife Standards for Practice and as detailed in the assessment tool.	4 6
	2	Evidence of adherence to Code of Professional Conduct and Code of Ethics criteria and standards.	4
	3	Completion of 80 hours of placement and evidence of the recruitment of a total of 10 women for Continuity of Care experiences (CONNECT) and ANMAC MPE experiences.	6
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration		

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

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Required	Victoria Kain, Trudi Mannix	2022	Neonatal Care for Nurses and Midwives	n/a	Elsevier

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. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. 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>

10.9. 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.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au