PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme name</th>
<th>Postgraduate Diploma Midwifery (78-week)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>School of Health Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department or equivalent</td>
<td>Division of Early Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme code</td>
<td>NNMWIF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of study</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total UK credits</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total ECTS</td>
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PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The accelerated 78 week programme prepares registered nurses who have a minimum second class honours degree, towards attainment of a Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery and therefore qualification as a registered Midwife.

The programme will give you the opportunity to achieve core midwifery skills and knowledge in accordance with the European Standards for Midwifery Training - Article 40(2)(a)(b) Midwives Directive 2005/36/EU (WHO Europe 2005) and by the Standards for pre-registration midwifery education (NMC 2009). In addition the programme will aid the development of attributes such as: analysis, evaluation and integration of research and theory to midwifery practice; leadership competencies such as understanding key performance indicators; clinical audits; benchmarking; clinical risk assessment; working with diversity, ethnicity and consumer choice.

The programme is 78 weeks (full time) in duration and divided into two parts, with the taught content spread over three semesters. Part 1 constitutes student induction, two 15-credit level 6 modules and one 15-credit level 7 module. Part 2 constitutes three 15-credit level 7 Modules and one 30-credit Level 7 module.

In compliance with Standard 5 of the Standards for pre-registration midwifery education (NMC 2009), the programme must be completed in two and half years including interruptions. However, if the interruption is due to maternity leave then the programme must be completed in three and half years. On successful completion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery programme you will have achieved a total of 120 credits. The balance between clinical practice and theory is 60% practice and 40% theory. Over the 78 weeks you will have to achieve the required attendance and credits for each part of the programme to ensure that you meet the requirements to register with the Nursing and Midwifery Council, as a midwife.

Clinical experience will be gained in one of the following four Communities of Practice:
- Homerton University Hospital (City and Hackney)
- The Royal London Hospital (Barts Health NHS Trust)
- Newham University Hospital (Barts Health NHS Trust)
- University College London Hospital (UCLH) NHS Trust
A Community of Practice is a geographical area that comprises both hospital and community health provision for an identified population of service users.

Core to the philosophy of our midwifery programmes is recognition that: for the majority of women, pregnancy and childbirth are normal events; that the facilitation of birth should be evidenced based; that practitioners of midwifery should be sensitive, decisive and dynamic. Thus, Care Pathways should be designed, planned and agreed with women accessing midwifery services and should therefore aim to promote women's experiences of having choice and control in giving birth to their babies.

Maternity statistics for 2009/10 shows that in England, around 62% of women who had their baby in hospital had a normal birth (HES Online; 2010). For women, the benefits of a normal birth include improvements in morbidity rates and a quicker return home to their families. The reduction in the level of unnecessary interventions also results in a reduction of complications.

In the light of evidence that most women require minimal interventions during their maternity care, students graduating from our programmes will be enabled to be proficient in facilitating care of women who may choose to have midwifery-led care, including a home birth. In addition to this you will develop the skills to identify deviations from normality, make referrals to other professionals and work within a team to provide care in complex clinical situations. These aspirations are embodied in the five challenges set by the Department of Health Vision of Midwifery 2020. By informing the philosophy of the programme with these five challenges, students graduating from it should be able to incorporate into their practice:

- Dynamic leadership
- Excellence in midwifery practice
- Improved Public Health
- Working with others
- Partnership with women (DOH 2010)

The public expects midwives to use their skills in working in partnership with women to achieve the birth experience of their choice.

Aims

- To produce registered midwives with leadership, team working, strategic planning and inter disciplinary skills, who have achieved the knowledge, skills and attitudes to meet the NMC Standards (NMC 2009) for entry to the NMC register
- To produce midwives who are able to meet the physical, psychological, spiritual and social needs of clients, supporting them through maternity care pathways.
- To educate midwives who are able to work with other health and social care professionals to enhance the health and wellbeing of the mother, baby and other family members.
UPGRADE TO MSC MIDWIFERY

On successful completion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery you will have the opportunity to gain additional credits at level 7 to acquire a Masters in Midwifery from City University London. This would require the acquisition of a further 75 credits at level 7 which should consist of: research methods and a dissertation related to a contemporary area of midwifery practice. This must be achieved within 3 years of completion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

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

Knowledge and understanding:
- Critically appraise, analyse and integrate both clinical and theoretical knowledge and reflect upon and evaluate the relationships between knowledge and professional experiences. (NMC A2, B1, C1, D1, D2, D3, D4 ESC 1-5)
- Master the skills of evidence-based practice: demonstrate the ability to pose researchable questions relating to practice and critically appraise the strength of evidence and its applicability to practice. Consider implications for development of practice guidelines and for assessing individual needs and planning care (NMC A14, B6, D1,D2 D3,D4 ESC 1-5)
- Demonstrate the capacity to synthesise and utilise knowledge to develop best practice, professionally and at service level, such as through analysis of audits and Key performance indicators and practice reviews, development of evidence-based guidelines and protocols and through shared decision-making with women and families.(NMC A15,B8, D1,D3,D4, ESC1-5)
- Demonstrate knowledge of legislation relating to health and social policy relevant to midwifery and its implications for and application to best practice. (NMC A15, B7,B3,ESC1-5)

Skills:
- Demonstrate the skills in communication, synthesis and application of knowledge required to assess women’s needs and plan care in a holistic fashion, integrating best clinical evidence, awareness of women’s social, emotional, physical and spiritual needs and values and to underpin partnership in care.(NMC A1,A2,A3,A15,B5,ESC1-5)
- Demonstrate the learning, analytical and appraisal skills that will equip you as a professional to update knowledge and practice in the light of changing evidence and practice standards (NMC C1,C2, D1,D2, ESC 1-5)
- Demonstrate the clinical skills and competence to provide all round care as lead professional for women assessed as at low-risk, at all stages of pregnancy, birth and the puerperium. (NMC A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, A8, A10, ESC 1-5).
- Critically evaluate the evidence to support decisions made as a lead professional in midwifery care, recognising limits of professional knowledge and expertise and appropriate referral pathways (NMC A4, A5 A6, A7, A8, A9 B1, B5, C1, D2, and
- Demonstrate the clinical knowledge and clinical competence to identify when complications are developing or when emergencies arise, and the escalation of care required to ensure the safety and wellbeing of women and babies and to involve the multi-disciplinary team as necessary. (NMC A2, A7, A9, B6, ESC 1-5)
- Demonstrate proficiency in effective risk assessment and management strategies and in a range of verbal and documentary communication approaches required for the safety of women and their families. (NMC A1, B4, ESC 1-5)
- Demonstrate knowledge of pharmacology and drug administration to effectively and safely organise and manage the administration of medicines. (NMC A12, ESC 1-5)
- Demonstrate understanding of leadership roles in different clinical contexts and multi-professional group settings and the ability to act in a leadership capacity. (NMC A13, A4, A11, ESC 1-5)
- Maintain appropriate records to demonstrate quality of care, decision-making, woman-centred and evidence-based practice, and to a standard appropriate for service audit, review and development. (NMC A13, B4, B7, ESC 1-5)

Values and attitudes:
- Demonstrate the ability to practice in accordance with the NMC Code of Professional Conduct: standards for conduct performance and ethics (NMC 2009) within limitations of the individual’s own competence, knowledge and sphere of professional practice, consistent with the legalisation relating to midwifery practice. (NMC B1, ESC 1-5)
- Demonstrate respect for the values, customs, beliefs and cultures of individual groups and communities and understand how to incorporate consumer choice into professional practice while working within relevant legislative and ethical frameworks. (NMC B2, ESC 1-5)

Essential Skills Clusters
- 1. Communication
- 2. Initial consultation between the woman and the midwife
- 3. Normal Labour and Birth
- 4. Initiation and continuance of Breast Feeding
- 5. Medicines Management

HOW WILL I LEARN?

A range of teaching, learning and assessment strategies are used throughout the programme. These are aimed at developing and assessing different knowledge, skills and attitudes depending on the academic stage at which you are studying. Lectures are used to provide knowledge about topics and these are complemented by seminars, debates and opportunity for ongoing student led, self-directed study.

The seminars, debates and student-directed study enable topics to be explored in
further depth and applied to practice situations. Some of the student-directed study time is used for reflective practice sessions held in the practice settings which further integrates and promotes insight into a range of issues. Enquiry-based learning is also used to promote your critical thinking and decision-making skills, as well as information-seeking, communication skills and team work. Blended learning is an integral part of our educational approach.

STUDENT SUPPORT
Programmes are able to offer bespoke student support facilities from the Learning Success Team, Dyslexia Support Unit & Disability Support Team. https://intranet.city.ac.uk/students/learning-success/academic

CLINICAL PRACTICE
The aim of practice experience is for you to observe, participate and practice your skills in a variety of real life contexts in a supernumerary capacity. This experience will facilitate you to relate theory to practice and enable skills and knowledge to develop through supervised practice.

TEACHING AND LEARNING HOURS
- The programme structure consists of 5 taught modules and 2 practice modules. The overall hours of the theoretical component of the programme are 750 hours. Each module has 30 teaching contact hours and 120 hours student self directed study.
- To complement learning in clinical practice you will spend 12 hours per semester in a skills laboratory environment, where you will be facilitated to develop your midwifery clinical skills. There are 24 student self directed study hours in practice.
- Overall the programme is 40% theory and 60% practice.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?
Types of Assessment
A range of assessment strategies will be used throughout the programme to test knowledge and standards of proficiency in all aspects of the midwifery curriculum.
Coursework includes essays, case studies, projects, and reflective accounts. These tools enable specific issues to be explored and facilitate your demonstration of the link between theory and practice. Examinations enable students to demonstrate their ability to recall knowledge and apply this to topics and client scenarios. OSCEs require you to draw upon your knowledge and demonstrate your skills and attitudes related to specific practice focused activities in a simulated environment. Practice portfolios (Records of Achievement) enable you to undertake activities in practice, which focus on skills and attitude applied to clients. They also enable you to focus on specific practice skills relevant to your experience and demonstrate a level of achievement at these skills in practice placements. Mentors will assess your development, and at

designated points your achievement of the NMC learning outcomes and standards (2009).

You will maintain a portfolio throughout your programme which will be central to the assessment strategy and will be a continuous formative part of the process as well as summative at the end of semesters one and three. The aim of the portfolio is to maximise learning by enabling you to monitor continually and review your progress (Gerrish 1993). Through using the portfolio you will be able to identify your own learning needs, the resources and actions to achieve these needs and integrate theory with practice experiences (ENB 1997 and Jasper 1995). As you document your learning, personal knowledge recognition and development will occur which will then be broadened and tested through your dialogue with services users, peers, practitioners and educators (Glen and Hight 1992, Jasper 1995). The portfolio will also enable you to demonstrate achievement of the NMC (2009) standards for entry to the NMC Register.

You will also undertake a tripartite assessment which will take place on two occasions in the programme: at the end of semester one and at the end of semester three. The assessment involves a meeting between you, your sign off mentor and the clinical practice facilitator or midwifery link lecturer.

Assessments throughout the programme monitor your progress and assess your development of knowledge, skills and attitudes, which enables you to identify your achievements of learning outcomes at different stages of the programme. There will be a range of formative assessment activities to support development and identify areas in a timely way where there is a need to undertake additional study.

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task. Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks.

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The full policy can be found at:
Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits.

Block 1 contains 30 level 6 credits and 15 level 7 credits and is weighted at 37.5% of the total mark. Block 2 contains 75 level 7 credits and is weighted at 62.5%.

The pass mark for each level 6 module is 40% and 50% for each level 7 module. If you fail an assessment component or a module, you will normally be offered one resit attempt. However, if you did not participate in the first assessment and have no extenuating circumstances, you may not be offered a resit.

If you are successful in the resit, you shall be awarded the credit for that module. The mark used for the purpose of calculation towards your Award shall be calculated from the original marks for the component(s) that you passed at first attempt and the minimum pass mark for the component(s) for which you took a resit.

If you do not satisfy your resit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme, but satisfy the requirements for a lower-level Award, then a lower qualification may be awarded as per the table below. If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme and are not eligible for the award of a lower level qualification, the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at: http://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc You should also refer to the School Assessment Guidelines which you will find in your programme handbook and in the Virtual Learning Environment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>With Distinction</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Without classification</td>
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WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Postgraduate Diploma
### Postgraduate Certificate:

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<th>HE Level</th>
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<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Without classification</td>
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### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

**Block 1**
To pass, you must have acquired 30 HE Level 6 credits and 15 level 7 credits. Therefore, to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, Part 1 requirements must have been satisfied by the end of this part.

**Block 2**
To pass, you must have acquired 75 level 7 credits.

In line with Standard 5 of the NMC Standards for Pre-registration Midwifery Education, you must complete your programme within 2 and half years from the date of commencement and 3 and half years if the interruption is due to maternity leave.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Module Credits</th>
<th>Core/Elective</th>
<th>Can be Compensated?</th>
<th>Level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orientation to Nursing and Midwifery Programmes</td>
<td>NM1714</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essentials of Human Biology in Relation to Childbirth</td>
<td>NM3722</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Developing an Identity as a Professional Midwife</td>
<td>NM3739</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Partnerships with Women</td>
<td>NMM723</td>
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<td>Excellence in Midwifery Practice</td>
<td>NMM724</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Consolidating Professional Knowledge</td>
<td>NMM725</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health and Society</td>
<td>NMM726</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>Working as an Autonomous Practitioner (Transition from Student to Midwife)</td>
<td>NMM728</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>7</td>
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### WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON TO?

Following qualification there are a wide range of opportunities to practice as a midwife. These include community, midwifery-led stand-alone birth centres, acute units, independent midwifery, becoming a consultant midwife, practice development midwife or specialist midwife.
WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

Placement Options

- You will gain your clinical experience in one of the four NHS Communities of Practice.
- You will work in the hospital and community in all maternity settings, both in acute and home environments such as: midwifery-led units, home births, birthing centres, delivery suite, antenatal and postnatal areas, maternal and fetal assessment specialist areas and special care baby units.
- You will have the opportunity to work alongside consultant midwives and specialist midwives.
- Clinical practice, teaching and mentorship are essential for midwifery training and education as a means of enabling you to integrate theory and practice.

WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?

Accrediting Body: Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)

Nature of Accreditation

Successful completion of this programme will enable you to register on the NMC register as a Midwife.

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

You must:

- be registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council as a Adult Nurse
- Be A graduate with a 2:2 honours degree or above
- Have six months clinical experience as an adult nurse
- Have Criminal Records Bureau and Occupational Health clearance
- Have satisfactory academic and character references
- Pass the recruitment process.
- Where necessary the English language requirements are as follows:
  - IELTS: 7
  - TOEFL (internet-based): 100