BSc (Hons) Midwifery (Three year programme)

Programme Specification

1. **Programme title**	BSc (Hons) Midwifery
2. **Awarding institution**	Middlesex University
3a. **Teaching institution**	Middlesex University
3b. **Language of study**	English
4a. **Valid intake dates**	September
4b. **Mode of study**	F/T
4c. **Delivery method**	☒ On-campus/Blended
	☐ Distance Education
5. **Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body**	Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
6. **Apprenticeship Standard**	N/A
7. **Final qualification(s) available**	BSc Hons
8. **Year effective from**	2024/2025

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Middlesex University has a flexible and personalised approach to admissions and we accept applications from students with a wide range of qualifications and a combination of qualifications. All criteria for admission to the programme are clearly laid out on our website.

Further requirements for admission to our BSc Midwifery programme
- You must be digitally literate as all recruitment processes and many teaching and learning activities within the programme involve the use of technology and digital processes
- You must demonstrate that you have experience of working – this does not have to be in the field of health care

- You are required to provide evidence of study within the last five years
- You must complete a satisfactory enhanced DBS check, Occupational Health check and provide suitable references.
- A face to face interview is normally required as part of the admissions process. Practice learning partners and service users form part of this process.
- To begin the course you must also complete a satisfactory enhanced DBS Check.
- You must also complete a satisfactory Occupational Health Check.
- Provide two suitable references

We are unable to accept applications for deferred entry or defer existing offers for this programme to the next possible start date.

Recognition of prior learning is **not** permitted for pre-registration midwifery programmes.

10. Aims of the programme

Our Pre-registration Midwifery programme aims to produce a graduate midwife who is able to provide high quality, safe and effective care and who is self-aware and willingly takes responsibility for self and others.

This programme aims to prepare a midwife that is accountable for their own actions and work autonomously, or as an equal partner with a range of other professionals in interdisciplinary teams. This graduate midwife will have developed the knowledge, skills and behaviours to embrace the role and scope of the professional midwife. This will enable them to provide midwifery care across the whole continuum of care for women, newborn infants, partners and families.

They will personalise care for a diverse population across a range of settings, including midwifery led services. This means they will consider the social context of care and be able to assess and manage risks in that environment. They will demonstrate warmth and empathy, cultural competence, emotional intelligence, adaptability and be able to manage their own personal health and wellbeing and know when and how to access support.

They will be committed to working in partnership with women, partners, families, advocacy groups and colleagues demonstrating a personal commitment to life-long learning. They will have the required knowledge, skills and behaviours in caring for women and newborn infants when complication and additional care needs arise, including physical, psychological, social, cultural and spiritual factors.

They will be able to work effectively in the context of continual change, challenging environments, different models of care delivery, shifting demographics, innovation, and rapidly evolving technologies.

Students accessing the BSc Midwifery programme will develop critical and analytical skills to explore the philosophical basis of midwifery practice, debate current issues in midwifery and consider the future development of midwifery as a profession.

Our Pre-registration Midwifery programme aims to enable students to:

- Achieve Programme outcomes and proficiencies in-line with the Nursing and Midwifery Council Professional requirements for entry to the register as a midwife
- Be a critical practitioner utilising reflective and evidence-based practice as a catalyst for change and service improvement
- Adopt a critical and analytical approach to care delivery
- Recognise the challenges of integrating theory with practice and developing theory emergent from practice
- Develop the skills required for autonomous practice, decision-making and interdisciplinary team working in health and social care
- Acknowledge the changing face of midwifery, the on-going development of midwifery as a profession contributing to the debate and discussion of future developments in midwifery
- Engage with life-long learning, develop transferable skills to enhance their midwifery role and appreciate the value of education for health and society

11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

1. Technical, professional and clinical skills underpinned by a sound understanding of the principles of accountability
2. The principles of autonomy, responsibility and accountability and role as a midwife within the multi-professional team
3. Strategies available to deliver safe and effective midwifery care while promoting continuity of care and carer to women.
4. The midwives' role in providing universal care for all women and newborn infants
5. Ethical principles which support midwifery practice to be sustainable, resourceful and using their initiative where appropriate.
6. Understanding of complex problem solving required for providing additional care for women and newborn infants with complications
7. Scientific principles underpinning midwifery practice
8. Health informatics, digital literacy in the context of a complex healthcare system.
9. Promoting excellence as a colleague, scholar and leader
10. Political influences on professional practice
11. Cultural competence, diversity, inclusivity and its elements

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through 50% of learning occurring in the practice setting and 50% of learning occurring through theory based in the University. This includes:
Seminars, workshops, e-learning packages, self-directed study, guided study, discussion boards, videos, reflection, discussion groups, personal tutor support, Learning Teaching and Enhancement Team support

Clinical skills sessions, use of virtual and augmented reality resources, clinical practice experience, including caseloading

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by

formative and summative assessments using a range of approaches including:
written work, presentations, digital reports, online tests, practice assessments, literature critiquing, caseload reflection, report writing and self, peer and teacher assessments

Specific assessment methods are specified in each module outline.

B. Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

1. Engage in critical self-reflection to support lifelong learning and professional, autonomous and accountable practice
2. Maintain professional standards, improve safety and quality of care and clinical skills to enhance midwifery practice
3. Generate, use and appraise complex data for practice improvement
4. Provide assessment, screening, planning, care and support across the continuum of midwifery practice
5. Develop a professional identity – drawing on and appraising influences of the development of professional identity

Practice confidently a range of effective communication skills sharing information and relationship management skills

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognitive skills through a range of seminars, discussions, formative and summative assessments, peer-review, problem solving, debates and directed reading

Students learn practical skills through demonstration, observation, participation and feedback, clinical skills sessions with the use of virtual augmented reality, case studies, reflection, role-play; tutorials

Assessment methods

Students' skills are assessed by formative and summative assessments, Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), completion of Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement (Practice Assessment Document).

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)
12. 1 Overall structure of the programme
Modules
Year 1 Semester 1 • MWY1800: Introduction to being and becoming a midwife (30 credits) • MWY1801: Foundations of antenatal and postnatal care (30 credits)

Semester 2
- MWY1802: Foundations of midwifery care in labour and birth (30 credits)
- MWY1803: Introduction to fetal and neonatal care (30 credits)

Semester 3
- MWY1800: Introduction to being and becoming a midwife (Practice)

Credits
120 credits at level 4

Exit Award
Cert HE Healthcare Practice

Year 2
Semester 1
- MWY2800: Developing, being and becoming a midwife (30 credits)
- MWY2801: Developing antenatal and postnatal care in complex situations (30 credits)

Semester 2
- MWY2802: Developing care in labour and birth for women in complex situations (30 credits)
- MWY2803: Developing knowledge of fetal and neonatal care in complex situations (30 credits)

Semester 3
- MWY2800: Developing, being and becoming a midwife (Practice)

Credits
120 credits at level 5

Exit Award
Diploma HE Healthcare Practice

Year 3
Semester 1
- MWY3800: Being and becoming a midwife (30 credits)
- MWY3801: Consolidating antenatal and postnatal care (30 credits)

Semester 2
- MWY3802: Consolidating midwifery care during labour and birth (30 credits)
- MWY3803: Consolidating fetal and neonatal care (30 credits)

Semester 3
- MWY3800: Being and becoming a midwife (Practice)

Credits and Exit Award
120 credits at level 6 – BSc (Hons) Midwifery with Registration
100 credits at level 6 – BSc Healthcare Practice

12.2 Levels and modules
Level 4 Compulsory Students must take all of the following: • MWY1800: Introduction to being and becoming a midwife (30 credits) • MWY1801: Foundations of antenatal and postnatal care (30 credits) • MWY1802: Foundations of midwifery care in labour and birth (30 credits) • MWY1803: Introduction to fetal and neonatal care (30 credits) • MWY1800: Introduction to being and becoming a midwife (Practice) Optional* N/A Progression Requirements In order to progress on the programme students are required to successfully complete all theoretical and practice modules with a grade of 40% or above. All written assessments must be completed, and all clinical practice assessments must normally be passed before progression to the next year. Students also need to have met the attendance requirements for both theory and practice outlined in the attendance policy for the programme.
Level 5 Compulsory Students must take all of the following: • MWY2800: Developing, being and becoming a midwife (30 credits) • MWY2801: Developing antenatal and postnatal care in complex situations (30 credits) • MWY2802: Developing care in labour and birth for women in complex situations (30 credits) • MWY2803: Developing knowledge of fetal and neonatal care in complex situations (30 credits) • MWY2800: Developing, being and becoming a midwife (Practice) Optional* N/A   Progression Requirements In order to progress on the programme students are required to successfully complete all theoretical and practice modules with a grade of 40% or above. All written assessments must be completed, and all clinical practice assessments must normally be passed before progression to the next year. Students also need to have met the attendance requirements for both theory and practice outlined in the attendance policy for the programme.

Level 6
Compulsory
Students must take all of the following:
- MWY3800: Being and becoming a midwife (30 credits)
- MWY3801: Consolidating antenatal and postnatal care (30 credits)
- MWY3802: Consolidating midwifery care during labour and birth (30 credits)
- MWY3803: Consolidating fetal and neonatal care (30 credits)
- MWY3800: Being and becoming a midwife (Practice)

Optional*
N/A

Progression Requirements
In order to progress on the programme students are required to successfully complete all theoretical and practice modules with a grade of 40% or above.

All written assessments must be completed, and all clinical practice assessments must normally be passed before progression to the next year.

Students also need to have met the attendance requirements for both theory and practice outlined in the attendance policy for the programme.

12.3 non-compensable modules

No compensation allowed as per PSRB requirements:

'Student midwives must successfully complete an NMC approved pre-registration midwifery programme in order to meet the *Standards of proficiency for midwives* and be eligible for entry to the NMC register' (NMC, 2019, page 4).

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13. Information about assessment regulations

Assessment regulations follow Middlesex University's Academic Regulations. Assessment is to guide learning and achievement. However, this professional Programme also outlines that:

- Practice Assessment is graded as pass/fail only for that component part; however, indicative level of achievement will be given but does not contribute to the overall module grade.
- Students must normally receive a pass grade for all modules within a year, to progress to the next stage of the programme.
- Students must normally meet the attendance requirements to successfully complete the programme. Students who accumulate sickness or absence exceeding over 10 days per year may be discontinued or deferred.
- Infringement of assessment regulations and/or academic misconduct may require referral to a Fitness for Practice panel.

- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and Occupational health clearance is required prior to commencing clinical placement.

- Automatic deferral is not permitted for students on the programme

14. Placement opportunities, requirements, and support (if applicable)

- Students are normally allocated to the same NHS Trust for their midwifery placements but may need to travel to other Trusts for some of their clinical placements.
- Students need to gain a total of 2,300 hours in the course of their programme in order to successfully complete. Responsibility for allocation of students is shared between Trust partners and the University Placement Office and is supported by Trust based Clinical Practice Facilitators and Link Lecturers. Collaboration between the Trust and HEI ensure that the practice learning environments are conducive to meeting the individual learning needs of the students and there is a robust process for quality monitoring of practice areas in place.
- The Placement Office informs students of their allocations in advance, along with contact details, and it is the student's responsibility to contact the placement area as instructed for details of their duty rota.
- Students are required to work throughout the 24 hours period, on any days of the week, including nights and weekends. Duty rotas will reflect this and will include early shifts, late shifts, long days, nights, weekends and bank holidays.
- All students will be given an induction at the start of each new learning experience and support and guidance will be given to students with diverse needs.
- Students will work alongside Practice Supervisors and will have allocated Practice Assessors in keeping with the NMC Standards for Student Supervision and Support (NMC, 2019). Students are supervised in all placement allocations by NMC registered midwives or by registered nurses or other registered health and social care professionals.
- All Trusts employ one or more Clinical Practice Facilitators who work in collaboration with the University and are responsible for overseeing the support for students in clinical practice and for, in collaboration with Link Lecturers, ensuring that all midwives are prepared for their role as Practice Supervisors and/or Practice Assessors.
- All Trusts have allocated Midwifery Link Teachers who support students and Practice Supervisors/Practice Assessors. Each Trust may have a number of named Link Teachers and contact details are available in all clinical areas. All clinical areas have access to practice placement support resources including the University attendance policy and escalating concerns policy. Practice learning is assessed using the Midwifery Ongoing Record of Achievement (MORA) which documents all of their assessed competencies and achievement of their EU requirements.
- Students in practice must be supported to learn and to this end they need to be supernumerary throughout their programme, this means they are not counted as part of the staffing required for safe and effective care in that setting. The decision on the level of support required by students will be made locally and will be based on the developing knowledge and skills of the student. The level of supervision can decrease with the student's increasing proficiency and confidence.
- Students are also supported by Academic Assessors who review their MORA prior to submissions and liaise with Practice Assessors regarding students' progress. Students' Academic Assessors change in each year of the programme in keeping with the NMC Standards for student support and supervision (NMC,2019).

15. Future careers / progression
Successful students are awarded a BSc (Hons) in Midwifery and are eligible to enter the NMC professional register. Students are required to register their qualification with the NMC within 5 years of completion of the programme, failure to do so will mean that students will need to supply additional evidence in order to successfully register. Successful students are able to practice in the UK, EU and many parts of the world. Graduates will be able to progress to a range of taught Masters programmes including the MSc Midwifery Studies and the Midwifery Advanced Clinical Practice Programme.

16. Particular support for learning (if applicable)
- Academic Assessor   - Link Tutors   - Practice Supervisors/Practice Assessors   - Clinical Practice Facilitators   - Clinical Skills laboratories with a range of resources including virtual and augmented reality   - Learning enhancement Team   - Progression Officers   - Disability Support team for specific learning needs   - Online resources through the learning platform, MyLearning

17. HECos code(s)	
18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)	The QAA subject benchmarks for midwifery are currently under review. This programme has been written with reference to the previous subject statements.

19. Reference points
European Union Standards for Nursing and Midwifery: Information for Accession Countries: Midwifery Training Articles 40-42 of 2005/36/EC NMC (2018) Part 1: Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education NMC (2019) Part 2: Standards for students' supervision and assessment NMC (2019) Part 3: Standards for pre-registration midwifery programmes NMC (2019) Standards of proficiency for midwives Middlesex University Regulations Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook

20. Other information
If students wish to transfer from another approved HEI, this would be subject to availability of clinical placements and subject to successful mapping of the other HEI programme to this programme. Students would be responsible for supplying all required information and

would be interviewed as per the pre-registration recruitment policy. Acceptance would be subject to satisfactory references, successful completion of assignments, record of attendance, achievement of EU requirements and occupational health and DBS clearance. In addition, student must study no less than one third of their total credits with Middlesex University and need to have met the University's criteria for entry.

Students must demonstrate that they have good health and good character on entry to, and their continued participation on the programme. On successful completion of the programme a final declaration about good health and good character, supported by the Lead Midwife for Education, is submitted to the NMC prior to registration.

The programme must be completed within six years, including interruptions, from the commencement date.

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

21. Curriculum map for BSc (Hons) Midwifery

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
A1: Technical, professional and clinical skills underpinned by a sound understanding of the principles of accountability
A2: The principles of autonomy, responsibility and accountability and role as a midwife within the multi-professional team
A3: Strategies available to deliver safe and effective midwifery care while promoting continuity of care and carer to women
A4: The midwives' role in providing universal care for all women and newborn infants
A5: Ethical principles which support midwifery practice to be sustainable, resourceful and using their initiative where appropriate
A6: Understanding of complex problem solving required for providing additional care for women and newborn infants with complications
A7: Scientific principles underpinning midwifery practice
A8: Health informatics, digital literacy in the context of a complex healthcare system
A9: Promoting excellence as a colleague, scholar and leader
A10: Political influences on professional practice
A11: Cultural competence, diversity and its elements
Skills
B1: Engage in critical self-reflection to support lifelong learning and professional, autonomous and accountable practice
B2: Maintain professional standards, improve safety and quality of care and clinical skills to enhance midwifery practice
B3: Generate, use and appraise complex data for practice improvement
B4: Provide assessment, screening, planning, care and support across the continuum of midwifery practice
B5: Develop a professional identity – drawing on and appraising influences of the development of professional identity
B6: Practice confidently a range of effective communication skills sharing information and relationship management skills

Programme Outcomes	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6
Highest level achieved by all graduates	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6
Introduction to being and becoming a midwife	MWY1800	X	X		X	X				X			X	X			X	X
Foundations of antenatal and postnatal care	MWY1801			X				X								X		X
Foundations of midwifery care in labour and birth	MWY1802			X				X	X			X						
Introduction to fetal and neonatal care	MWY1803		X		X													
Developing, being and becoming a midwife	MWY2800	X	X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X			X	
Developing antenatal and postnatal care in complex situations	MWY2801			X		X	X	X	X							X		
Developing care in labour and birth for women in complex situations	MWY2802			X			X	X	X			X						
Developing knowledge of fetal and neonatal care in complex situations	MWY2803		X		X	X	X	X						X		X		
Being and becoming a midwife	MWY3800	X	X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X			X	X
Consolidating antenatal and postnatal care	MWY3801			X										X		X		X
Consolidating midwifery care during labour and birth	MWY3802					X	X	X	X									
Consolidating fetal and neonatal care	MWY3803		X		X	X	X	X			X			X	X	X		X