



Module Descriptor

Title	Role of the Maternity Care Assistant		
Session	2025/26	Status	Published
Code	MIDW07024	SCQF Level	7
Credit Points	20	ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)	10
School	Health and Life Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator	Liz Miller		
Summary of Module			
<p>The aim of this module is to enable the student to recognise and understand the role and responsibilities of the Maternity Care Assistant (MCA) in relation to caring for women, their babies and their family adopting a woman centred approach.</p> <p>Initially students will be assimilated into University life and receive support in relation to study skills, IT literacy, accessing literature and utilising University facilities (for example library).</p> <p>Students will recognise their role in assisting and supporting the multi-disciplinary team in the delivery of high quality evidence-based maternity care and be introduced to ethical, legal and professional responsibilities in relation to communication, continuity of care, confidentiality, consent, accountability, conflict and professional behaviour.</p> <p>Students will explore the concept of compassionate care to underpin their responsibilities of maintaining dignity, respect and non-judgemental attitudes and behaviour.</p> <p>As a result this module will support students to develop characteristics which can contribute to the UWS graduate attributes which are Universal (critical thinking, emotionally intelligent and collaborative); Work ready (knowledgeable, potential leader and problem solving) and Successful (autonomous, innovative, resilient, and transformational) (I am UWS, 2018)</p> <p>Key aspects of UNICEF Standards (2019) included in this module are Themes 1, Understanding breastfeeding Theme,2. Enabling mothers to breastfeed, Theme 3 Close and loving relationships, Theme 5 Communication</p> <p>To examine in detail the role and responsibilities of the Maternity Care Assistant</p>			

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	Hybrid² <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Online³ <input type="checkbox"/>	Work -Based Learning⁴ <input type="checkbox"/>		
Campuses for Module Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Ayr <input type="checkbox"/> Dumfries		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lanarkshire <input type="checkbox"/> London <input type="checkbox"/> Paisley	<input type="checkbox"/> Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)		
Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 2 – Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3 – Term 1	<input type="checkbox"/>

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Describe the role and responsibilities of the Maternity Care Assistant as an effective team member of the multidisciplinary team..
L2	Explain and demonstrate the importance of professional, ethical and legal issues within maternity care.
L3	Demonstrate understanding of effective communication with team members, women and families to facilitate care and identify and discuss the barriers to effective communication.
L4	Understand concepts of evidence based and reflective practice as applied to women centred care
L5	

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	SCQF 7 Understanding and application of an adult learning approach to integration of theory and practice. Acquiring detailed knowledge and understanding of the impact of lifestyle on the childbirth process.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF 7 Demonstrating fundamental caring skills necessary to assist and support the midwife to deliver effective midwifery care. Integration of theory to practice in relation to supporting women with lifestyle choices.

¹ Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

² The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

³ Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

⁴ Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF 7 Developing the skills required for independent self directed study; Learning to apply the processes of problem solving and reflection; Learning to use evidence based practice.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF 7 Demonstrating and utilising a wide range of communication skills, including verbal, non-verbal and written to communicate with women, their families and the multi-professional team.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	SCQF 7 Under direct supervision of the midwife provide care for women and families utilising the maternity services. Demonstrate working effectively with others in multi-disciplinary groups or teams to assist in the delivery of evidenced based care. Systematically identify and address own learning needs.

Prerequisites	Module Code	Module Title
	Other	
Co-requisites	Module Code	Module Title

Learning and Teaching	
<p>In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.</p> <p>The overall teaching and learning strategy is one of hybrid learning where core lectures delivered face to face are complimented and supported by a comprehensive package of on line information and activities. Core lectures will be supported with student led seminar discussions to facilitate group interaction and develop confidence in debate. Specific clinical skills will be taught using simulation within designated skills laboratories.</p>	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	Student Learning Hours (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	14
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	14
Personal Development Plan	3
Asynchronous Class Activity	72
Independent Study	90
Laboratory / Practical Demonstration / Workshop	7
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

Aveyard, H. and Sharp, P. (2023) A Beginners Guide to Evidence Based Practice in Health and Social Care. 4th Edn. Magraw-Hill: Berkshire.

Jasper, M. (2013) Beginning Reflective Practice. 2nd Edn. Cheltenham: Nelson Thorne.

Johnson, R. and Taylor, W. (2023) Skills for Midwifery Practice. 5th ed. Edinburgh : Elsevier.

NHS Education Scotland (NES) (2010) Maternity Care Assistants in Scotland: A Skills Passport. Edinburgh. NES

Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) (2018) The Code. Professional standards of practice and behaviour for nurses, midwives and Nursing associates. Available: <https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/code/> . (Accessed:1/3/24).

Scottish Government (2019) Code of Conduct for Health Care Support Workers. Edinburgh: Scottish Government.

(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements

In line with the [Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure](#), Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

Within this module, students are expected to attend for at least 80% of the synchronous / core teaching activities / tutorials.

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code](#).

Module content reflects societal diversity and a rights-based approach to midwifery practice. To promote accessibility, anticipatory adjustments have been made to teaching and learning strategies and assessment. Further reasonable adjustments can be made for students who have been assessed as requiring specific adjustments.

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	Mental Health Nursing Midwifery Health
Overall Assessment Results	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass / Fail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graded
Module Eligible for Compensation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.
School Assessment Board	MHMH L7-8
Moderator	Rachael Ferguson
External Examiner	C Kenyon

Change Control

What	When	Who