

MIDI6211: Women with Complex Labours and/or births

Callaghan, Gosford and Manning Base Hospital

Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

Course Description	Keeping the woman firmly in the centre, this course analyses evidence which underpins best care for women and their unborn/newborn babies when they meet challenges during the first, second and/or third stage of labour. Complex labour may bring with it the possibility of unwanted, unexpected, and/or difficult processes, tests, interventions, and/or outcomes that can affect short and long term maternal and fetal/neonatal wellbeing. Critically analysing midwifery, medical, neurophysiological, pharmacological, and sociological theory, postgraduate students examine causes and possible outcomes of complex labour and/or birth for both women and their babies, further understand the provision of safe midwifery care, and care from the multidisciplinary team, and reflect on and examine necessary professional relationships and respectful partnerships.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Requisites	Students must be enrolled in the Master of Midwifery (Graduate Entry) [40313] or be active in the Graduate Certificate in Midwifery (Re-Entry to practice) program [40314] to enrol in this course.
Assumed Knowledge	Students in the Master of Midwifery (Graduate Entry) program should have successfully completed MIDI6120 and MIDI6121 and have successfully completed or be concurrently enrolled in MIDI6210.
Contact Hours	All Locations Lecture Online 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) Lectures are Virtual Self-Directed Learning Self-Directed 72 hour(s) per term starting Week 1 Tutorial * Face to Face On Campus 3 hour(s) per week in weeks 2,3,5 and 12 Total of 12 hours Tutorial Online 1.5 hour(s) online interactive activities per week in weeks 1,4,6,7,8,9,10 and 11 * This contact type has a compulsory requirement.
Unit Weighting	10
Workload	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Callaghan, Gosford and Manning Base Hospital Dr Katharine Gillett Katharine.Gillett@newcastle.edu.au Phone: (+61) 2 4921 7333 Consultation: Contact via email to arrange a suitable time. Consultation will occur in person or via Zoom. NOTE: Responses to emails can be expected within three (3) working days unless the tutor or Course Coordinator is off campus. General Course Questions should be posted to Canvas, where the answer may be of benefit to other students. Students are required to check their UON (University of Newcastle) email account regularly and to use their student-mail accounts for all email correspondence with the University.
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	School of Nursing and Midwifery Richardson Wing University of Newcastle University Drive CALLAGHAN NSW 2308 Central Coast Clinical School 77 Holden Street GOSFORD NSW 2250 Manning Education Centre 69A High Street TAREE NSW 2430 Phone: (+61) 2 4921 6304 Web: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/nursing-midwifery
General Enquiries	AskUoN@newcastle.edu.au (+61) 2 4921 5000
Program & Enrolment Advice	ProgramAdvice@newcastle.edu.au
Student Support	For academic and personal support services for students, visit https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/support

SYLLABUS

Course Content	Module 1: Safety <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Safety through a woman-centred, rights-based approach to healthcare for women with complicated labours2. Consultation, referral, and collaboration: working respectfully in the interdisciplinary team3. Midwifery: making a difference in complexity Module 2: Assessment and therapies <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Progress: Assessment of maternal wellbeing/assessment of fetal wellbeing/fetal compromise2. Pain and pain relief3. Drug therapy, diagnostic testing and interpreting laboratory results during a woman's labour Module 3: Working with women/babies who have medical conditions
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1. hypertension
2. diabetes
3. infections
4. cardiac disease
5. haematological, respiratory, epilepsy and/or other diseases
6. depression

Module 4: Working with women/babies who have maternity Issues

1. post-term pregnancy, induction and augmentation of labour
2. premature labour and birth
3. mal lie: transverse, oblique and unstable
4. mal presentations: breech, face, shoulder and brow
5. cord presentation and prolapse
6. prolonged labour and precipitate labour and disturbances in uterine action
7. instrumental birth
8. shoulder dystocia
9. intrapartum/ postpartum haemorrhage
10. retained placenta
11. genital tract trauma, perineal repair and episiotomy
12. Caesarean section
13. vaginal birth after Caesarean
14. embolism: amniotic fluid, pulmonary
15. a history of substance use
16. intrauterine growth restriction
17. fetal death in utero/stillbirth

Module 5: Emergencies

1. Maternal and neonatal resuscitation

Module 6: Ethics and law

1. The use of technology, life and death, termination of pregnancy, end of life decision making; and documentation

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. demonstrate high level analysis of the physiological causes and possible outcomes of complex labour and/or birth for both women and their babies
2. critically evaluate the ways in which midwifery promotes health and prevents harm for women and their babies in complex labours and/or births
3. accurately interpret techniques and tests for assessing maternal and fetal wellbeing in complex labour and/or birth
4. critically appraise evidence-informed care for women with complex labours and/or birth
5. Discuss ways midwives actively support women's choices during complex labour and/or birth
6. Present an understanding of the legal, ethical, professional, pharmacological and policy frameworks/protocols for midwifery work with labouring and/or birthing women.

Course Materials

Recommended Text:

- Cummins, A., Gillett K, McLaughlin K, Musgrave L., Wood J. (2023). *Stories in Midwifery: Reflection, Action, Inquiry* (3rd ed.). Elsevier.
- Johnson, R., Taylor, W., de-Vitry Smith, S., & Bayes, S. (2022). *Skills for Midwifery Practice: Australia and New Zealand Edition* (2nd ed.). Elsevier.
- Marshall, J.E. & Raynor, M.D. (Eds.). (2020). *Myles Textbook for Midwives*. (17th ed.). Elsevier.

Pairman, S., Tracy, S. K., Dahlen, H. G., & Dixon, L. (2023). *Midwifery: Preparation for Practice* (5th ed.). Elsevier.

Rankin, J. (2017). *Physiology in Childbearing with Anatomy and Related Biosciences* (4th ed.). Elsevier.

Rankin, J. (2020). *Myles Midwifery Anatomy & Physiology Workbook*. Elsevier.

Wylie, L. & Bryce, H. (2016). *The Midwives' Guide to Key Medical Conditions: Pregnancy and Childbirth* (2nd ed.). Churchill Livingstone.

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, each student must complete ALL of the following compulsory requirements:

Contact Hour Requirements:

- Tutorial Attend 80% of sessions

Course Assessment Requirements:

- Assessment 1 - Advanced Scenario-based Learning Package: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.
- Assessment 2 - Quality Improvement Report/Poster Presentation: Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Tutorial	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Pain in labour Pharmacological and non-pharmacological forms of pain relief	Online Webinar	
2	4 Mar	Fetal assessment/heart rate monitoring in labour	Face-to-face	
3	11 Mar	Post-term pregnancy, induction/labour dystocia/augmentation of labour	Face-to-face	
4	18 Mar	Multiple pregnancy Unusual fetal presentations in labour and birth Cord prolapse and cord presentation	Online	Scenario-based short answer 1 Friday 15 March 23:00 hrs
5	25 Mar	Third stage complications	Face-to-face	
6	1 Apr	Genital tract trauma	Online	
7	8 Apr	Instrumental and surgical birth NBAC	Online	
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	Labour and birth for women with medical complexities	Online	Scenario-based short answer 2 Friday 3 May 23:00 hrs
9	6 May	Maternal collapse during labour and birth	Online	

		Maternal and neonatal resuscitation		
10	13 May	Premature labour and birth, including pharmacology		Scenario-based short answer 3 Friday 17 May 23:00 hrs
11	20 May	Fetal death in utero Termination of pregnancy Stillbirth Grief and loss in childbearing	Online	
12	27 May	Midwifery self-care	Face-to-Face	Poster presentation- Infographic Friday 31 May 2024 23:00 hrs
13	3 Jun			
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 2 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Advanced Scenario-based Learning Package*	Scenario 1 22 March 2024 23:00 hrs Scenario 2 3 May 2024 23:00 hrs Scenario 3 17 May 2024 23:00 hrs	Individual	50%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
2	Quality Improvement Report/Poster Presentation*	31 May 23:00 hrs	Individual	50%	1, 2, 3, 5, 6

* This assessment has a compulsory requirement.

Late Submissions The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Advanced Scenario-based Learning Package

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Purpose	The purpose of this assessment is to help students develop a deep understanding of course module content through the answering of short answer questions. Your answers should address the criteria and course objectives; demonstrate midwifery focused, woman centred philosophy and critically analyse evidence informed practice; use women centred language and demonstrate referencing and academic literacy skills appropriate to Postgraduate 6000 level
Description	Answer three questions based on the scenarios you develop. Each response should be no more than 500 words (+/- 10%) and will be marked individually
Weighting	50%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course

Length	Total of 1500 words
Due Date	1. 22 March 2024 23:00 hrs 2. 3 May 2024 23:00 hrs 3. 17 May 2024 23:00 hrs
Submission Method	Via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Please refer to marking criteria
Return Method	Via Canvas
Feedback Provided	Via Canvas within 15 working days of submission
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment

Assessment 2 - Quality Improvement Report/Poster Presentation

Assessment Type	Exhibition / Poster
Purpose	This assignment challenges you to advocate for enhanced maternal care. By selecting a well-justified practice, substantiating your arguments with solid evidence, and addressing potential challenges, you will craft a compelling case for implementing change. Keep in mind that the ultimate goal is to gain the support of senior leadership in implementing this change for the betterment of women experiencing complex labour and birth.
Description	<p>In this assignment, you have the opportunity to select a practice aimed at elevating the care provided to women undergoing complex labour and/or birth. Your task is to craft a comprehensive report that justifies the adoption of a chosen practice, incorporating detailed analysis, critical evaluation, and evidence-based recommendations. This report aims to gain approval from senior management for implementing the change, focusing on improving maternal and baby well-being while adhering to various healthcare frameworks and addressing workplace constraints. You may present this in written form or as a poster.</p> <p>Your report must provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analysis of Physiological Causes and Outcomes: Provide an in-depth analysis of the physiological causes behind the chosen complexity in both women and their babies during labour and/or birth. Explore the possible outcomes that can arise due to these complexities, considering the potential impact on maternal and fetal health.• Critical Evaluation of Change's Health Promotion and Harm Prevention: Critically evaluate how the chosen change promotes health and prevents harm for women and their babies in complex labour and/or birth situations. Scrutinise the effectiveness of the proposed practice in enhancing positive outcomes and minimising potential risks.• Compelling Evidence and Risk Acknowledgment from Peer-Reviewed Sources (APA 7th Referencing): Support your recommendations with compelling evidence from peer-reviewed sources, adhering to APA 7th referencing guidelines. Ensure that the sources are reputable and scholarly in nature. Additionally, acknowledge any potential risks associated with the proposed change, providing a balanced viewpoint.• Evaluation of Supporting Women's Choices: Evaluate how the proposed change aligns with and supports women's choices during complex labour situations. Discuss how the practice empowers women to make informed decisions regarding their care while promoting positive outcomes.• Integration of Legal, Ethical, Professional, Pharmacological, and Policy Frameworks: Demonstrate how the proposed change aligns with legal, ethical, professional, pharmacological, and policy frameworks or protocols relevant to midwifery practices during labour and/or birth. Explain how the change adheres to these guidelines while enhancing maternal care.
Weighting	50%
Compulsory Requirements	Submit assessment item - Must submit this assessment to pass the course
Length	1500 (+/- 10%) words and/or 1x A3 poster

Due Date	31 May 23:00 hrs
Submission Method	Via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Please refer to marking criteria
Return Method	Via Canvas
Feedback Provided	Via Canvas within 15 working days of submission
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face to face meetings or supervision.

Withdrawal from Course

You can withdraw from a course without financial penalty on or before the census date Friday 22nd March 2024. If you withdraw after this date, it is considered you have been enrolled in the course and will be liable for HECS-HELP payment or degree fee.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#).

In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

**Academic
Misconduct**

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

**Adverse
Circumstances**

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

**Important Policy
Information**

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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