

Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health



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2012

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

HLTH 513: Special Topic: Midwifery: Real World Midwifery: Sustaining Clinical Practice

Trimester 2

**Course Coordinator:
Joan Skinner**

Trimester dates: 16 July 2012 – 17 November 2012

Mid-trimester break: 27 August 2012 – 9 September 2012



IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health at Victoria University of Wellington, uses all reasonable skill and care in an effort to ensure the information and course content information contained in this outline is accurate at the time of going to print.

Students should be aware, however, that in the event course timetables and venues need to be changed, all attempts will be made to notify the students.

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Section 1: Operational Information

COURSE COORDINATOR & CONTACT DETAILS

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POSTGRADUATE STUDENT ADMINISTRATOR

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POSTAL ADDRESS

Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health
Victoria University of Wellington
P O Box 7625
Newtown
Wellington 6242

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Level 7, Clinical Services Block (CSB)
Wellington Regional Hospital
Riddiford St, Newtown
Wellington 6021

OFFICE HOURS

The Graduate School office will be open on Wednesday 4 January 2012 and close on Friday 21 December 2012 from 9.00am – 4.00pm weekdays.

In keeping with the practice of other years, academic staff will not be available on Fridays, except for the times they are involved in Schools. Please contact the course coordinator directly either by telephone or email should you wish to make an appointment or discuss course related issues.

Section 2: Academic Requirements

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

This course explores the role and the place of the midwife. In particular it examines the central theme of 'keeping birth normal' and analyses this in light of contemporary issues faced in maternity care nationally and internationally.

COURSE AIMS

This clinically focused course aims to explore the central theme of 'keeping birth normal'.

COURSE CONTENT

Examines how 'normal birth' is defined and considered within the current midwifery practice environment, focusing particularly on the creation and use of evidence and on the role of risk management in maternity care.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students interact in two teaching/learning sessions in order to:

- Develop a critical understanding of contemporary research developments which provide an understanding of normal birth
- Describe and critique the context in which midwifery is practiced
- Understand the role that autonomy plays in midwifery practice

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Students will:

- Develop skills and knowledge in this paper to support and sustain the continuing refinement of midwifery practice
- Be able to identify key contemporary issue in maternity care and midwifery
- Have a deepened understanding of the concept of normal birth
- Develop skills in applying this understanding of normal birth to a range of clinical situations
- Develop an understanding of the place of evidence based practice in midwifery care
- Be able to articulate the autonomous role of the midwife in relation to current practice issues
- Have refined clinical judgement skills incorporating an understanding of the theoretical construct of risk and how it influences decision making.

TE TATAU O TE WHARE KAHU MIDWIFERY COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND COMPETENCIES THIS COURSE MEETS

Competency One

The midwife works in partnership with the woman/wahine throughout the maternity experience.

Competency Two

The midwife applies comprehensive theoretical and scientific knowledge with the affective and technical skills needed to provide effective and safe midwifery care

Competency Three

The midwife promotes practices that enhance the health of the woman/wahine and her family/whanau and which encourage their participation in her health care.

Competency Four

The midwife upholds professional midwifery standards and uses professional judgment as a reflective and critical practitioner when providing midwifery care.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

As a guide each 30-point course at the Graduate School requires students to allocate approximately 10 hours per point for self-directed study, research, assessments and attendance at Schools. Consequently 300 hours should be spread evenly over the 12 week trimester, break, study week and exam period.

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

RECOMMENDED READING/TEXTS

There is no one required text for this course. The texts detailed below are a small example of readings that will support you on your learning journey. Further readings will be provided during the course and are on Blackboard.

Davis-Floyd, R. E., & Sargent, C. F. (Eds.). (1997). *Childbirth and authoritative knowledge: cross-cultural perspectives*. California: University of California Press.

Devries, R., Benoit, C., Teijlingen, E. R. V., & Wrede, S. (Eds.). (2001). *Birth by design: pregnancy, maternity care and midwifery in North America and Europe*. New York, London: Routledge.

Donley, J. (1998). *Birthrites: natural vs unnatural childbirth in New Zealand*. Auckland, New Zealand: The Full Courts Press.

Downe, S. (Ed.). (2004). *Normal childbirth: evidence and debate*. Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone.

Kirkham, M. (Ed.). (2003). *Birth centres. A social model for maternity care*. Cheshire, England: Books for Midwives.

Kitzinger, S. (2005). *The politics of birth* Oxford: Books for Midwives.

Mander, R., & Fleming, V. (Eds.). (2002). *Failure to progress. The contraction of the midwifery profession*. London, New York: Routledge.

Moberg, K. (2003). *The oxytocin factor: Tapping the hormones of calm, love and healing*. Cambridge: Da Capo Press.

Murphy-Lawless, J. (1998). *Reading birth and death: a history of obstetric thinking*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press.

Odent, M. (1999). *The scientification of love*. New York: Free Association Books Limited.

Tew, M. (1995). *Safer childbirth? A critical history of maternity care* (Second ed.). London., UK: Chapman & Hall.

Wickham, S. (2006). *Midwifery : best practice 4* Edinburg: Books for Midwives.

Wilson, J., & Williams, J. (2002). *Law and clinical risk in midwifery: the right to a perfect baby*. Oxford: Books for Midwives.

TEXT BOOK PURCHASE

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 9–27 July 2012, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of Vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Copies may also be obtained online from <http://www.fishpond.co.nz/> or <http://www.amazon.com/>

COURSE ORGANISATION

This course will be delivered in two blocks over one trimester. The days will be a mix of lectures and small group activities.

As co-ordinator I am open to suggestions from you as to specific topics that you may find helpful. If given enough notice it is usually, but not always, possible to meet requests.

SCHOOL TIMETABLES

1st SCHOOL

Dates: Monday 30 & Tuesday 31 July 2012

Times: 9am – 5pm daily

Venue: CS803, Level 8, Clinical Services Building, Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

2nd SCHOOL

Dates: Monday 17th & Tuesday 18th September 2012

Times: 9am – 5pm daily

Venue: CS803, Level 8, Clinical Services Building, Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

BLACKBOARD INFORMATION

Students enrolling for this course will need access to the VUW flexible learning system (Blackboard) via the Internet.

Blackboard is an online environment that supports teaching and learning at Victoria by making course information, materials and learning activities available online via the internet. Blackboard provides web-based access to course content, assessment, communication and collaboration tools. Instructions for using this will be provided as part of timetable during the 1st School. Students will need to be able to access the Internet on a regular basis.

The following software, which is necessary for using material on Blackboard, is freely available to download from the internet if you don't already have it:

- Netscape Communicator v 4.78 or higher (v. 7.1 recommended) OR
- Microsoft Internet Explorer v. 5.2.x or higher
- MS Windows 2000 or XP/ MacOS 9 or Mac OS X.2 or higher

Other software: Adobe Acrobat Reader - free download from
<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/>

Microsoft Office or Microsoft Viewers. The viewers can be downloaded free of charge from:
<http://www.microsoft.com/office/000/viewers.asp>

Computer skills required:

- Internet browsing skills
- Basic word processing skills

How to log onto Blackboard

- Open a web browser and go to myVictoria.ac.nz
- Enter your account username which you can find in your *Confirmation of Study* sheet
- It is usually made up of 6 letters of your last name and 4 letters of your first name
- Enter your password. If you have never used Victoria computer facilities your initial password is your student ID number
- Click on the Blackboard icon
- Alternatively, if you want to access Blackboard without going through the myVictoria portal, just log on at <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>

Off Campus access

Blackboard is available from any location where you can access the Internet. This may be your home, work or an Internet café.

Problems with access? Contact ITS service desk **04 463 5050**

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order to successfully complete this course you are required to attend all Schools unless under special circumstances prior arrangements have been made with the course coordinator.

Students must complete all pieces of assessment to pass the course. Lectures, tutorials, electronic and other distance learning resources, practical and fieldwork may all be an integral part of the learning experience and participation in such activities is regarded as necessary.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

USE OF TURNITIN

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic

Section 3: Assessment Information

Learning objectives are assessed within the courses assessment activities.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The ability to plan for and meet deadlines is a core competency of both advanced study and professional practice. Failure to meet deadlines disrupts course planning and is unfair to students who do submit their work on time. It is expected therefore that you will complete and submit assignments not later than the due date if submitted on Blackboard and well before the due date if submitted by post. Assignments may only be submitted by email if organised with the course coordinator. Some courses require that you access Blackboard and submit all assignments only through this site. Your course coordinator will explain the expectations for this course at your first school.

If ill-health, family bereavement or other personal emergencies prevent you from meeting the deadline for submitting a piece of written work or from attending class to make a presentation, you can apply to the course coordinator for an extension to the due date. Make sure that you keep a hard and/or electronic copy of your assignment until you have received feedback.

Extensions

An extension to a deadline will only be considered where there are extenuating circumstances. An application for an extension must be made by you in writing/e-mail to the course coordinator at least 24 hours before the due date. When communicating your request you must include the following information:

- Name, student number and contact details
- Course code
- Date of submission and request date for new submission
- Reason for extension request

Upon receipt of your request, course coordinators may grant an extension of up to 2 weeks. Any further request for an extension may require Head of School approval.

Submission

You must complete and submit your assignments by the due date and in the form specified by your course coordinator. In addition, check for the instructions for your particular assignment. If you are mailing your assignment it must be in the School no later than 5pm on the date of submission.

Late submission

Late assignments or assignments with extensions may be subject to delays in marking and may not receive comprehensive feedback.

A penalty will be incurred for late submission of work **where no prior arrangement** has been made as follows:

- Work submitted 7 days after the due date without an extension will receive a 2 grade penalty. For example a B+ to a B-.
- Work submitted 8-14 days after the due date without an extension will receive a 4 grade penalty. For example a B+ to a C.

- Work submitted more than 15 days (or more) late without an extension will not be marked and will receive an 'E' (fail) grade.

Other marking penalties

Assignments may also be penalised for poor presentation and for exceeding the word limit or for being seriously under length.

Feedback

Student coursework assignments submitted by the due date will normally be returned with feedback within four weeks of the due date.

Grading

Grading is according to the University standard as follows:

85% - 100%	A+	60% - 64%	B-
80% - 84%	A	55% - 59%	C+
75% - 79%	A-	50% - 54%	C
70% - 74%	B+	40% - 49%	Fail D
65% - 69%	B	0 - 39%	Fail E

Receipt of assignments (hard copies)

Please ensure you complete an assignment cover sheet and attach it to the front of each assignment if you submit a hard copy assignment. Electronic copies do not require cover sheets. Assignment cover sheets will be available on the Blackboard site of your course under *Course Templates*. All hard copy assignments have to be sent to the course coordinator. If you want your assignment sent back to you in hard copy, complete a self addressed and stamped envelope and attach it to the front of your assignment.

ASSIGNMENT WRITING: GUIDELINES FOR PRESENTATION AND FORMATTING

Presentation

Unless otherwise instructed, use APA referencing and formatting. For support with APA style, please consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed). You may also refer to the *Referencing the APA Style: A Brief Guide* on http://www.vuw.ac.nz/st_Services/slss/studyhub/reference/APA.pdf.

Finally, you can check <http://www.apastyle.org/> for other resources.

When submitting hard copy assignments:

- Fonts: Times New Roman, Arial, Calibri or Verdana only.
- Font size: 12.
- 1.5 line spacing.
- 2.5 cm margin all round.
- Assignments must be typed and printed clearly on one side of A4 size white paper only, with all pages fastened together by staple or secure clip.
- All pages should be numbered and should have a footer including the course code, assignment number and student ID number (left aligned), e.g. HLTH 512, Assignment 2, 300011122.
- Include a title page and an assignment cover sheet on top which is available on Blackboard under Course Templates.
- Appendices should only be included if these are indicated as acceptable in assignment instructions. These may include additional materials related to the text but not suitable for inclusion due to length or format. These are not marked or counted in the word limit, but should be clearly referred to as appropriate within the main text (e.g. see Appendix A).
- Do not use plastic sheets, clear files or folders, as these make it difficult for markers to handle.
- Please list the word count of your document.
- Ensure you keep a copy of your assignment for your records.

When submitting assignments on Blackboard:

- Use MS Word for all electronic submissions.
- Name your file using the naming strategy LASTNAME-FIRST INITIAL _ COURSE CODE _ ASSIGNMENT NUMBER _ STUDENT NUMBER (Ex: PARONE-S_HTLT501_2_ 300011122).
- All pages should be numbered and should have a footer including the course code, assignment number and student ID number (left aligned), e.g. HLTH 512, Assignment 2, 300011122.
- Fonts: Times New Roman, Arial, Calibri or Verdana only.
- Fonts size: 12.
- Single spacing.
- Include a title page.
- Appendices should only be included if these are required by the lecturer. These may include additional materials related to the text but not suitable for inclusion due to length or format.

These are not marked or counted in the word limit, but should be clearly referred to as appropriate within the main text (e.g. see Appendix A).

- Ensure you keep a copy of your assignment for your records.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The overall goal of the programmes in the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health (GSNMH) is to assist students to advance their knowledge and practice. As much of the content for the course revolves around clinical practice and clinical education it is important to maintain clear and appropriate professional boundaries while undertaking study for this course.

Students are expected to ensure that:

- At all times they act within the boundaries of professional Codes of Conduct, professional standards, relevant legislative frameworks and the governance, rules and contracts of their employing organisation
- The work for this course does not constitute a formal research project and all information gathering must be clearly defined and remain within the student's professional boundaries
- They have regular contact with the course coordinator and raise any issues and concerns at the earliest possible time
- Where any particular person/patient/client is the subject of an assignment, verbal consent is obtained from the person/patient/client. If getting this consent is problematic, they discuss with the course coordinator how to proceed with the assignment
- Where any particular person/patient/client is the intended subject of an article or report, written consent is obtained from the person/patient/client. If getting this consent is problematic, they discuss with the course coordinator how to proceed with the article/report
- At no time in the course do they seek information from or apply interventions to patients/family/whanau that are beyond what is part of their scope and area of practice
- When recording practice-based information students maintain a high degree of ethical and moral comportsment, with particular consideration of confidentiality and privacy issues when deciding what and how they record patient/ client information, and how they share practice experiences
- With regard to the confidentiality of practice-based information shared by peers within the context of the course, that they are guided by ethical considerations, their professional ethical Codes, and workplace and legislative requirements
- Colleagues and staff are treated with respect and consideration.

Should students have any concerns regarding their ability to fulfil requirements of the course assessments these must be discussed with the course coordinator. Similarly, if any issues arise in the context of completing course requirements these need to be discussed with the course coordinator.

Ethical approval from Victoria University of Wellington Human Ethics Committee has been obtained for courses at the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health.

For additional information contact your course coordinator.

CONFERENCE & SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS

Students of the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health are encouraged to present their work at professional conferences and as papers for publication. Students should discuss this with the course coordinator in the first instance. Dissemination of findings from academic work is a very important part of graduate education and assists clinical teams and professional groups to access up-to-date and new knowledge. Course coordinators will provide academic guidance in relation to the targeted activities, and also in relation to the proper academic processes of authorship and acknowledgement.

For all conference, professional and workplace presentations our VUW Power Point template should be used. You are also required to use this template for all school presentations as part of your assignment requirements. This template is available and can be accessed by those students using Blackboard or you can email: belinda.tuari@vuw.ac.nz for a copy of the template to be sent to you.

As a general rule, presentations and papers should cite yourselves as post-graduate students, and name the Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health as the organisation. In keeping with academic conventions course coordinators and for this paper academic advisors (the staff members who mark your work) who help with the ideas and preparation of the paper/presentation should be directly acknowledged or named as co-authors.

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER ONE

Assignment Name: **Poster presentation**

Due Date: Discussion with course co-coordinator regarding topic by 17 August 2012

Paper poster and conference abstract submitted for marking by 18

September 2012

Presentation of poster at second school

This assignment is worth 50% of your final grade.

Using current published literature prepare and present a poster on one issue related to maternity care illustrating how this knowledge can contribute to and inform the protection and promotion of normal birth. Write an abstract for presentation of this poster at a conference (10%)

Submit a written academic paper summarising what you will present in your poster. This will include an outline of your topic, a summary of the literature you have identified and the discussion on how this literature informs the protection and promotion of normal birth. 2000 words (40%)

Information and guidance on how this poster is to be prepared and criteria for assessment will be provided at the first school.

ASSIGNMENT NUMBER TWO

Assignment Name: **Using the Evidence to keep birth normal**

Due Date: 15 October 2012

Word limit: 5000 words

This assignment is worth 50% of your final grade.

1. Discuss the impact of the environment on birth outcomes and describe how you would use this knowledge to create the ideal birthing environment.

Or

2. Choose one issue within maternity care and discuss how risk assessment strategies and/or the risk averse environment have impacted on midwifery care in regard to this issue.

Or

3. A topic of your choice relating to keeping birth normal, perceptions of risk and/or providing evidence for practice (must be negotiated with course co-ordinator).