2020 Midwifery Postgraduate Courses

Courses are 15 credits (approx. 150 hours) except for those with * which are 30 credits (approx. 300 hours)

Postgraduate Certificate Courses

Diabetes in Pregnancy
(Feb 10 to Mar 27 or Apr 27 to Jun 12 or Jul 13 to Aug 28 or Sep 14 to Oct 30)
Course Coordinator: Karen Wakelin karen.wakelin@op.ac.nz

The aim of this course is to enhance midwives’ understanding of the patho-physiology of diabetes mellitus in pregnancy. Midwives will gain a sound understanding of the physiological implications of the disorder for the childbearing woman and baby, and knowledge of current evidence informing practice. Midwives successfully completing this course will be able to use an evidence-based approach to appropriately screen for diabetes in pregnancy and participate confidently as part of a collaborative team caring for women diagnosed with diabetes mellitus in pregnancy.

Preceptorship for Midwives (10 Feb to 27 Mar)
Course Coordinator: Jade Wratten jade.wratten@op.ac.nz

This course invites midwives to explore and develop their understanding of preceptorship in midwifery. A variety of theoretical concepts will be explored around notions of power, ownership of knowledge, transmission of knowledge, support and professionalism within the preceptorship relationship. These concepts will be applied in the context of frameworks for professional practice in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

Complexities, Culture and Research around Safe Sleep for Pēpi (10 Feb to 27 Mar)
Course Coordinator: Prof Sally Baddock sally.baddock@op.ac.nz

The aim of this course is to enable learners to explore and evaluate the research underpinning safe sleep messages for pēpi and to address potential complexities that might impact discussions with wāhine and their families.
Working with Tangata Whenua: Building Equity in Maternity Care (27 Apr to 12 Jun)
Course Coordinator: Jade Wratten jade.wratten@op.ac.nz

This course aims to assist midwives to examine issues of equity within the provision of maternity care. The course allows advanced exploration of health disparities and racism within maternity care in Aotearoa – focusing on Māori. A range of evidence will be explored which links outcomes of maternity care to the ability of women and families to equitably access and engage with care, and strategies to promote improved equity in care provision will be explored, including enhancing the application of Turanga Kaupapa in midwifery practice.

Sexual Health in Pregnancy (27 Apr – 12 Jun)
Course Coordinator: Megan Walker megan.walker@op.ac.nz

This course aims to enhance midwives’ understanding of sexually transmitted and other reproductive infections in pregnancy. Midwives undertaking this course will gain a sound understanding of the physiological implications of reproductive infections for the childbearing woman and baby, and knowledge of current evidence informing practice. Midwives successfully completing this course will be able to use an evidence-based approach to screening for reproductive infections in pregnancy and if necessary, participate confidently as part of a collaborative team caring for women with a reproductive infection in pregnancy. This course includes HIV in pregnancy.

Midwifery Practice in Rural and Primary Settings (3 Sep – 19 Oct)
Course Coordinator: Emma Bilous emma.bilous@op.ac.nz

This course focuses on the application and critique of a variety of theoretical perspectives and frameworks on the issues of midwifery practice within both rural and urban primary maternity care settings.

Evidence supports the use of primary birthing facilities for well women with uncomplicated pregnancies. The responsibilities placed on midwives in both rural and urban primary maternity settings are many and varied, particularly in light of their distance from secondary maternity services. This course aims to systematically explore and examine these challenges, enabling midwives to develop and strengthen their skills thereby ensuring the sustainability of rural and urban primary maternity services for women in New Zealand.
Queering Midwifery: Sexuality, Gender and Sex Characteristic Diversity (3 Sep to 19 Oct)
Course Coordinator: George Parker george.parker@op.ac.nz

The purpose of this course is to support midwives to provide culturally competent midwifery care to people across the spectrum of diverse sexualities, gender identities, and sex characteristics (e.g. intersex people). The course takes a norm critical approach, supporting learners to recognise and question the norms about sexuality, gender identity, and sexed bodies, that operate in maternity care and their effects on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, takatāpuhi, intersex, queer plus (LGBTTIQ+) people.

Participants will explore a range of models for understanding health inequities for LGBTTIQ+ people and will be supported to reflect on specific practice settings and scenarios in order to develop strategies for supporting and promoting rainbow diversity in their midwifery practice and in maternity care more generally.

Perinatal Mental Health (14 Sep to 30 Oct)
Course Coordinator: Tricia Thompson tricia.thompson@op.ac.nz

The aim of this course is to enhance midwives’ knowledge of perinatal mental health challenges and their impacts. With this enhanced understanding and knowledge of the current literature midwives will be able to screen for mental health and mental distress, refer appropriately, and participate confidently as part of the collaborative team caring for a woman who has been diagnosed with perinatal mental health challenges.

Leadership and Change in Midwifery Practice (14 Sep – 30 Oct)
Course Coordinator: Karen Wakelin karen.wakelin@op.ac.nz

The aim of this course is to develop analytical, critical thinking and leadership skills required for midwives who are working within a dynamic environment of leadership and change management in midwifery practice and maternity service settings.

Postgraduate Diploma Courses

Pathway to Thesis: Midwifery Knowledge* (10 Feb to 12 June)
Course coordinator: George Parker george.parker@op.ac.nz

This course is available to Registered Midwives undertaking the Postgraduate Diploma, as a prelude to Masters level study. It is a 30 credit course which equates to approximately 300 study hours. This course aims to identify and explore the discipline-specific knowledge base of midwifery. Through a critical historical analysis of midwifery literature and practices students will explore the ways in which knowledge informs practice, the ways in which knowledge is generated and the implications this has for the future of the profession.
A strong emphasis will be on examination of the unique contribution New Zealand midwifery is making to the knowledge base of midwifery worldwide. This includes critique of the social, political, cultural and organisational constraints and opportunities that influence the development of midwifery in Aotearoa New Zealand and the ways in which the competing discourses of midwifery and obstetrics are being played out.


Course Coordinator: Suzanne Miller  [suzanne.miller@op.ac.nz](mailto:suzanne.miller@op.ac.nz)

This course is available to Registered Midwives undertaking the Postgraduate Diploma, as a prelude to Masters level study. It is a 30 credit course which equates to approximately 300 study hours.

The purpose of this course is to provide participants with an opportunity to gain an understanding of various methodological approaches, research methods and the research process including consideration of ethical, cultural and budgetary issues. Participants will be supported to develop a research proposal which demonstrates congruency between research question, aims, methodology and methods, and meets the ethical and cultural requirements of the New Zealand research context.

**Complex Care Pathway**

Choose these TWO courses PLUS one course from the Postgraduate Certificate course list.

**Midwifery Assessment and Decision Making for Complexity (10 Feb to 12 Jun)**

Course Coordinator: Megan Walker  [megan.walker@op.ac.nz](mailto:megan.walker@op.ac.nz)

To provide the opportunity for midwives to research skills in assessment and monitoring for women and their babies, when a woman is experiencing illness or alteration to the normal physiology of childbirth.

**Midwifery Practicum for Complexity (13 Jul to 30 Oct)**

Course Coordinator: Carolyn McIntosh  [carolyn.mcintosh@op.ac.nz](mailto:carolyn.mcintosh@op.ac.nz)

To provide the opportunity for midwives to research skills in assessment and monitoring for women and their babies, when a woman is experiencing illness or alteration to the normal physiology of childbirth. This course contains a 100 hour practicum, which is funded for your locum (if you are an LMC) or for backfill at your facility (if you are a core midwife).