Description: Sustaining Midwifery Partnerships

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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
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<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
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Academic Group: FOSCI
Academic Org: FOS004
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 060303

STAFFING
Examiner: Cathy Rogers-Clark
Moderator: Jackie Doolan

PRE-REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: MID 8001 and MID 8070 and MID 8073 and MID 8074 and MID 8002
Co-requisite: MID 8075

RATIONALE
This course, which includes a forty-eight hour residential school, focuses on the midwifery partnership and child bearing in non-institutional settings and developing sustaining midwifery partnerships in circumstances where women find child bearing particularly challenging. The content has been selected because much of it involves learning in the affective domain where students benefit from interaction with lecturers, guest teachers and other students.

SYNOPSIS
This course develops students’ knowledge and wisdom in relation to women who, for psycho-social-spiritual reasons, find childbirth particularly challenging. Attention is given to the development of advanced interpersonal skills required to sensitively and effectively advocate for the woman or assert oneself in situations of conflict.

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

- critically analyse work environments to determine barriers to supporting empowering midwifery partnerships;
- maintain and conclude supportive partnerships with women;
- apply adult learning principles to assist women to develop birth plans;
• use advanced communication skills to prevent potential conflict within relationships;
• expand previous knowledge and experience of interpersonal communications and develop skills, sensitivity and wisdom when faced with situation of actual or potential interpersonal conflict;
• recognise and respond sensitively to the manifestations of previous or current psycho-social spiritual abuse or neglect;
• form sustaining partnerships with women who find childbearing particularly challenging;
• draw upon previous learning and the content of this course to develop knowledge and wisdom about postnatal depression and form partnerships with women who are at risk of, or are experiencing postpartum depression;
• use the ACMI code of ethics to guide ethical decision making and action in practice;
• promote the role of the professional midwife within the community;
• participate in the activities of relevant professional organisations; and
• begin preparation of a portfolio of clinical evidence to demonstrate midwifery competency.

TOPICS

Description Weighting (%)

1. Module 1: Partnership - maintaining & concluding effective partnerships with women - creating work environments which are supportive of partnerships - facilitating adult learning - empowerment and birth plans - dealing with actual and potential conflict within the partnership - establishing and maintaining effective partnerships with groups - assertion, advocacy, conflict minimisation and conflict resolution - concluding the relationship and referring to community supports 30.00

2. Module 2: Sustaining Partnership & Childbearing Women - women who may need more intensive midwifery support NB: Although categories have been used to group particular special challenges together it needs to be noted that any woman may fit more than one category. - women with special needs - women who may be without appropriate support - women who are or have been emotionally and/or physically injured - women experiencing anger, fear, suffering, loss and/or grief - women who experience particular challenges postnatally 50.00

3. Module 3: The Midwife - the role of the professional midwife - structure and function of professional organisations. - beginning to prepare a portfolio to demonstrate achievement of ACMI competencies - ACMI code of ethics and midwifery practice 20.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au by entering the author or title of the text.


**REFERENCE MATERIALS**

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

*ACMI Standard for the Practice of Midwifery*,
*ACMI Code of Ethics*,
*Journal of Nurse Midwifery*,
*Midwifery Journal*,

**Videos**

*Cultures of Mothering*, 1996, Centre for Women’s Studies, Melbourne.
*Domestic Violence in the Aboriginal Community*, 1995, Video Classroom Media, Melbourne.

Australian College of Midwives Journal *Code of Ethics for Midwives*,
Australian College of Midwives Journal *Standards of Midwifery Practice*,


National Film Board of Canada, 1991 *Sandra's Garden: Recovering from the trauma of incest*, Heathcliff Distribution, Robina.


Noddings, N. 1984, *Caring, a feminine approach to ethics and moral education*, University of California Press, California.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
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<td>Clinical Experience</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

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OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance Requirements: It is the students' responsibility to participate actively in all classes scheduled for them, including online discussion groups, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximize their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration. Students are required to attend a two-day cross-cultural workshop before the end of semester 2.

2. Minimum Requirements to Pass the Course: To be assured of a pass in this course, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item. To satisfactorily complete the discussion group assessment students must obtain half of the marks available. Marks for the discussion group assessment will be allocated as outlined in the study materials for this course.

3. Assignments: The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must dispatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the dispatch date, if requested by the examiner. Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the examiner. In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. This policy may be found in the USQ Handbook, the Distance Education Student Guide and the Faculty of Sciences' Orientation Handbook for on-campus students. All students are advised to study and follow the guidelines associated with this policy. An assignment, submitted after the due date without an extension approved by the examiner, will attract a penalty of 20 percent of the assigned mark for each day (or part thereof) that the assignment is late.
Grading: Final grades for students will be determined by the addition of the marks obtained in each assessment item, weighted as in the Assessment Details.