Description: Researching Practice

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

STAFFING
Examiner: Jackie Doolan
Moderator: Jill Scanlan

PRE-REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: MID8070 and USQ67572 and MID8073 and MID8074 and MID8075 and MID8076

RATIONALE
This course is designed to focus the students' efforts upon the requirement to meet all the ACMI competencies before they can complete this course and register as midwives. A praxis research approach will be used to guide students to record and reflect upon their own practice before comparing their practice with the scholarly literature and making changes towards best, evidenced-based practice where appropriate.

SYNOPSIS
During this course students will complete their clinical experience and finalise their portfolio of evidence in relation to ACMI competencies. The student's portfolio will be a major piece of work which demonstrates both their skills as praxis researchers and their achievement of ACMI competencies. Computer mediated conferencing will continue throughout the semester as a way of maintaining contact and providing support to students but no new material is planned to be introduced.

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

- use Praxis methodology as a research framework for critically evaluating and developing own practice as a midwife;
• provide evidence of competency of practice in the following clinical skills by completing the appropriate clinical practice, reflection and assessments in Section 3 of their Clinical Skills Portfolio. This includes (minimum numbers required are shown): 1-2 Births as Primary Accoucheur assessment to complete the ‘Assisting Woman during Birth - Focus 1st Stage of Labour’ assessment and the ‘Assisting Woman during Birth - Focus 2nd & 3rd Stage of Labour’ assessment. Completion of any outstanding assessments or practice episodes from Sections 1 & 2 of the Clinical Skills Portfolio;

• demonstrate through written and verified forms of evidence that clinical practice meets the ACMI competencies which are set out below: Professional Standard 1: Professional Responsibility and Accountability - The midwife achieves responsibility and accountability for her own practice through self-evaluation, takes responsibility for personal professional development and facilitates the education of colleagues and students. Competency 1.1 - practises according to ACMI Code of Ethics. Competency 1.2 - participates in the professional and personal development of self and colleagues. Competency 1.3 - promotes the role and function of the midwife within the professional and wider communities. Competency 1.4 - participates in the professional activities of midwifery and other related groups.

Professional Standard 2: Midwifery Practice - The midwife utilizes a problem-solving approach in order to provide comprehensive midwifery care to individuals, families and communities. Competency 2.1 - demonstrates an accurate and comprehensive knowledge base for midwifery practice. Competency 2.2 - practices within the boundaries of midwifery to provide safe care to the woman and her fetus/newborn infant. Competency 2.3 - creates a caring environment that acknowledges the women’s concept of health and lifestyle pattern. Competency 2.4 - creates an environment which promotes birthing and parenting, and offers appropriate support during birthing and early parenting. Competency 2.5 - acts to enhance the dignity and integrity of womanhood. Competency 2.6 - facilitates empowerment of the woman through effective and therapeutic interpersonal communication. Competency 2.7 - utilises a clinical decision making approach to provide holistic midwifery care. Competency 2.8 - fulfils pivotal role of the midwife within the multi-disciplinary health care team.

Professional Standard 3 - Health Promotion. Competency 3.1 - offers formal and informal education to women and the community. Competency 3.2 - promotes women's and family health.

Professional Standard 4: Legislation, Policies and Procedures - The midwife formulates midwifery care in accordance with legislation, policies and procedures affecting practice. Competency 4.1 - functions in accordance with legislation and common law affecting midwifery practice. Competency 4.1.1 - demonstrates knowledge of legislation pertinent to midwifery practice. Competency 4.1.2 - demonstrates knowledge of policies and procedures that have legal implications for practice.

**TOPICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Praxis Methodology - recording, reflecting on practice (builds upon NUR5510) - scholarly inquiry concerning problematic issues in practice (draws upon all courses) - reconceptualising and theorising own practice</td>
<td>50.00</td>
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(draws upon all courses) - planned change to practice (draws upon all courses)

2. Complete Clinical Experience - finalise Portfolio 50.00

**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.

To be determined by student's supervisor.

**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.

To be determined by student's supervisor.

**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Experience</td>
<td>235</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
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**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
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<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>PRAXIS REPORT</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<td>13 Dec 2002</td>
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<td>OBSERVATIONAL ASSESSMENT - ACM</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>PORTFOLIO - ACMI COMPETENCIES</td>
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<td>ONLINE DISCUSSION GROUP</td>
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<td>235 HOURS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE</td>
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**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

1. Attendance Requirements: It is the students' responsibility to actively participate 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 to undertake 235 hours clinical experience
within this course. The clinical requirement in this course contributes to the 
minimum requirement of the program of 800 hours clinical experience. This is to 
be carried out over three semesters. Clinical experience includes both paid clinical 
practice and may include a smaller degree of supernumerary unpaid clinical practice.

Requirements to Pass each Item of Assessment: To be assured of a pass in the 
clinical component, students must provide verification that they have undertaken 
all the placements and key clinical skills and 'achieved competency', as measured 
by the ACMI Competency Based Assessment Tools, in all the designated areas of 
the 'Clinical Skills Portfolio'. The student will then be awarded 1 mark for this 
assessment item. Otherwise 0 marks will be awarded and the student will not pass 
the course. To pass the Portfolio, the student must demonstrate 'competency' of 
midwifery practice by providing an ACMI Competency Portfolio, consisting of 
clinical scenarios, validated by clients and endorsed midwives, and other relevant 
evidence to support the claim that their practice meets at least half the cues of each 
and every ACMI Competency. During clinical placement, students must follow 
hospital policy and procedure and maintain safe, professional practice as outlined 
by nursing and midwifery professional bodies practice guidelines. To be assured 
of a pass in the observational assessment, students must demonstrate competency. 
Competency is determined through the observational assessment of the student's 
midwifery practice by a trained competency assessor at the partner hospitals. The 
assessor verifies that a student's practice is competent by signing a statement that 
the student is able to demonstrate that he/she meets each and every ACMI 
competency as outlined on the ACMI Competency Evaluation Tool. To be assured 
of a pass in the remaining assessment items, students must achieve at least 50% of 
the marks available for each of these assessment items.

Minimum Requirements to Pass the Course: To be assured of a pass in the course, 
students must pass each assessment item.

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.

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.