

School of Health

Midwifery Clinical Placements

Program Code & Title: SC393 Bachelor of Midwifery – Clinical Practice Framework

The Bachelor of Midwifery Program prepares graduates to practice as responsible and accountable professionals who work in partnership with women to give the necessary support and care during pregnancy, labour, birth and the postpartum period. The program is designed to meet the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia *Midwife standards for practice*, and on completion students will be eligible to apply for registration as a midwife with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).

Program features include:

- Use of narrative pedagogy and case-based learning.
- Intensive clinical preparation including simulation learning using state of the art technology.
- Health service integrated clinical practice experiences throughout the program including a final internship to prepare for transition to practice.
- Support for continuity of care experiences through the CONNECT program.
- Health service and community experiences throughout the continuity of care experiences.
- Options for placement in rural or remote locations during Internship.

Learning activities in the placement setting

Students are to be guided by clinicians and self-identify scope depending on individual progression through all midwifery programs. If a learning opportunity arises in the clinical area students are encouraged to engage in this opportunity under direct supervision of the registered midwife even if they have not been exposed to the experience in the laboratory or clinical workshop.

Bachelor of Midwifery: Program Structure 2026

Year	Trimester 1	Session 4	Trimester 2	Session 8
1	HLT121 Midwifery Foundations		HLT100 Anatomy and Physiology	
	HLT131 Practice Principles for Midwifery		HLT103 Professional Health Communication	
	LFS103 Introductory Bioscience		NUR131 Research Foundations for Health Practice	
	NUR121 Health care and the Professions		HLT132 Introduction to Midwifery Practice (80 hours)	
			CONNECT PROGRAM	
2	HLT200 Midwifery Care Across the Continuum	HLT206 Neonatal and Infant Health (online)	HLT203 Collaborative Midwifery practice	HLT202 Midwifery Practice 2 (120 hours)
	HLT207 Midwifery Practice 1 (120 hours)		HLT201 Therapeutics in Midwifery	
	NUR231 Drug Therapy		NUR222 Health Law and Ethics (online)	
CONNECT PROGRAM				
3	HLT311 Midwifery Practice 3 (160 hours)	HLT303 Perinatal and infant mental health (online)	NUR332 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Cultural Safety (online)	
	HLT310 Leadership and Governance in Maternity Care		HLT312 Midwifery Internship (24 units) (320 hours)	
	HLT301 Contexts of Practice: Challenges to Mental Health Commence Session 1	#Elective NUR312 Life Crisis (online)		
	#Elective PAR301 Paramedic Primary Healthcare: Maternal and Child Health			
	HLT300 <i>Clinical Connections</i>			
CONNECT PROGRAM				

*Alternative offering of course # Electives:

- PAR301 Paramedic Primary Healthcare: Maternal and Child Health **OR**
- NUR312 Life Crisis (Sess 4) Any other course with approval of the Program Coordinator

WIL courses highlighted in yellow

RN Pathway 2025

Year	Trimester r 1	Session 4	Trimester 2	Session 8
1	HLT121 Midwifery Foundations	HLT206 Neonatal and infant Health (online)	HLT203 Collaborative Midwifery Care	HLT202 Midwifery Practice 2 (120 hours)
	HLT200 Midwifery Care across the Continuum		HLT207 Midwifery Practice 1 (120 hours)	
	HLT132 Introduction to Midwifery Practice (80 hours)		HLT201 Therapeutics in Midwifery	
	CONNECT PROGRAM			
2	HLT310 Leadership and Governance in Maternity Care	HLT303 Perinatal and Infant Mental Health (online)		
	HLT311 Midwifery Practice 3 (160 hours)	HLT312 Midwifery Internship (24 units) (320 hours)		
CONNECT PROGRAM				

WIL courses highlighted in yellow

Midwifery clinical skills focus in the practicum courses

NOTE: the requirements for a course are fully outlined in each course outline. Please refer to the course outline for specific details.

YEAR ONE INTRODUCTORY - Engagement; Exploration	
Semester 1 HLT131 Laboratory (5 x 2hr sessions week 9-13)	Semester 2 HLT132 (80hr clinical placement)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Therapeutic communication ▪ Introduction to critical reflection and critical thinking ▪ Introduction to midwifery regulation and legislative frameworks: issues of accountability and responsibility NMBA Standards for Practice Professional and ethical practices. ▪ Vital signs assessment and clinical documentation - across midwifery continuum of care ▪ Principles of infection prevention and control- Hand hygiene, aseptic technique - PPE in practice ▪ Manual handling ▪ Medication safety & extended practice authority for midwives ▪ Oral medication administration – mothers and neonates <p>ANTENATAL CARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AN booking interview - Holistic health assessment Psychological, emotional, social, lifestyle ▪ Introduction to abdominal examination <p>POSTNATAL CARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continuity of care ▪ Maternal and neonatal observations ▪ Introduction to breastfeeding ▪ Neonatal examination - introduction ▪ Fluid balance charts ▪ Removal of IDC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health assessment of individuals, families and groups using Primary Health Care as a framework - Collaborative practice ▪ Identifying the impact of cross-cultural factors as they impact health assessment - Identify culturally safe practice in health assessment ▪ Diversity – Disability, LGBTIQ <p>ANTENATAL CARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning routine antenatal care - Calculation of EDD, models of care ▪ Domestic violence screening and EPDS ▪ Antenatal terminology - Routine screening tests e.g., urinalysis, blood tests, scans ▪ Abdominal examination + Fetal Heart Rate (FHR) auscultation ▪ Antenatal education ▪ ISBAR handover ▪ Normal CTG modules from RANZCOG <p>LABOUR AND BIRTH / IMMEDIATE POSTNATAL CARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment during physiological labour and birth ▪ Assessment of contractions – abdominal palpation in labour ▪ Assessing fetal wellbeing ▪ Vaginal examination - introduction ▪ Initial assessment of the newborn ▪ Initial assessment of mother ▪ Safe medication administration - Oral and PR medication ▪ Vitamin K – Oral administration and education for parents <p>POSTNATAL / NEWBORN CARE / BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Postnatal assessment of mother and examination of newborn ▪ Removal of indwelling catheter and IV cannula ▪ Documentation including iEMR ▪ Vaccination – schedule - Hep B education for parents ▪ Skin to skin/ supporting breastfeeding/ formula feeding ▪ Screening education – Healthy hearing, safe sleeping (SIDS/SUDI)

YEAR TWO Developing - Explanation; Elaboration

Semester 1 HLT207 Laboratory (120hrs clinical placement)

ANTENATAL CARE

- Hand Hygiene
- Antenatal visit and assessment -vital signs revision
- SC and IM drug administration – drug calculations
- ID sterile water injections
- iEMR (WIL)
- Urinalysis and clinical implications
- EPDS
- Safe Start – information gathering domestic and family violence
- Safe administration of Intravenous Fluid therapy
- Antenatal education
- Introduction to IVs and augmentation

LABOUR AND BIRTH

- Water immersion and waterbirth
- Non-pharmacological comfort measures
- Placental birth (physiological / active)
- Variations of normal eg OP, breech labour and birth
- Nitrous Oxide administration
- Sterile water injections
- Schedule 4 and 8 medications
- Vaginal examinations
- Assessing fetal wellbeing - CTG modules from RANZCOG
- IDC insertion and management -aseptic technique
- Neonatal resus – basic positioning adjuncts e.g., Sa^o2

POSTNATAL / NEWBORN CARE / BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT

- Initial examination of the newborn
- ISBAR Handover – Q MEWTS
- NNST, Vit K and Hep B IM injection – safe medication administration, drug calculations
- Supporting breastfeeding
- Formula feeding revision
- Expressing and storing breastmilk
- Skin to skin care
- Postnatal VTE assessment SC Enoxaparin

Session 8 HLT202 (120hrs clinical placement)

- Hand Hygiene
- Recognition and responding to deteriorating patients
- Caring for women experiencing complications in pregnancy, labour, birth or the postnatal period
- Assessment, referral and collaboration in the midwifery context

LABOUR AND BIRTH

- CTG interpretation - more complex interpretation
- PROM term and preterm - EOGBSD
- IV Infusions – pumps, bolus, syringe driver
- Reconstitution of medication eg IV antibiotics
- PV medication induction of labour
- Syntocinon infusion
- Epidural management – PCA management
- PET (Pre-eclampsia) management
- Shoulder dystocia
- GDM management, BGLs, insulin infusion
- PPH management
- Maternal collapse
- Cord prolapse
- Neonatal resuscitation and Q-NEWT

POSTNATAL / NEWBORN CARE / BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT

- ISBAR Handover - Q-MEWTs
- Administration of blood and blood products or iron
- C-section – postsurgical care
- Pre-term care – isolette
- NG tube insertion – newborn
- Hypoglycaemia

YEAR THREE TRANSITIONING: Evaluation

**Semester 1 HLT311 Midwifery Practice 3
(160hrs clinical placement)**

- Hand Hygiene
- Incident reporting e.g., Risk-man
- Recognition and responding to deteriorating patients

ANTENATAL CARE

- Venepuncture and cannulation
- Collaboration and referral of care

LABOUR AND BIRTH / IMMEDIATE POSTNATAL CARE

- Handover ISBAR
- Review VE/ARM
- Review obstetric emergencies: shoulder dystocia, cord prolapse, PPH, PET (seizure)
- Eclampsia
- Preterm labour and birth
- Epidural complications
- Episiotomy
- Perineal Care and repair
- Neonatal resuscitation – term infant and preterm infant considerations

POSTNATAL / NEWBORN CARE / BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT

- Maternal collapse – Basic Life Support
- Maternal sepsis
- Breastfeeding challenges
- Neonatal cares- hypoglycaemia management, Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome -scoring
- Newborn respiratory disorders
- Q-NEWT

Semester 2 HLT312 Midwifery Internship (320hrs clinical placement)

Transitioning – Evaluation – HLT312

- The transitional phase of the program involves students evaluating their learning needs and undertaking the required development for graduate practice. Opportunities are provided for students to consolidate their clinical learning and clinical skills in work integrated learning (WIL) settings.

Abbreviation Key

Abbreviation		Abbreviation	
AN	Antenatal	PCA	Patient Controlled Analgesia
ARM	Artificial Rupture of Membranes	PET	Pre-eclampsia
BGL	Blood Glucose Level	PPH	Post-Partum Haemorrhage
EDD	Estimated Due Date	Q-MEWT	Maternal Early Warning Tool
EPDS	Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale	Q-NEWT	Neonatal Early Warning Tool
FHR	Fetal Heart Rate	SC	Subcutaneous
ID	Intradermal	SD	Subdermal
IDC	Indwelling Catheter	VTE	Venous Thrombo-embolism
iEMR	Electronic Medical Record	VE	Vaginal examination
IM	Intramuscular	WIL	Work Integrated Learning
IV	Intravenous		
GDM	Gestational Diabetes Mellitus		
NNST	Newborn Bloodspot Screening Test		
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment		