NU8201: Woman Centred Maternity Care in Ireland

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<tr>
<td>ECTS</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Hours</td>
<td>See Appendix VI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-requisite</td>
<td>Undergraduate study</td>
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**Rationale**

Maternity care in Ireland is on the cusp of developing alternative models of care, in particular, midwife led services. These developments are welcomed by women and midwives but are constantly being challenged by a number of major stakeholders.

**Aim**

The aim of this module is to provide a challenging opportunity for midwives to examine and reflect on current practice. Students will be facilitated to develop their skills of critiquing models of care so that they can facilitate and engage with the changing health service and to support and develop innovative, women centred maternity services.

**Expected Outcomes**

Having completed this module, participants will be able to

- Critique the politics of health-care and the impact of politics on childbearing woman and the current and future practice of the midwife;
- Challenge dominant models of maternity care;
- Critically evaluate models of midwifery care in Ireland;
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses of their development and implementation;
- Critically review the professional issues impacting on midwifery care.

**Indicative Content**

- Current and predicted professional and societal trends in midwifery global, national and local perspective
- Woman-centred care, midwife-woman partnership, advocacy, kinship, collaboration
- Midwife as lead professional / primary carer and the expanded role of the midwife
- Contemporary models of midwifery care: shared care, midwife clinics, family birth centres, team midwifery, caseload midwifery, collaborative practice etc.
- Midwifery practice management
- Consumerism, consumer organisations, fostering and facilitating effective consumer representation
- Concept of safety and risk in maternity services
- Factors impacting on the organisation and delivery of midwifery care and maternity services in Ireland such as public/private health care, insurance cover, primary care

**Teaching/Learning Strategies**
Lecture, discussion, seminar presentation

**Mode of Assessment**

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<tr>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>1. Class presentation (20 minutes)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>2. Written assignment (3,000 words)</td>
<td>70%</td>
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**Essential Reading List** – more detailed lists may be provided by module lecturers


