Aim and rationale

The entire programme is developed in a fashion that enables students to achieve the theoretical and practice knowledge, skills and attitude to warrant registration as a midwife. It is expected that the accountability and responsibility inherent in being a midwife has developed during the four-year programme. Students will display an approach to practice that conveys the attributes of warmth, empathy and ultimately being truly ‘with women’. The graduate midwife will function in a variety of areas but ultimately as a valuable member of the multidisciplinary health care team. The graduate midwife will also show awareness of the need to continue to develop and consolidate current skills and knowledge, learn new skills and become a life long learner in order to truly positively influence and contribute positively to the health of women and their families in Ireland or wherever they choose to practise.

The aim of this unit of learning is to provide midwifery students with the opportunity and time to reflect on the knowledge, skill and attitudes developed in the programme and engage with issues that will impact on them as midwives.

Outcomes

Following completion of this unit of learning, midwifery students with reference to the appropriate literature should be able to:

- Critically discuss the attributes and characteristics desirable to the establishment of effective inter- and intra- professional relationships and how these can impact upon the maternity care women receive;
- Critically discuss the role of the midwife in the multidisciplinary health care team in Ireland;
- Critically discuss factors that impact positively and negatively on the midwife and the development of effective relationships with women in the Irish maternity care setting;
- Display an awareness of the wider context of the delivery of maternity care in Ireland and internationally;
- Demonstrate an approach to practice that conveys the attributes of warmth, empathy and ultimately being truly ‘with women’;
• Critically examine the contribution of reflection to personal and professional growth;
• Use skills and strategies which enhance reflective midwifery practice;
• Recognise the need for further learning, refinement and development of core skills;
• Recognise that becoming a midwife is a developmental process that necessitates life long learning;
• Demonstrate the ability to confidently present to peers, midwifery colleagues and others.

Assessment
1. Written examination (assessed with MW4202)
2. Dissertation (assessed with MW4202)
3. Skills for midwifery practice (assessed with MW4202)

Content and Process
This module will be delivered with the reflective sessions scheduled during the internship placement. No new content will be scheduled to be delivered during this module. The content and process will be scheduled in discussion with midwifery students.

Essential Reading


Additional Reading
Further suggested readings/sources of knowledge may be provided.