



# SCHOOL OF NURSING

## UNIT OUTLINE

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**School/Division:** SCHOOL OF NURSING

**Unit Title:** FOUNDATIONS OF MIDWIFERY

**Unit Code:** NM 441

**Prerequisites:** Nil

**Corequisite(s):** Nil

**Exclusion(s):** Nil

**Credit Points:** 15

**ASCED Code:** 060303

**Objectives:**

On completion of this unit students will be able to:

- understand the historical development of midwifery in the context of political interests;
- appreciate the contemporary role of midwifery, and the primary health care and health promotion emphases when pregnancy and childbirth are regarded as normal life events;
- understand the relevant contemporary codes and standards that guide midwifery practice in Australia;
- understand the midwife's legal and ethical responsibility to protect the public relevant to the scope of practice;
- discuss the midwife's responsibilities as an independent practitioner and as a member of the multidisciplinary team associated with maternity services;
- identify human rights issues with respect to access to reproductive health care on a global level.



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### Content

- the historical development of midwifery in the face of political interests
- midwifery in contemporary Australia
- Scope of practice, codes and standards for midwifery practice - the ANMC Competency Standards for Midwives (2005); Code of Practice for Midwives (2001); Code of Ethics for Midwives; ACM National Guidelines for Consultation and Referral (2004)
- legal and ethical frameworks
- the autonomous role of the midwife
- responsibilities as a member of a multidisciplinary team

### Learning tasks and assessment

Learning Task	Assessment	Percentage
Analysis of contemporary midwifery, with a primary health care emphasis	Group report and presentation	40%
Critical exploration of the autonomous and collaborative roles of the midwife	Assignment 3,000 words	60%

### Adopted Reference Style

- APA       Australian     MLA                       Chicago
- Other (please specify)