Overview
The course leads to professional registration as a Registered Midwife (RM) together with the academic award of an Honours degree in Midwifery. The aim of the programme is to enable graduates to be knowledgeable, caring, competent and accountable midwives able to provide a high quality of care to all women and their families. The course is designed to provide the student with a safe and supportive learning environment and to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team.

The course consists of three-year-long taught modules offered at Keele University, School of Nursing and Midwifery. The School is situated off the main campus at the Clinical Education Centre, University Hospital of North Staffordshire, City General Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent. Clinical placements are undertaken in both hospital and community settings.

The ratio of theory to practice is 50:50 in time, emphasis and weighting.

Course Content
The full-time, three-year, single honours degree programme is a direct entry course leading to professional Midwifery registration. The programme consists of 45 week year-long classroom- and practice-based learning with seven weeks’ annual leave each year.

The programme is designed to develop students into independent learners through a programme of study which combines classroom-based, directed and self-directed learning with full engagement in clinical care, under supervision, to develop their midwifery experience.

In the first year, you will develop the foundation for a comprehensive understanding of the physiological, psychological, social and public health dimensions of normal pregnancy and childbirth. You will consider the fundamental importance of communication for effective caring and professional relationships and will enhance your skills of written and spoken communication. You will gain insight into the importance of evidence as the basis for providing care and acquire skills for the critical appraisal and application on research evidence. You will gain experience of providing care to pregnant women at all stages of pregnancy and in a range of contexts: women’s own homes, clinics in the community, hospital and the midwifery birth centre.

This initial foundation will be built on as the course progresses and knowledge in developing midwifery knowledge to develop midwifery and clinical practitioners will be used to consider the impact of these on women, babies and other family members and the knowledge is developed about conditions that may complicate pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal experience and to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team.

Midwifery based at the Clinical Education Centre (CEC). CEC incorporates a world-class Health Education Centre (CEC). CEC is one of the largest in the country and is a designated regional referral centre.

Midwives in the local community provide most antenatal and postnatal care, as well as care at home births for a small number of women, and students will enjoy several periods of placement with a community midwife. The hospital has the facilities of both a consultant-led delivery suite as well as a midwifery-led birth unit within it. Consequently, you will have a rich learning environment in which you will develop the skills required to caring for women who have a normal pregnancy, labour and birth, and those whose pregnancies are more complex.

The Maternity Unit also has a large Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. This provides the valuable experience of caring for sick and preterm babies. You will gain experience of a range of midwifery-led services, including: antenatal screening, specialist clinics, and women with special needs, specialist support for preterm teenagers, migrant and carers with problems of substance misuse or mental health problems.

Teaching and Assessment
The majority of the taught sessions for the degree programme will be held at the School of Nursing and Midwifery based at the Clinical Education Centre (CEC). CEC is a designated regional referral centre. The majority of the taught sessions for the degree programme will be held at the School of Nursing and Midwifery based at the Clinical Education Centre (CEC). CEC is a designated regional referral centre.

A variety of teaching, learning and assessment strategies are employed including lectures, seminars, tutorials, practical sessions and case studies. You will be encouraged to develop your own learning and self-directed sessions are built into the learning programme. All lectures in the midwifery module are qualified midwives. Teaching is also provided by midwifery practitioners and other members of the School of Nursing and Midwifery and the Faculty of Health. Assessment is undertaken during placements and by the completion of assigned tasks, examinations and individual presentations, as well as via assessment at the end of each year as a basis for grading the integration of practice with theoretical learning. Student progression through the course depends on successful completion of modular assessment. The assessment is for the achievement of outcomes for entry to the Professional Register as a midwife (NMC, 2005). Assessments during the second and third year will contribute towards the Honours classification of the degree.

Placements
Midwives in the community provide most antenatal and postnatal care, as well as care at home births for a small number of women, and students will enjoy several periods of placement with a community midwife. The hospital has the facilities of both a consultant-led delivery suite as well as a midwifery-led birth unit within it. Consequently, you will have a rich learning environment in which you can develop the skills required to care for women who have a normal pregnancy, labour and birth, and those whose pregnancies are more complex.

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Entry Requirements

All candidates for Pre-Registration Nursing and Midwifery programmes are required to meet or exceed Nursing and Midwifery Council requirements, including literacy and numeracy skills. A minimum tariff score of 280 may be offered in the following way.

The exact tariff score you will be required to meet will be determined by your educational profile and your individual application.

Qualifications covered by the UCAS Tariff points system

**A-levels (AS)**
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
- 4 A levels (full A2s)
- 4 A levels (full A2s)
- 4 A levels (full A2s)
- 4 A levels (full A2s)

**Advanced GCE (A2)**
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)

**Foundation Diploma in Health and Social Care (FQHC)**
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)

**International Baccalaureate (IB)**
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
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- 3 A levels (full A2s)
- 3 A levels (full A2s)

**Welsh Baccalaureate (WJEC)**
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
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**Diploma in Childcare (CACHE)**
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)
- 2 A levels (full A2s)

**Advanced Diploma (Level 3)**
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
- 3 A levels (full A2s)

** CACHE (Level 3)**
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
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**BTEC National Certificate (Level 3)**
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
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**BTEC Nationals (Level 3)**
- 3 A levels (full A2s)
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**Other Qualifications included in the Tariff**

**Undergraduate Qualifications**
- Foundation Degree in Nursing and Midwifery
- Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care
- Foundation Degree in Allied Health Professions
- BSc (Hons) in Nursing or Midwifery

**Post-16 Qualifications**
- Dual Award
- BTEC National Certificate
- BTEC National Diploma
- BTEC National Certificate
- Diploma
- Level 3 Extended
- BTEC Nationals
- Level 3 Extended
- Diploma
- Dual Award
- Advanced Diploma

**Recommended Qualifications for Age 19+**

- 5 GCSEs at C grade or above, and 60 credits at Level 3
- 30 credits at Level 3
- 15 credits at Level 2
- 2 GCSEs at C grade or above, and 60 credits at Level 3
- 15 credits at Level 2
- 2 GCSEs at C grade or above, and 60 credits at Level 3
- 15 credits at Level 2

**Other qualifications that may be considered**

- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Advanced Placement (AP)
- Cambridge Pre-U

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