



The University of
Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM · CHINA · MALAYSIA



The University of
Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM · CHINA · MALAYSIA

For general undergraduate
enquires contact:

The Enquiry Centre
t: +44 (0)115 951 5559
e: undergraduate-enquires@nottingham.ac.uk
w: www.nottingham.ac.uk

Midwifery Undergraduate Study

www.nottingham.ac.uk/midwifery



Scan the
code to visit
our School
Facebook page



Contents

- 02 Welcome**
- 03 Studying at Nottingham**
- 07 Midwifery Courses**
- 13 Practice Learning Experience**
- 15 Useful Information & Finance**
- 18 Selection Process**

Front cover image:
Student auscultating the fetal heart using a simulation model.

Begin a bright future.
Make a real difference.
Start a new life, every day.
Midwifery at Nottingham.

Welcome to Midwifery at Nottingham

Our highly regarded Division of Midwifery is part of the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Physiotherapy. We have an excellent reputation for teaching and research excellence. In the last Research Assessment Exercise our midwifery research was among the top five universities in the UK.

As a Division, our aim is to make a valuable contribution to improving healthcare for women of childbearing age and their families. We do this by collaborating locally, nationally and internationally on the very best teaching methods, research projects and woman centred care. Within the University, academics and students from all aspects of healthcare work together, sharing experience and expertise.

Our research incorporates all spheres of midwifery practice including care in labour, breastfeeding, and health promotion. This important work informs our teaching and practice, ensuring midwifery education is based on the very latest research findings. We encourage research activity at all levels of the curriculum.

We provide a range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses, enabling student midwives and helping those already qualified to further develop their skills.

Explore our range of courses	Page
Bachelor of Midwifery BMid (Hons) A 3 year course	09
Bachelor of Midwifery BMid (Hons) - Extended course A 3.5 year course, allowing some flexibility.	11
Bachelor of Midwifery BMid (Hons) - Shortened course Our shortened degree course for qualified adult nurses.	11



A midwifery classroom teaching session

World-class teaching, pioneering research, excellent career prospects

Our innovative courses are informed by research and delivered by high-quality teachers.

As a university, we have an impressive worldwide reputation for academic excellence. Not only are we part of the Russell Group of 20 leading UK universities, but we are also placed in the top 100 universities globally, according to the QS World University Rankings.

In the latest Research Assessment Exercise, Nottingham is ranked seventh overall in the UK in terms of research power (fifth for midwifery research). This in turn informs our teaching, which is excellent.

Highly skilled graduates

We are renowned for producing graduates who are highly skilled and much sought after. Our employment record is one of the best in the country and our approach to blending practical experience with sound academic knowledge, makes our midwifery graduates very attractive to employers locally, nationally and internationally. In addition to their studies, students are

encouraged to build a broad range of outside interests – an important part of becoming a well-rounded individual. We are proud to have one of the most active Students' Unions at any UK university, with over 250 societies and sports clubs where you can have fun, gain new skills and meet like-minded people. Students can also participate in the Nottingham nurses and midwives (NUMID) association, aiding inter-professional collaboration.

For an active social life in an exciting city, Nottingham is hard to beat. Our campuses are buzzing with life, with organised events, trips and parties taking place throughout the year. For sports fans, our Athletic Union hosts over 75 clubs and fantastic sporting facilities. Nottingham is a thriving cosmopolitan city, rich with history and culture, and packed full of bars, restaurants and nightclubs. With shopping centres, theatres, cinemas, comedy clubs, art galleries and music venues, there's always plenty to keep you entertained.

Information about city life is posted at www.nottingham.ac.uk/nottinghamlife

“Nottingham is, without doubt, the best city in the country for a student. Situated in the Midlands, it's never too far for UK students to get home and, being in the middle of the country, you get a really good mix of both southern and northern students, along with the grounded Nottingham locals themselves.”

The Virgin Guide to British Universities 2011



View of Queen's Medical Centre from
University Park Campus

“You really feel like you’re supporting someone and they need you at that moment in time. You can be that one person to deliver the best care you can. It’s a really rewarding job. At the end of the day, you come back feeling you’ve achieved something.”

Sophie Keely / BMid Midwifery (2nd year)



Find out more about Sophie’s experience at
www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugvideos/sophiekeely



Scan the code to
watch this video on
your smart phone.

Sophie Keely studying in the Clinical Skills Centre in the Medical School.

Courses designed for a new generation of midwives

At The University of Nottingham we offer three midwifery degree courses to enable students to become competent, autonomous practitioners with highly developed practical skills and the ability to support women and their families with understanding and compassion.

To enrich the experience during the degree programme you will participate in a variety of activities to include:

Case holding

As one of our students, you will support a number of childbearing women and participate in their care throughout your course. Not only does this give you the valuable experience of working with women at every stage of their pregnancy, case holding also helps you put theory into practice and work in a range of inter-professional settings within maternity care.

Inter-professional learning (IPL)

Midwives form part of a diverse healthcare team, and as part of your education you will have the opportunity to participate in IPL with students from other disciplines within health care.

E-learning

In addition to traditional teaching and practical placements, we use a variety of learning and teaching methods, including virtual learning environments and computer-assisted learning resources.

Elective placements

Towards the end of the second year, there is an opportunity to observe midwifery care in a different health setting which may be within the UK or abroad. This is funded and arranged by the student themselves and is dependent on academic and practice achievements commensurate with the stage of education.

Opportunities to study abroad

Through the University's ERASMUS scheme, you may have the opportunity to study in an EU country for up to 12 weeks at one of our international partner universities in Belgium or Malta. A bursary is available for this and is dependent on academic and practice achievements commensurate with the stage of education.

A personal tutor, every step of the way

Each student will be allocated to an appropriate personal tutor, who will provide positive support and advice.

The Midwifery Community Learning Forum

At this forum students are given the opportunity to discuss practice and theory and to ensure any concerns you have about your course are represented.



Clinical practice practiced by students using a simulation model

Midwifery Degree courses

Bachelor of Midwifery BMid (Honours)

UCAS code: B721

Why choose this course?

Our midwifery course is based on a philosophy of midwives working closely with mothers to identify the individual needs of each mother, baby and family.

What will I learn?

Approximately 50% of the course is practice based, giving you the opportunity to observe and participate in midwifery, nursing and healthcare within a whole range of settings. You will work alongside mentors in wards, departments, clinics and women's own homes, developing your skills, competence and confidence.

How is the course structured?

It's a modular course, arranged into three teaching periods of approximately one year duration. There are some flexible holiday periods, planned to coincide with normal holiday times where possible (i.e. Christmas, Easter and August). You will be allocated a total of 21 weeks holiday time over the three-year course.

Teaching period one

52 weeks, 1,950 hours, 120 credits at level one

- An Introduction to Contemporary Midwifery Practice (40 credits)
- Foundations of Midwifery (40 credits)
- Anatomy and Physiology Applied to Midwifery (40 credits)

During your first year, you will be introduced to the role and responsibilities of the midwife, in addition to beginning to learn the skills needed to assess the needs of mothers and their babies. You will learn the theory of midwifery and be guided as

you put this into practice during allocated visits to maternity units under the direction of midwife mentors.

More complex issues affecting family health and childbearing will also be introduced, and you will begin to examine the nature of illness and temporary interruptions to health.

Teaching period two

52 weeks, 1,950 hours, 120 credits at level two

- Exploring Contemporary Midwifery Practice (40 credits)
- Developing the Role of the Midwife (40 credits)
- Pathophysiology Applied to Midwifery (40 credits)

In the second year you will develop your understanding of pregnancy and childbirth from a pathological perspective, alongside analytical skills in exploring how these experiences change people's lives. During your practice placements, you will analyse care provision and build on your problem-solving skills.

Teaching period three

52 weeks, 1,950 hours, 120 credits at level three

- Towards Excellence in Contemporary Midwifery Practice (40 credits)
- High Quality Midwifery Care Through Evidence-based Midwifery Practice (60 credits)
- Counselling within Midwifery (20 credits)

Modules studied at this level reflect the complexity of independent midwifery practice, incorporating the midwife's multifaceted role within maternity services. In addition to level three modules your studies will culminate in a dissertation which will comprise a systematic review, research proposal or management report based on your caseholding.

This will enhance your critical analytical skills and ability to sustain an argument for practice improvement.

You will also develop skills for effective management and leadership and be given further opportunities to develop your teaching skills. By the end of this year, you'll be expected to function as an accountable, midwife practitioner, eligible for NMC registration and the award of Bachelor of Midwifery (Hons).

How will I be assessed?

We assess you in a number of ways, including case presentations, case studies, clinical skills records and workbooks, a practice portfolio, critical incident analysis, a dissertation, essays, numeracy testing, objective structured clinical exams and unseen written exams.

Tripartite assessment in practice

We believe that accurately assessing the work you do on your practical placements means close collaboration between you, your midwife mentor and your midwife teacher. Feedback from all three parties goes into forming your eventual grades.

What are the entry requirements?

We accept the following qualifications:

- 3 A levels at BBB, including a science subject (biology, chemistry or physics), plus GCSEs (8 preferred) at A-C, including English and maths.
- 3 A levels at BBB and AS level grade B in a science subject, plus GCSEs (8 preferred) at A-C, including English and maths.
- Access to HE Diploma with credits at distinction or merit (including 12 credits at level 2 or above in English and maths and 24 credits at level 3 in biology – preferably human biology).
- The 14-19 Advanced Diploma providing subjects are in a relevant line of learning, and achieved at grade A. In addition, you must have 1 AS level at grade B in biology, chemistry

or physics, plus English and maths at Higher Diploma level or equivalent (i.e. GCSE grade A-C).

- Edexcel BTEC Extended Diploma with overall award DDM in a science subject, plus GCSE A-C grades in English and maths. 1 AS level at grade B in biology, physics or chemistry can compensate for lack of science modules.

We also encourage mature applicants who have experience and qualifications equivalent to those listed above. Please get in touch if you have any queries.

How can I apply?

Please apply online at www.ucas.ac.uk using UCAS code B721.

Midwifery Degree courses

Bachelor of Midwifery BMid (Honours) - Extended course

UCAS code: B722

Our extended midwifery degree offers you the same teaching, practical experience and degree qualifications as our three-year course, but is spread over three and a half years. This gives you greater flexibility in terms of annual leave.

How is the course structured?

The course is divided into three teaching periods of 60 weeks each. You will have 15 weeks' holiday per teaching period, and these have been arranged to coincide with normal holiday times as much as possible (i.e. Christmas, Easter and August). There is also some flexibility around term-time leave. Please note clinical hours in practice and shift work patterns are the same as those worked on the three year programme.

What are the entry requirements?

They are the same as for our three-year course on page 10.

How can I apply?

Please apply online at www.ucas.ac.uk using UCAS code B722.

Bachelor of Midwifery BMid (Honours) - Shortened course

Our 80-week shortened course is designed for registered nurses (Adult, level 1) who would like to build on their existing skills and experience to become midwives.

How will it help my career?

By the end of your course, you have a full midwifery degree and be able to practise safely and effectively as a midwife. You will be able to register as a midwife with the Nursing and Midwifery Council, taking on full responsibility and accountability for your practice.

Teaching period one: induction

2 weeks, 75 hours, 0 credits

This short bridging module introduces you to midwifery theory and practice, linking your current knowledge with the new areas you will be studying. There are no credits for completing this module.

Teaching period two

40 weeks, 1,500 hours, 80 credits at levels two and three

During this period, you may join students from our three-year courses as appropriate:

- Woman-focused Care (1) – weeks 3 to 38
- Applied Reproductive Biology – weeks 3 to 34
- Integrated Theory and Practice of Maternal and Neonatal Complications and Emergencies – weeks 31 to 42
- Case-holding Development – weeks 3 to 25
- Case-holding Review – weeks 26 to 64 (this module begins in teaching period two but continues and is assessed in teaching period three)

This period gives you the opportunity to develop your analytical skills in exploring the ways that pregnancy and childbirth change women's lives. Practical placements will help you analyse the provision of care, in addition to developing your problem-solving abilities. You will be introduced to the concept and practice of case holding, which you will continue in teaching period three. Your study and research skills will also be developed to prepare you for the final part of your course.

Teaching period three

28 weeks, 1050 hours, 100 credits at level three

- Woman-focused Care (2) – weeks 43 to 64
- Counselling Skills within Midwifery – weeks 43 to 55
- Case-holding Review (continued from teaching period two) – weeks 26 to 64

The modules you study at this level reflect the complexity of independent midwifery practice, complementary to the midwife's multifaceted role within maternity services. In addition to level three modules your studies will culminate in a dissertation which will comprise a systematic review, research proposal or management report based on your caseholding. This will enhance your critical analytical skills and ability to sustain an argument for practice improvement.

You will also develop skills for effective management and leadership and be given further opportunities to develop your teaching skills. By the end of this year, you will be expected to function as an accountable, midwife practitioner, eligible for NMC registration and the award of Bachelor of Midwifery (Hons).

What are the entry requirements?

You will need both:

- Current registration on the NMC Professional Register as a nurse (adult, level 1), and

- Evidence that you have gained 120 credits at academic level one and 120 credits at academic level two through certificated prior learning and / or assessed appropriate experiential learning. This will give you exemption from all of the first teaching period and parts of the second of our normal three-year course.

You will also need to satisfy the selection panel that you will meet the demands of the course, and demonstrate that you have continued your professional development since qualifying as a nurse. This should be demonstrated through your professional development portfolio.

How can I apply?

For this shortened course, please get in touch with our admissions team directly:

Nursing and Midwifery Admissions
The University of Nottingham
B Floor South Block Link
Queen's Medical Centre
Nottingham NG7 2HA

t: +44 (0)115 823 0839

e: midwifery-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk

w: www.nottingham.ac.uk/midwifery

A powerful combination of excellent teaching and hands-on practice

The majority of your midwifery theory sessions will be taught at the Nottingham Education Centre. All of the courses are full time and attendance at timetabled taught sessions is compulsory. These will usually run Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4.30pm, with block weeks of taught sessions specified at various points throughout the course.

During your studies, you will go on a number of placements with different NHS Trusts. These include Nottingham University Hospitals (City Hospital Nottingham and Queen's Medical Centre campuses), United Lincolnshire Hospitals (Boston, Lincoln and Grantham), Royal Derby Hospital, Chesterfield Royal Hospital and Sherwood Forest Hospitals (Mansfield). You will be expected either to commute to your placements or find accommodation nearby.

During your placements, you will be under the supervision of qualified midwife mentors, midwife teachers and support staff. Each of the hospitals provides an outstanding learning environment, with study facilities, libraries, technological teaching and learning materials.

You'll be required to attend your placement for 37.5 hours per week (exclusive of meal breaks). Shifts will vary at different NHS Trusts and can be between 7 and 12 hours long. Your shifts will be planned to coincide with your midwife mentor's work patterns and will require you to work weekdays, weekends, evenings and nights, as well as some bank holidays.

Travel expenses

If your clinical placements are outside the area, you may be able to claim some travel and accommodation costs.

What will I wear on placement?

You will be provided with a number of uniforms, including dresses, tunics and trousers. These can be adapted to meet different cultural or religious requirements. Students are expected to adhere to uniform policy.



Students simulating the birth of a baby

Useful Information

Open days

To get more information about what midwifery education at Nottingham University has to offer come along to one of our midwifery or University-wide open days. For dates, visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/midwifery or www.nottingham.ac.uk/ug-opendays

Midwifery taster course

If you're thinking about a career in midwifery, our taster course is a great way to find out if midwifery is right for you. The course lasts six and a half days and includes both theory and practical sessions. Find out more at <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/midwifery/becoming-a-midwife/taster-course>

Fees and financial support

Whichever of our midwifery courses you choose, eligible students will get their tuition fees paid directly by the NHS.

From September 2012, eligible students starting our three-year course will be given a non-means tested grant of £1,000, a means-tested bursary of up to £4,395 and a non-means tested Reduced Rate student loan of up to £2,324 per year. If you take the extended course, you'll receive this on a pro-rata basis. You can find out more about eligibility by visiting www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/students

If you take our shortened course, you'll be employed by your host NHS Trust and paid a salary which is normally within band 5 for Agenda for Change.

Making yourself at home

Leaving home to start a new life at university is an exciting but sometimes daunting prospect. To make things as easy as possible, we guarantee you a room in University-arranged accommodation for at least a year, so you will be close to campus and surrounded by fellow students. We will also be able to help you find accommodation near your placement hospitals. To find out more, visit www.nottingham.ac.uk/accommodation

International applicants

Before you apply through UCAS, please check that you meet the criteria for NHS Bursary funding by visiting www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/students



Midwifery students studying in the Greenfield Medical Library

Simulation of the checking of the health of a new born baby



Choosing talented, committed new students

What are the selection criteria?

Your previous qualifications and experience are very important to us, but when our selection panel chooses new students, they are also looking for people with the compassion, communication skills and commitment to make excellent midwives. If you meet those criteria, and are successful in the selection process you will then be invited for an interview.

They make their decisions based on:

- Your academic achievements and evidence of recent study.
- A supportive academic reference, an employment reference (if appropriate) and evidence of good character.
- Your ability to communicate effectively, including your social and interpersonal skills.
- A caring and committed attitude.
- An understanding of the demands and requirements of a midwifery course.
- Your reasons for wanting to become a midwife.
- Transferable skills gained from employment, voluntary work or other areas.
- Other achievements including your ability to demonstrate how they will help prepare you for this new career.

Please visit our website for activities included in the selection day.

We encourage applications from mature students, who will also be expected to show evidence of personal motivation and recent academic studies.

What should I expect if I'm invited for an interview?

Interviews are usually conducted by a member of the academic staff and a representative from clinical practice. They will be looking for motivated, well-rounded people with integrity and stamina who can demonstrate potential for academic progression, commitment to a career in midwifery, understanding of the role of a midwife and interests outside midwifery.

All offers are subject to health screening and criminal records bureau checks.

Like to find out more?

For more information about any aspect of our midwifery courses or studying at Nottingham University, you can visit us at www.nottingham.ac.uk/midwifery or www.nottingham.ac.uk

Alternatively, our admissions team will be happy to answer your questions.
Telephone: +44 (0)115 823 0839
Email: midwifery-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk

If you require this publication in an alternative format, please contact us.
t: +44 (0)115 951 4591
e: alternativeformats@nottingham.ac.uk

Paper made from FSC accredited 100% recycled material.