Preparation of Supervisors of Midwives
Level 7 – 30 credits

Who is it for?
This course unit is for qualified Midwives with a minimum of three years’ experience (NMC 2012). The course can be taken as a stand-alone unit, with clinical practice undertaken in the students’ own clinical area and is also available at Level 6. This course unit may be taken as a stand-alone course unit or subject to approval, as part of a new postgraduate Masters degree programme to commence September 2015 (subject to any pre or co-requisite units). For further information and entry requirements see: http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/modules/

Candidates need approval of the Local Supervising Authorities Midwifery Officer before applying to do this course.

Key Benefits
The unit aims to enable students to:
- Achieve the identified level of professional competencies to satisfy the Nursing and Midwifery Council’s (NMC 2014) prescribed standards for the statutory supervision of midwives and midwifery practice by providing the requisite critical knowledge and skills to equip students to undertake the role of the supervisor of midwives.
- Critically explore the use of evidence based knowledge to enable strategic, operational and innovative development of the midwifery profession.

What will I learn?
This unit is underpinned, informed by and compliant with the Standards for the preparation of supervisors of midwives (NMC 2014). The unit will meet the statutory requirements of the NMC as stated in the current edition of the Midwives rules and standards (NMC 2012). Teaching and learning is arranged so that the core principles of statutory supervision of midwives and midwifery practice are integrated throughout the unit to enable critical and systematic understanding of these concepts in a regional and national context.

The unit will provide midwives with the opportunity to critically explore the complex role of the supervisor of midwives and supervision of midwifery as a modern regulatory practice. The means by which Supervisors of midwives promote best Evidence Based practice and excellence in care; prevent poor practice and intervene in unacceptable practice will be debated and critically examined. Midwives will have the opportunity to critically appraise the means by which the supervisory framework will lead to improvements in the standards of midwifery care, better outcomes for women and ultimately protection of the public.

The teaching and learning for this unit takes place over 26 weeks as required by the NMC (2014). Learning methods utilised involve a blended approach of face to face tutorials, seminars and workshops. Directed study is supported with online learning materials that can then be applied to the practice environment as . The teaching and
learning for this course unit will be shared with students undertaking both levels of study. Additional learning activities are provided for both levels of learning in the form of specific on-line activities.

In clinical practice the student will be exposed to a variety of multidisciplinary learning opportunities involving the development and use of individual learning contracts, role modelling, ‘live situational analyses, use of reflective diaries using a on-line learning journal and critical incident analysis. During the course unit students are required to complete a practice assessment document to demonstrate that they have achieved the unit’s clinical competencies and are competent at record keeping.

Formative assessment and feedback to students is a key feature of the blended learning materials utilised for this unit. During the directed teaching and seminars, students will have opportunity for feedback from lecturers and peers in discussion and debate.

Students will be required to engage in a range of interactive exercises both theoretical and practical to enhance their learning and test their developing knowledge and skills throughout the unit. Students will be expected to keep a formative learning journal recording their experiences. This will enable them to further demonstrate learning and achievement of competences throughout the unit and in practice.

On successful completion of all components of the course participants will be eligible for appointment as a Supervisor of Midwives by the LSA Midwifery Officer and eligible for recording of the qualification with the NMC by the Lead Midwife for Education.

**How is the course assessed?**
The course is assessed in 2 parts with equal weighting given to both theory and practice.
1 Seminar presentation - Prepare a presentation of a critical incident which demonstrates analysis, synthesis and critical evaluation of the professional, ethico-legal, clinical and educational issues, and of the role of the supervisor of midwives. There will also be the submission of detailed seminar notes.
2 Successful attainment of the practice domains as assessed by the practice mentor.

All components of the summative assessment must be passed in order to achieve success overall.

**Attendance**
Part time, 12 theory days and 12 days (90 hours equivalent) of structured learning in practice with a mentor/assessor over 26 consecutive weeks. **Please note attendance for summative assessment is compulsory and will be undertaken during the university study days.** Study dates are available online at [http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/units/studydatesbyunit.pdf](http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/units/studydatesbyunit.pdf)

**Dates of next intake**
January 2016
NB. Course unit availability will be subject to minimum numbers.
**How do I apply?**

All midwives must comply with Standard 3:1 Approved Educational institution (AEI). AEI must be open and fair in all selection, admission and progression and completion processes (NMC 2014) which provides detail of the LSA selection process to be followed.

Applications to the University must be received, including supporting information by 28th August 2015. Application forms are available from [http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/](http://www.nursing.manchester.ac.uk/postgraduate/cpd/) and should be returned by e-mail to conted.nursing@manchester.ac.uk

**Pre-requisites**

- Must have been interviewed and approved by the Local Supervising Authority
- Must have been a registered midwife for a minimum of three years
- Must be registered with the NMC
- In addition to a recognised midwifery qualification, all applicants require one of the following:
  1. A relevant honours first degree (2:2 or above, or equivalent) from an approved higher education institution
  2. Evidence of previous advanced study, research or professional experience which the University accepts as qualifying the applicant for entry.

**Funding**

If successful at interview, you must confirm funding before any offer can be confirmed.

Funding for the programme or individual course units may be available through the CPD Service Level Agreement (SLA) for staff working in the NHS in Greater Manchester (and in the case of some course units the wider North West). To access SLA funding each course unit must be approved by an authorised SLA signatory on an individual basis. For more information applicants should contact the Education and Training lead within their organisation, Practice educator, or equivalent.

If not eligible for CPD SLA funding candidates may also apply with employer support or self-funding. The home fee for 2015-16 will be £2010 for Level 7.

**If you are being funded by Service Level Agreement**, you must also apply and be approved for funding on CPD-Apply before any offer can be confirmed. Please contact your Trust for further information and then apply for SLA funding online at [www.cpd-applynw.nhs.uk](http://www.cpd-applynw.nhs.uk)

**If you are not being funded by SLA**, funding should be confirmed within the application form. Above pre-requisites also apply. Funding for midwives working in the NHS but outside Greater Manchester is normally through the employing Trust. For application enquiries, please e-mail conted.nursing@manchester.ac.uk or telephone 0161 306 7604.