MIDWIFERY CLINICAL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Normal Childbearing

This course involves an eighteen week individualized placement in a midwifery practice. It offers an extended period of clinical experience in a midwifery practice under the supervision of a midwife preceptor and weekly small group tutorials. The placement focuses on clinical skills including assessment and care planning as a beginning level primary caregiver in prenatal, labour and birth, postpartum and newborn care. There are weekly situation-based, small group tutorials that cover theoretical knowledge for midwifery care in normal childbearing, including common variations. Students complete certification in CPR and Neonatal Resuscitation prior to beginning the placement.

Complications and Consultations

This course is a continuation of clinical practice under the supervision of a midwife preceptor. The students will further develop their knowledge and skills relating to topics in preconception, antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum and newborn care. Both the intensive and tutorials focus on common complications, situations that involve consultation with other care providers and on the development of decision-making skills and clinical judgment.

Maternal and Newborn Pathology

By completion of this term, the student will have integrated theoretical and clinical content progressively and have acquired a sound knowledge base and the clinical skills to provide primary midwifery care under supervision throughout the child-bearing cycle. Students continue to develop decision-making skills, emergency management, and clinical judgment. According to the College of Midwives of Ontario, Midwifery Care IV students may act as one of the two midwives present for hospital births. The tutorial situations will focus on situations that involve transfer of care and the relationship with other health care providers.

Midwifery Care Clerkship

This course begins with a three-five day intensive. In this final term of clinical practice, the emphasis will be on clinical judgment and decision-making skills. The student will be expected to act as a primary caregiver and provide midwifery care in all phases of childbirth in all settings. Students will plan care and make clinical decisions with minimal supervision. According to the College of Midwives of Ontario, Clerkship students may act as one of the two midwives present for the birth. Students participate in seminars that focus on case review and reflective practice.

Elective Placement (MWF 370)

This four to twelve week clinical placement course provides students with the opportunity to participate in an elective placement in a midwifery practice. Midwifery Program students will have the opportunity to address additional learning needs as identified in a learning contract developed with the faculty. It is also available to Special Students by permission of the program. Students enrolled in this course will provide care to women in home and hospital settings under the supervision of a midwife clinical preceptor and a member of the midwifery faculty. This course is offered based on availability of preceptors and faculty.