

Module code: MOD001876	Version: 7 Date Amended: 04/Sep/2026
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1. Module Title
Supporting Physiological Childbirth

2a. Module Leader
Patience Gyampek

2b. School
School of Midwifery and Community Health

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Health, Medicine and Social Care

3a. Level
7

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	None		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

You'll explore national concerns around childbirth, including rising rates of intervention, and family experience of birth, and build on your existing knowledge and skills as we examine the concepts surrounding childbirth. We'll look at how to support physiology during the antenatal, intrapartum, and postnatal periods to promote safe, positive birth experiences, including how choice, continuity and control support physiological childbirth. You'll also examine how cultural, political, environmental, and economic factors influence childbirth, developing a deeper understanding of how societal issues shape the way care is provided. By analysing both international and local perspectives, you'll apply your learning to your own clinical practice and deepen your understanding of alternative approaches to care. You'll draw on your own experience, as we work to advance your midwifery knowledge and apply it confidently in a variety of professional settings, wherever you practise

6b. Outline Content

- Anatomy and physiology related to childbirth - Environmental, organisational, sociological and clinical influences that impact on childbirth. - Theoretical and policy foundations of continuity, choice and control in maternity services, and the role of the midwife in supporting choice while optimising physiological process across all birth options. - The potential impact of childbirth on the mother, baby and family. - Current debates concerning normal childbirth - Models of care and their possible influence on physiological birth. - Reviewing and reclaiming midwifery practises that support physiological birth and empower those giving birth.- Reflection on practice.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Access to the internet for VLE learning materials and the Anglia Ruskin University library.

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)

No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically analyse the concept of normality in childbirth.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically appraise the impact that different forms of care may have on the physiology of birth.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically evaluate how continuity, choice, and control support physiological childbirth.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically analyse the effect the reduction in physiological births have on parental and infant health and the wider impact on health service delivery.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	30	1-4	Lectures 30 hours (10 x 3hr sessions)
Other teacher managed learning	6	1-4	6 hours (1 x 3hr tutorial and 1 x 3hr VLE based learning activity)
Student managed learning	264	1-4	18 hours reading / seminar preparation 262 hours self managed learning & assessment preparation and personal reflection
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	40 (%)
Students are required to submit a 4000 word essay that discusses supporting physiological childbirth					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above**
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements**

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]