The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery

FSTM Catalog
2014-2015
Volume XVIII, Number 2*

Our most current catalog is always on our website at www.midwiferyschool.org
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FSTM Licensure and Certification

Florida Commission for Independent Education
325 West Gaines St., Suite 1414
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400
Toll free: (888) 224 – 6684
http://www.fldoe.org/cie/

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is licensed by the Florida Commission for Independent Education, License Number 1657.

The Midwifery Education Accreditation Council
1935 Pauline Blvd., Ste. 100B
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
www.meacschool.org

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is proud to have MEAC accreditation. MEAC accreditation is designed to strengthen educational programs and to preserve the many innovative programs designed by and for midwives. In Order to be a MEAC accredited and continued accreditation status, a program/institution must meet rigorous requirements for demonstrated student success; being fiscally sound; sufficient faculty, staff, and facility resources; and curriculum.

Florida Council of Licensed Midwifery
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C06
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3256
www.floridahealth.gov/

In Florida, Licensed Midwives (LM) provide primary maternity care for women with low-risk pregnancies, offering complete prenatal, delivery and postpartum care. Licensed Midwives may work to meet their communities’ needs in a variety of settings, including homebirth practices, birth centers, and community health clinics. They are also eligible to be Medicaid providers and receive insurance reimbursement. Licensed Midwives are Experts in low-risk, normal birth. The protocols for Licensed Midwives in Florida are contained within the Licensed Midwifery Rules, 64B24, F.A.C.P. Licensed Midwives are regulated by the Florida Department of Health, Council of Licensed Midwifery.

National Certification for Midwives
North American Registration of Midwives
5257 Rosestone Dr.
Lilburn, GA 30047
www.NARM.org

FSTM’s direct-entry program also qualifies the student for National certification as a Certified Professional Midwife (CPM). This certificate allows the graduate to practice as a midwife in states outside of Florida that recognizes CPM certification. Individual state legislation regarding midwifery practice varies depending on the state, and it is each midwife’s responsibility to investigate, acknowledge, and practice under those laws accordingly.
Our Mission

The mission of the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is to offer the finest in Direct-Entry Midwifery education in an environment that encourages students to reach their full potential. We believe that it is our responsibility to promote awareness of and access to midwifery services.

Our graduates are community-builders who use midwifery as their tool.

Our Vision

We believe that every woman should have access to the maternity care provider of her choice and to the information necessary to make informed decisions.

Introduction

FSTM is committed to providing quality educational programs for those who share our desire to provide the best care for childbearing women and their families. Graduates of our midwifery program are eligible to become Florida Licensed Midwives (LM) and Certified Professional Midwives (CPM).

FSTM is a Not-for-Profit 501(c)3 corporation organized under Florida law and licensed by The Florida Commission for Independent Education. We are also accredited by The Midwifery Education and Accreditation Council (MEAC). We offer Direct-Entry midwifery educational programs which are based on combining the art of traditional midwifery with today’s knowledge of medical science.

FSTM’s students’ clinical experience takes place in a variety of home birth practices, community-based birth centers, clinics and hospitals located throughout Florida. Our goal at FSTM is to educate and prepare students to become skilled, caring midwives who will be available to serve women and families in their communities.

Upon graduation, midwifery students will receive a Diploma from FSTM and are eligible to sit for the state licensed midwifery examination. The State of Florida utilizes the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) national examination for this purpose. Upon passing this exam, graduates are eligible to practice as Licensed Midwives (LM) in Florida. They are also eligible to become nationally certified through NARM as Certified Professional Midwives (CPM).
FSTM Administration

Executive Director
Diane Garrison, B.A., is a graduate of the University of Florida and joined the staff as Executive Director in 2013. She comes to FSTM via Duke University, UF, and SDSU with a background in academic research and administration. She brings a passion for complementary and alternative medicine to the midwifery school. In her off work hours she volunteers with the STH burn unit offering SOAR counseling; plays ball with her bouncing golden doodle; travels extensively whenever she can; and spends time enjoying her grandchildren!
  diane@midwiferyschool.org

Business Director
Nellie Eshleman, B.S., has been working for midwives and student midwives in varying capacities for over 6 years. She is the Business Director and handles all of FSTM's marketing, business matters and finances. She is a local cello instructor who enjoys playing in the Gainesville area with different musical groups.
  nellie@midwiferyschool.org

Academic Director
Gaia Zori, M.S., is a Certified Health Education Specialist and holds a B.H.S. from the University of Florida and a Master’s of Public Health from SUNY Albany in upstate New York. Gaia has been a long-time advocate for women’s health, reproductive health and the elimination of health disparities with experiences ranging from teaching high school in inner-city Memphis to studying as an epidemiology fellow in maternal and child health in New Orleans and, most recently, promoting safe and responsible sexual decision making as a health educator for Planned Parenthood. When she’s not at FSTM, Gaia enjoys surfing with her husband and spending as much time on the water as she can, reading for her book club and trying to learn to speak Danish.
  gaia@midwiferyschool.org

Interim Academic Director
Erin Dorman, M.S., CHES, is a Certified Health Education Specialist and holds a Master’s Degree in Health Education from the University of Florida. Erin spent her time at the University researching and teaching courses about women’s health and reproductive health. Now, in addition to being an administrator and teaching courses at FSTM, she is also pursuing a future as a Physician’s Assistant. Erin spends much of her time being a mama to two-year-old Oliver and two-month-old Emmeline. When she’s not being a natural birth advocate, you can usually find her frolicking in her garden with her children and her fantastic husband, Nick.
  erin@midwiferyschool.org

Academic Coordinator
Abby Reichardt, B.S., is a Gainesville native and graduate of the University of Florida in Family, Youth & Community Sciences. She first became involved with FSTM as a student midwife and completed one year, taking time off to work so that her husband, John, could pursue his degree at UF also. She has been working with FSTM’s Academic Department since spring 2012. In September 2013 she gave birth at home to her first child, John Earley. Abby is passionate about midwifery education and practice and intends to complete her midwifery schooling and become an LM/CPM. In her free time, she soaks up the good life with her husband, son, dog and kitties and frequents local springs, rivers and parks.
  abby@midwiferyschool.org
Administrative Coordinator
Glenn Cameron, A.A., brings thirty years of experience in midwifery and education to FSTM and has worked in various administrative capacities at the school since 1997. Glenn was a lay midwife in Florida in the late 70’s and 80’s and volunteered in the development of the midwifery practice act in Florida as well as midwifery related conferences and workshops. She enjoys assisting midwifery students during their “student midwifery journey” and graduation from the program. She has also completed an Associate’s of Arts Degree, trainings in Doula, Childbirth Educator, American Aqua Natal Instructor and Certified Lactation Counselor. Glenn is the mother of three children, all born at home, two granddaughters and two grandsons. She has been an instructor for many courses at FSTM and currently teaches the History of Midwifery course to new students.

glenn@midwiferyschool.org

Clinical Director
Stacey Walden, L.M., is a graduate of the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery. She started her midwifery training at FSTM in 1995 and graduated from Sage Femme Midwifery School in California. She later moved back to complete her training at FSTM and obtain her Florida Midwifery License. She has worked as a licensed midwife in: California, Alaska, and Florida in birth centers and home birth practices. She has worked at FSTM for ten years, as an instructor, the Academic Director, and presently the Clinical Director since spring of 2008. Stacey is a loving mom to her six year old daughter, who was born at home, in the water with midwives. She teaches Clinical Lab, Traditional Healing Modalities, GYN Trainings including breast exam training, and facilitates the Clinical Skills Exam for seniors. Her enthusiasm and dedication to midwifery motivates Stacey to educate future midwives for the continuation of midwifery in Florida.

swalden@midwiferyschool.org

Financial Aid & Regulatory Coordinator
Kate Ellison, B.S., is a graduate from the University of Tennessee in Sociology and has six years’ experience in federal Financial Aid administration at an acupuncture college in Gainesville. She has a life-long interest in helping women take charge of their lives and sees her work with student midwives in that light. Her background includes intentional community, natural healing, Nonviolent Communication, and Reiki.

kate@midwiferyschool.org

FSTM Faculty

NAOMI ARDJOMAN-KARMANI, M.S.
Naomi has earned a Master's Degree in Public Health Behavioral and Social Sciences from the University of Florida. She also has work experience with HIV/AIDS education and testing options, which is something she includes as a part the Public Health course she teaches at FSTM.

CANDY BROWN, B.S., L.M.
Candy is a Clinical Laboratory Scientist at Seven Rivers Regional Medical Center in Crystal River. She received her BS in Medical Technology in 1981 from the University of Colorado, and later that year gave birth to her daughter, Melanie, with the assistance of a Midwife. Candy is a 1997 graduate of FSTM and operated her own homebirth practice until 2002. She enjoys traveling, genealogy and her two grandsons, Hayden and Tristan. Candy currently teaches Diagnostic Testing at FSTM.
GLENN CAMERON, A.A.
Glenn brings thirty years of experience in midwifery and education to FSTM and has worked in various administrative capacities at the school since 1997. Glenn was a lay midwife in Florida in the late 70’s and 80’s and volunteered in the development of the midwifery practice act in Florida as well as midwifery related conferences and workshops. She enjoys assisting midwifery students during their “student midwifery journey” and graduation from the program. She has also completed an AA from Broward Community College, trainings in Doula, Childbirth Educator, American Aqua Natal Instructor and Certified Lactation Counselor. Glenn is the mother of three children, all born at home, two granddaughters and two grandsons. She has been an instructor for many courses at FSTM and currently teaches the History of Midwifery course to new students.

CHRISTINA CATES, M.S., R.D.
Christina is a full-time Registered Dietitian at North Florida Regional Medical Center, which an emphasis on Women’s Health and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. She received her BS degree is Food Science and Human Nutrition from the University of Florida in 2005. She subsequently completed a post-bac degree and her Masters of Science of Health in Nutrition in 2009 from the University of North Florida. She was born and raised in central Florida and has been back in Gainesville for the last four years. In her free time she works with the Gainesville Roller Rebels, the local women’s roller derby league. She also loves spending time with her two welsh corgis, her boyfriend, reading a good book, and learning Brazilian Portuguese. She teaches Nutrition.

CLARICE CONNELLY, B.S., R.N.
Clarice (Recee) received her BS in Nursing from the University of North Florida. She has extensive experience as a Registered Nurse and has also been the Director of an LPN Program in Marion County. She has a deep passion for women's health and childbirth, and teaches our Healthcare Skills courses.

RON DEL MORO, PH.D, ED.S, L.M.H.C.
Dr. Del Moro is a holistically minded licensed Mental Health Counselor and educator, serving the Gainesville community since 2005. Ron holds a Specialist degree in Education, Master’s degree in Couple, Marriage & Family Counseling and a Doctorate in Counselor Education from the University of Florida. He has studied, taught, and facilitated groups around the world, empowering individuals to nurture a more connected relationship with themselves and others. He has a diverse background in Crisis Intervention, Gestalt, Experiential, Interpersonal, and Existential Therapy; specializing in personal growth, couple counseling, and group work. Ron teaches Psychology and Communication courses at FSTM.

ERIN DORMAN, M.S., CHES
Erin a Certified Health Education Specialist and holds a Master’s Degree in Health Education from the University of Florida. Erin spent her time at the University researching and teaching courses about women’s health and reproductive health. The mother of two small children, Erin enjoys outdoor activities and gardening with her family. She is a natural birth advocate, administrator at FSTM, and teaches Female Sexuality and Student Success.

ABIGAIL FLETCHER, L.M., C.P.M.
Abigail received her Diploma from the International School of Midwifery in Miami and has been practicing as a Licensed Midwife since 2009, mostly in the Gainesville area. She is an avid supporter of women’s health justice, and has served in many capacities promoting this cause. Among other experiences abroad, Abigail served as a midwife and childbirth educator in Haiti in Fall of 2011, working with the local Haitian communities and bringing back their crafts to Florida for fundraising and awareness. She is one of four midwives of the Midwives’ Cooperative
in Gainesville, where she attends homebirths, encouraging pregnant moms to fulfill their greatest potential. She teaches core midwifery courses and midwifery practicums.

**TRACIE GRIFFITH, R.N., B.S.N., R.N.C.-N.I.C.**
Tracie is a Gainesville area native who was the second in her family to be born into the arms of a midwife at the Birth Place of Gainesville. She graduated from Santa Fe College with an ASN and obtained her BSN from Grand Canyon University in 2013. She has worked as an NICU nurse at UF Health for the last 11 years. Tracie and her husband of 10 years have four children, all born at the Birth Center of Gainesville. She joined the FSTM team in 2014 and is excited to continue to bring her knowledge and experiences to the program, teaching the Newborn class.

**CORRIE J. GROSS, M.S., LMHC**
Corrie earned her MS in Psychology with a specialization in the areas of School Testing, Guidance & Counseling, and Mental Health Counseling from Capella University. She has over 13 years of combined teaching and therapy experience. Her clientele ranges from severely abused children and adolescents to at-risk teens and their families. She is experienced in facilitating in-home therapy and with outpatient clinics and private counseling agencies throughout the state. She provides holistic therapies through workshops on life transitions, women’s empowerment, stress reduction, parenting obstacles, and compassion fatigue. Additionally, Corrie emphasizes positive living with mindfulness meditations. She teaches Communications courses at FSTM.

**VIKTORIYA KASHIN, B.S.N.**
Viktoriya received a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing from the University of Tennessee, and is currently working as a Registered Nurse at UF Health as a Labor and Delivery nurse. She has a specialization in Fetal Monitoring and Assessment, which she integrates into our Fetal Monitoring course.

**SERENA KOW, B.S.N., R.N., I.B.C.L.C.**
Serena completed her Pre-Nursing at Louisiana State University and received BS in Nursing at Columbia State Community College, Columbia, TN in 1995. Serena has worked since then in Women’s Health, including as an OB flight nurse and in the NICU. She has enjoyed working as both a high risk L&D and Neonatal R.N. and a low risk, mother-baby centered birthing center R.N., while supporting women’s birth choices and promoting patient and baby friendly practices throughout her career. She is an Internationally Certified Lactation Consultant, and current chair of the North Central Florida Breastfeeding Coalition. At FSTM she teaches Fetal Monitoring.

**MIRIAM PEARSON-MARTINEZ, A.S., L.M., C.P.M.**
Miriam has been licensed by the state of Florida since 2003, and has also received national certification as a professional midwife. Miriam has an AS in Midwifery from Miami Dade College. Additionally, she has attended birthing mothers at a busy clinic in Honduras and worked in an emergency room in Ecuador. Miriam is certified as a Doula and Childbirth Educator specializing in hypnosis for labor and birth. Her proudest professional accomplishment was working successfully in 2006 to restructure Florida Midwifery Law. She is fluent in English, Spanish, and Sign Language. Miriam teaches Florida Law and Rule at FSTM.

**KRISTEN PHILLIPS, L.M., C.P.M.**
Kristen graduated from the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery in the Fall of 2010. She has worked in the Administrative offices at FSTM since then, and is a midwife at the Birth & Wellness Center of Gainesville. She is married and has four amazing children all born into the hands of midwives. Kristen is dedicated to furthering midwifery and passing on to the next generation of
midwives the traditional values and experiences that she has acquired throughout her journey. She teaches Collaborative Management and Establishing & Maintaining a Practice.

DONNA RAREY, B.S.N., R.N., L.M.
Donna Rarey has been working in the health care field for over thirty years, beginning with her BSN from S. Leo College. In 1998, Donna’s first grandchild was born in a hospital setting and she realized while nursing had been a career, midwifery was to be her calling. After graduating from the Florida Traditional School of Midwifery, she worked for a brief time at a birth center. Home birth is her favorite setting and she enjoyed working with two other midwives in the Gainesville community until a year ago. Semi-retired, Donna now brings her life, nursing and midwifery experience to teaching. At FSTM, she teaches Midwifery Practicums. Donna and her husband of 38 years raised four children and enjoy twelve grandchildren, three of whom she caught.

ALEX RAWSON
Alex is a Certified Lactation Counselor, was trained by DONA International as a Doula, and CAPPA as a Childbirth Educator. She is a WIC Breastfeeding Counselor for the tri-county region, as well as a Birth Doula. She has experience with birth practice both in and out of the hospital setting. She enjoys working with women; supporting them through breastfeeding challenges and helping them achieve an optimal breastfeeding relationship with their child. She has two sons, one of whom she birthed at home with a local midwife.

MICHELE RUFFALO, B.A., L.M., C.P.M.
Michelle knew she wanted to be a midwife at age 17, but first pursued a B.A. in Mass Communications at the University of South Florida. She gave birth to her son without medication in a hospital, which transformed her life and solidified her passion for birth practice. She became a childbirth educator with The Florida Outreach Birth Project and a Certified Doula with DONA. Michelle enrolled at The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery and became a Florida Licensed Midwife and Certified Professional Midwife in 2010. She lives with her very supportive husband of 20 years and enjoys watching their son continue to grow into a young adult.

LORI SCOTT, M.D., R.N., B.S.N.
Lori received her Bachelor’s in Nursing from Southern Adventist University, and her MD from the University of South Carolina. She has experience in teaching Anatomy and Physiology and Human Nutrition at Lake City Community College and Santa Fe Community College in the Nursing and Allied Health programs, and has worked in nursing in various hospitals throughout the south. Lori has one child, a son. At FSTM she teaches the medical science courses, Anatomy and Physiology, Reproductive Anatomy, Pharmacology, and Gynecology.

JESSICA STEVENSON, L.M., C.P.M.
Jessica was born at home and grew up hearing her parents talk appreciatively about the care they received from midwives; it was the tenderness of their account that led Jessica to pursue a career in midwifery. Jessica graduated from The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery in 2003. As a student, Jessica was able to intern in a maternity clinic in Cartagena, Colombia, which provided her with both high-risk experience and a stronger understating of birth cross-culturally. She also worked at FSTM as administrative assistant from 2000-2003. After 9 years of practicing as a Midwife, Jessica gave birth to her son at home in 2012. She returned as an instructor in 2014 and is currently teaching core midwifery courses.

STACEY WALDEN, L.M.
Stacey Walden, L.M., is a graduate of the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery. She started her midwifery training at FSTM and graduated from Sage Femme Midwifery School in California. She
moved back to complete her training at FSTM and obtain her Florida Midwifery License. She has worked as a licensed midwife in California, Alaska, and Florida in birth centers and home birth practices. She has worked at FSTM for ten years, as an instructor, the Academic Director, and presently the Clinical Director since spring of 2008. Stacey is a loving mom to her six year old daughter, who was born at home, in the water with midwives. She teaches Clinical Lab, Traditional Healing Modalities, GYN Trainings including breast exam training, and facilitates the Clinical Skills Exam for seniors.

**FSTM Board of Directors**

**Chairperson - Susan Nelson, ENP, CPM**, is the Florida Sales Director for a firm specializing in public safety IT systems. Prior to that she held the position of Alachua County Communications Bureau Chief and E-911 Coordinator for over ten years, and worked for an international environmental nonprofit before that. She has a Bachelor’s degree in organizational communication from the University of Colorado and is a FSU Certified Public Manager. Susan has been an advocate of and activist for midwifery in the North Florida area for almost three decades.

**Vice Chairperson - Heart Phoenix** is a social justice, environmental and peace activist who considers one of her greatest contributions to be that of birthing her five beautiful children naturally. Throughout the country, she is an Inspirational Speaker and Facilitator of Personal and Spiritual Growth Workshops and Trainings. She believes that supporting women empowers them before, during and after the birthing process and is an essential element in developing a more peaceful planet. She is the Co-Founder of the River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding.

**Kym Dalton, C.C.C.E., C.L.D., I.C.C.E.**, has been teaching and supporting women since 1994. She is the owner of Traditions of Love Childbirth Services, LLC where she provides private childbirth education, sex education, labor doula services and is a professional speaker on these subjects. She is a national and international certified childbirth educator and labor doula trainer for CAPPA and has been a member of CAPPA since 2000 and is currently the ED of marketing.

**Rae Davies, C.D. (DONA), I.C.C.E., I.B.C.L.C.**, has been dedicated for over thirty years to preparing women for birth through childbirth education, assisting at births, labor support and providing training programs for doulas, childbirth educators and the public. She has been preserving the sacredness of natural birth since the 1960’s. Rae is an endorser of the Mother-Friendly Childbirth Initiative and current executive director of the Coalition for Improving Maternity Services (CIMS), where she represents CIMS on the United States Breastfeeding committee.

**Susan Mendez** is the proud parent of two beautiful sons born at the Birth Center of Gainesville. She graduated cum laude with a BA in Cultural Studies/Critical Theory from the University of Florida’s English Department. She is also a certified Guardian ad Litem volunteer who advocates for children in the State of Florida’s Dependency Court. When she isn’t parenting or bookkeeping for the restaurant she joint owns with her husband and partners, she can be found picking mandolin in her all-women country band.

**Sylvia Paluzzi** is the founder and Director of Morning Meadow Preschool and Kindergarten and Heart Pine Elementary and Middle School. She is an advocate for the education of young children in an imaginative and respectful manner. Sylvia is director of a marionette troupe, performing marionette shows for children in classrooms, festivals and hospitals settings. Sylvia was also the local president of Friends of the Midwives for ten years, an organization founded on the local level by Sylvia and the late founder of FSTM, Jana Borino. She has 3 sons, all born in the loving care of Licensed Midwives.
About Our Programs

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery, Inc. curriculum was developed by a committee comprised of Licensed Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, midwives trained through apprenticeship, consumers and Childbirth Educators. Input was also received from a variety of midwifery educators across the country.

FSTM’s curriculum adheres to the Core Competencies developed by both the Midwives Alliance of North America (MANA) and the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM), and is consistent with the Curriculum Framework developed by the Commission for Independent Education and the requirements of Florida law.

FSTM’s programs are designed and taught within the framework of the Midwives Model of Care, with the feeling that it is essential for experienced midwives to be intimately involved with the education of future midwives. This view of sharing the art of midwifery is one of the most vital components of a student’s education.

In addition to technical skills and academic knowledge, our program cultivates the essential qualities of nurturing, intuition, compassion and strength. We have learned and borrowed from the experiences of generations of midwives. We have developed a special environment to nurture students as they become part of the next generation of midwives.

FSTM’s faculty is comprised of Licensed Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, PhDs, MDs, RNs, and other professionals. They are not only highly qualified in their fields, but are largely motivated to join us and give something back to the midwifery community.

Our academic environment is geared to the adult learner. Our process is both dynamic and interactive, involving a format of tutorial, discussion, and lecture. Research is facilitated and encouraged, opinions are shared and insights are validated.

Clinical experience is concurrent with academic coursework, giving relevance to factual material and evidence-based practice. Preceptors include Florida Licensed Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, Registered Nurses and physicians who are licensed in Florida. We feel it is very important that students experience all types of practice settings, so each Midwifery Student will rotate through a variety of clinical sites during the training program. Our clinical sites are located throughout Florida and will provide students with experience in homebirth practices, birth centers, clinics and observation in hospitals. Every care will be taken to place students in clinical sites near their home; however, some travel to clinical sites may be required.

The Midwives Model of Care is based on the fact that pregnancy and birth are normal life processes. The Midwives Model of Care includes:

- Monitoring the physical, psychological and social well-being of the mother throughout the childbearing cycle
- Providing the mother with individualized education, counseling, and prenatal care, continuous hands-on assistance during labor and delivery and postpartum support
- Minimizing technological interventions; and identifying and referring women who require obstetrical attention
Educational Programs Offered

Direct-Entry Midwifery Program

This program is designed to meet the educational needs of the student who comes to the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery with no prior midwifery or nursing education.

This Direct-Entry Program provides students with the academic and clinical learning experiences required for graduation pursuant to Florida’s Midwifery Practice Act and requirements for National Certification set by NARM.

The Midwifery Curriculum is 91 semester credits, totaling 2505 clock hours, and takes three to four years, depending on progression through clinical requirements. Students should be aware that the program has a set (lock step) course schedule for each semester. This means that enrollment each semester is dependent on successful completion of each preceding semester – students who fail a semester will have to wait a year until course(s) are taught again.

The clinical requirements for completing the Direct-Entry Midwifery Program are defined by Chapter 467 Florida Statutes, NARM, and MEAC, and are subject to change at any time. Please refer to the Clinical Description section for complete clinical requirements.

Upon graduation midwifery students receive a Diploma from FSTM, and are eligible to sit for the NARM exam. Graduation requirements are described on page 22.

Upon passing the NARM exam, graduates are eligible to become Florida Licensed Midwives (LM) and Certified Professional Midwives (CPM).

Licensure by Endorsement Program

The Licensure by Endorsement Program is designed to prepare maternity care providers (usually midwives) credentialed in other states or other countries for licensure as Florida Licensed Midwives.

Course work is both academic and clinical, with a strong emphasis on the laws and rules that govern practice as a Florida Licensed Midwife.

Applicants are required to have their credentials and midwifery education reviewed and approved by the state of Florida and Council of Licensed Midwifery prior to enrolling in the program. Please contact FSTM for more information.

Students completing the program receive a Diploma from FSTM, and are prepared to sit for the NARM exam. Upon passing the NARM exam and completing the endorsement program, the graduate may file for licensure as a Florida Licensed Midwife and as a Certified Professional Midwife.

The clinical requirements for completing the Florida Licensure by Endorsement Program are defined by Chapter 467 Florida Statutes and meet criteria for CPM Certification by NARM and are subject to change at any time per regulatory agencies. Please refer to the Clinical Description section for complete clinical requirements and contact the school for specific details.
### DIRECT ENTRY MIDWIFERY PROGRAM CURRICULUM

#### YEAR 1

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**Total Credits:** 11

#### YEAR 1, TERM 1

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<td>1204</td>
<td>Female Sexuality for Midwives</td>
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**Total Credits:** 12

#### YEAR 1 TOTAL CREDITS

**35**

#### YEAR 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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**Total Credits:** 12

#### YEAR 2, TERM 1

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**Total Credits:** 13

#### YEAR 2 TOTAL CREDITS

**34**

#### YEAR 2, TERM 2

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<td>2202</td>
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<td>2204</td>
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<td>2205</td>
<td>Herb Workshop</td>
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**Total Credits:** 12

#### YEAR 2 TOTAL CREDITS

**34**

#### YEAR 3

<table>
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<tbody>
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<td>3101</td>
<td>Gynecology and Women's Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>3102</td>
<td>Writing Protocols</td>
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<td>NARM Review</td>
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#### YEAR 3, TERM 1

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<td>3202</td>
<td>Clinical Skills Practicum</td>
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<td>3203</td>
<td>Traditional Healing Modalities III</td>
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<td>Issues in Professional Midwifery</td>
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**Total Credits:** 9

#### YEAR 3, TERM 2

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#### YEAR 3 TOTAL CREDITS

**22**

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### Clinical Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prenatal Exams</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Initial Prenatal Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birth Observations</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Birth Managements</td>
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<td>Postpartum Exams</td>
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<td>Newborn Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuity of Care</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Home Births</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required Hospital Births</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

---

*All program credits, clock hours, tuition, and fees are subject to change. Average anticipated tuition increase is 4% per academic year.

**These Requirements meet or exceed all mandates as defined by the Chapter 467 Florida Statutes, the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM), and the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC), and are subject to change at any time.

***Senior students who have completed their academic requirements but have not finished their clinical requirements must continue to register for Clinical Lab using course codes 4100CL, 4200CL, and 4300CL until all clinical requirements have been met.
## Academic Calendar 2014--2016

### Fall 2014 Term: September-December 2014
- **July-September**: Registration for Fall Term
- **September 8**: Classes Begin
- **September 19**: Drop/Add Ends
- **November 7**: Last day to withdraw and receive a "W"
- **November 24-28**: Fall Break
- **December 19**: Last Day of Fall Term

### Spring 2015 Term: January-April 2015
- **October-December**: Registration for Spring Term
- **January 5**: Classes Begin
- **January 16**: Drop/Add Ends
- **March 13**: Last Day to Withdraw and receive a "W"
- **March 2-6**: Spring Break
- **April 17**: Last Day of Spring Term

### Summer 2015 Term: May-August 2015
- **March-April**: Registration for Summer Term
- **May 4**: Classes Begin
- **May 15**: Drop/Add Ends
- **July 10**: Last day to withdraw and receive a "W"
- **June 29-July 3**: Summer Break
- **August 14**: Last Day of Summer Term

### Fall 2015 Term: September-December 2015
- **October-December**: Registration for Fall Term
- **September 7**: Classes Begin
- **September 18**: Drop/Add Ends
- **November 6**: Last day to withdraw and receive a "W"
- **November 23-27**: Fall Break
- **December 18**: Last Day of Fall Term

### Spring 2016 Term: January-April 2016
- **October-December**: Registration for Spring Term
- **January 4**: Classes Begin
- **January 15**: Drop/Add Ends
- **March 11**: Last day to withdraw and receive a "W"
- **February 29-March 4**: Spring Break
- **April 15**: Last Day of Spring Term

### Summer 2016 Term: May-August 2016
- **March-April**: Registration for Summer Term
- **May 4**: Classes Begin
- **May 13**: Drop/Add Ends
- **July 1**: Last day to withdraw and receive a "W"
- **July 4-8**: Summer Break
- **August 12**: Last Day of Summer Term

### Fall 2016 Term: September-December 2016
- **October-December**: Registration for Fall Term
- **September 5**: Classes Begin
- **September 23**: Drop/Add Ends
- **November 11**: Last day to withdraw and receive a "W"
- **November 21-25**: Fall Break
- **December 16**: Last Day of Fall Term
Licensure by Endorsement Program Curriculum

The Florida Licensure by Endorsement (LBE) program is designed to enable midwives from other states or other countries for licensure as Florida Licensed Midwives. This program focuses on the art of Home and Birth Center Maternity care, equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be safe, independent practitioners. Course work is both academic and clinical, with a strong emphasis on the laws and rules that govern practice as a Florida Licensed Midwife.

- Applicants are required to have their credentials and midwifery education reviewed and approved by the Florida Department of Health / Council of Licensed Midwifery prior to applying to the program.
- Students completing the program receive a Diploma from FSTM, and are prepared to sit for the Florida Licensing Exam/North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) exam.
- Upon passing the NARM exam and completing the endorsement program, the graduate may file for licensure as a Florida Licensed Midwife and certification as a Certified Professional Midwife.

### LBE Curriculum Sample*:

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<thead>
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<th>Courses</th>
<th>Semester Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Midwifery Electives</td>
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<tr>
<td>3102 Writing Protocols</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3202 Clinical Skills Practicum</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3103 NARM Review</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5100 CL Clinical Lab</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Credit Conversion Formula:**
15:1 Theory, 30:1 Lab, 60:1

**Actual Contact Hours:**
Theory: 135; Theory Lab: 360; Clinical Lab: 315

*LBE Curriculum is variable and depends on the Applicant's individual academic needs, course availability in a given semester and administrative approval. Class prerequisites are listed in individual course descriptions.

### Timeframe for Completion
Most students complete this program within two to three semesters of enrollment. However, some students will need further semesters of academic work to make up deficiencies identified in evaluation, and some may need more time to complete clinical requirements. The need for more time to complete clinical requirements depends on preceptor availability, out-of-hospital birth rates in the student’s area and the student's personal choices and circumstances throughout the program.

### Costs of LBE Program

An enrollment fee of $200 will be required at the time of enrollment in a program of study. The Licensure by Endorsement Program includes 15 credit hours at $364.00 per credit hour. There is a student professional liability insurance cost of $200.00 per year and a one-time FSTM technology fee of $200.00.

The cost of the LBE Program is projected to be $5,860.00 based on the sample outlined here. Students are responsible for the purchase of course supplies, books, and travel, as well as room and board while at clinical sites. Tuition and fees are due at the time of registration unless a payment plan has been arranged with the Finance Director. Fees are subject to change. Financial aid may be available; the Financial Aid Coordinator must determine the student’s eligibility.

### Midwifery Clinical Lab Hours

We honor that each woman’s birth experience is unique. Given this, the exact number of hours required to attend the mandated number of birth experiences cannot be determined. Students must understand that Intrapartum hours (time spent at a birth) may be in addition to clinical hours listed in the curriculum.

### Clinical Requirements
- 25 supervised prenatal examinations (5 Assist 20 Primary)
- 10 supervised births as primary midwife in an out-of-hospital setting
- 5 full continuity of care cases: attend 5 prenatal exams spanning 2 trimesters, primary birth, 1 newborn exam, 2 postpartum exam
STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Affairs / Student Life

Location and Facilities

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery (FSTM) is located in the historic Howard-Kelley House, which was built in 1883. The house was restored under the expert supervision of Mary Barrow and received the Florida Trust for Historic preservation Adaptive Use Award for the State of Florida in 1987. Dr. Mark Barrow, a retired cardiologist, and his wife Mary, were delighted to assist the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery with the purchase of the mansion for use as a midwifery school and birth center in the spring of 2004.

This charming Victorian mansion is the perfect backdrop for midwifery in North Central Florida. We are proud to hold our courses in a structure that not only has ample space and beauty, but a local history that will now remain preserved indefinitely.

We have multiple classrooms equipped with audiovisual capabilities, a spacious student lounge and kitchen facility, a student library and quiet study room, a student computer lab/printing room, a mock exam room, a wrap-around porch for outdoor enjoyment, and several administrative offices. Students may reference all books, journals, and audiovisual materials from our library collection, have access to the learning lab which is complete with models, charts and dolls for practice and personal study or research.

We feel that our unique facilities help to foster a comfortable yet challenging atmosphere in which students may learn and flourish as future midwives.

Admissions

Advanced Standing and Transfer of Credit

FSTM does not accept transfer of credit; however, Advanced Standing may be granted for students with relevant prior education. As mandated in Florida Statute 467 (F.S.467), previous student education will be assessed on an individual basis. “In no case shall the training be reduced to a period of less than 2 years” (F.S.467.009 [2]). Currently only Registered Nurses (RN) with a current license in Florida are awarded 17 hours of credit automatically.

Advanced Standing credits awarded will not count toward the maximum timeframe for completing the program. Request for Advanced Standing is granted ONLY at the time of submitting an application to the program. It will be the student’s responsibility to provide FSTM with all official transcripts or documents required for evaluations of Advanced Standing requests.

Upon acceptance into the program the Academic Director will conduct a review of the Advanced Standing request. A non-refundable fee of $25.00 per FSTM credit will be assessed. The applicant may also be required to complete and pass a competency exam. If advanced standing is granted, both educational credits and tuition costs will be reduced proportionately.
Prerequisites, Application, and Enrollment
In accordance with Florida Statute 467 (F.S.467) & FSTM Policies, prior to enrollment*, prospective students must:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Hold a high school diploma or its equivalent
- Have taken and received a passing grade in a college-level Math worth 3 credits and a college level English class worth 3 credits OR
- Demonstrate competencies by passing the College Level Equivalent Proficiency (CLEP)
- Doula training from an approved program within the last two years or current doula certification* (with approval - may be completed prior to attendance)
- Childbirth Educator training from an approved program within the last two years or current childbirth educator certification* (with approval - may be completed prior to attendance)

FSTM requires that prospective students:

- Submit a completed application (available on the website)
- Submit a $75 application fee
- Complete an interview with our admissions committee
- Upon acceptance students must submit a $200 enrollment fee (refundable for 3 business days) with the completed enrollment agreement.

FSTM Discrimination Policy:
The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery (FSTM) does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national and ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender, disability, marital status and/or religion; FSTM grants to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to any members of the organization.

Returning Military Service Member
FSTM will readmit any military service members returning from active duty who withdrew or took a leave of absence in order to fulfill military duty. The student will be promptly readmitted as soon as in-sequence courses are available in order to pick up midwifery education where they left off. The student will be readmitted to the same program, at the same enrollment status, with the same number of completed credits, and with the same academic standing. The student will be assessed the same tuition and fee charges that would have applied in the year the student left the program, or the same as other current students if VA or other benefits will cover the difference. If service members returning to school require assistance to prepare to return to the program, FSTM will make every effort to help the student to prepare. If more than 2 years have elapsed since the student left the program, the student will be reviewed to repeat any core classes or other course material deemed necessary to successful continuation in the program. In this case, the student will be required to attend the class but will not be charged tuition or fees. Course material or clinical experience that needs to be reviewed or repeated will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

In order to qualify for readmission, the student must have given advance oral or written notice before leaving the program, and must submit written notice of intent to return to the program. Notice of intent to return must be submitted not later than 3 years after completion of service, and not later than 2 years after recovery from service-related illness or injury. If more than 5 years have elapsed since the student left the program she or he may need to reapply for the midwifery program.
Student General Policies & Procedures

Advisement, Counseling and Placement

FSTM students will have the opportunity for an Annual Academic Advisement meeting with the Academic Director. Topics of this meeting could include academic progress, study skills, attendance, or other factors as identified by the student, faculty or the Academic Director.

FSTM has on staff an Academic Director and Clinical Director available by appointment for academic and/or clinical counseling to students. Upon successful completion of the program, school administration is available to counsel graduates about job placement in a midwifery practice; however, the school cannot guarantee employment.

Non-Discrimination Policy

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery (FSTM) does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national and ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender, disability, marital status and/or religion; FSTM grants to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to any members of the organization.

Students with Disabilities Policy

Academic accommodation will be made for students with documented physical, emotional, or learning disabilities. Students with disabilities must provide written documentation of their learning or other disability from a licensed psychologist or other approved health care provider and a written request for academic accommodations. Requests and documentation should be submitted to the Academic Director as early as possible. Academic accommodations will be determined on an individual basis. Academic accommodations may include, but are not limited to, copies of overheads used during class, permission to take record lectures, extended time during exams, and a quiet and separate environment during exams and/or permissions to use assisting technology during exams.

Maximum Timeframe

The maximum timeframe for completion of the academic portion of the Direct-Entry Midwifery program will be 6 years. If a student cannot meet academic requirements for graduation within the maximum time parameters, the student will be considered as not making satisfactory progress and may be terminated from the program. Time the student is enrolled but not receiving Title IV funding is counted toward the maximum timeframe to complete the program, as are semesters during which the student fails a course, withdraws from a course, or receives an incomplete in a course. The amount of time that a student is on a leave of absence is not necessarily counted toward the maximum timeframe. Students must complete 67% of attempted credits in order to graduate within the maximum timeframe.
Academic Honesty Policy

FSTM students are expected to act with integrity and honesty in all of their academic and clinical pursuits. Students, faculty, preceptors and administration are expected to report any and all suspicions of dishonesty to the class instructor, Academic Director, or Clinical Director. Violations of academic honesty include but are not limited to:

- **Ethical Behavior**: Students should endeavor to interact with clients, midwives, and others in an ethical manner. Continued or blatant disregard of professional ethics may be grounds for dismissal. The MANA Statement of Values and Ethics provides guidance for professional conduct in the practice of midwifery, including midwifery students. Also included in ethical behavior is an expectation that students will not engage in theft or dishonest behavior.

- **Cheating**: Students are expected to complete their own work. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, copying written homework assignments from another student, copying from another student’s paper during an in-class exam or looking at textbook or notes during an exam when not specifically permitted by the instructor.

- **Plagiarism**: The representation of someone else’s work as one’s own or the representation of one’s previous work as one’s original work is not permitted. This includes published or unpublished work, the work of another student, and even work that was originally one’s own but was not created for the course for which it is submitted. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on any written or oral assignments, submitting a research paper or other written assignment that was not written by the student (including papers purchased from a service, obtained on the Internet or obtained from another student).

- **Misrepresentation**: Any act or omission with intent to deceive an instructor for academic or clinical advantage is prohibited. Misrepresentation includes submitting any item that was not originally created by the student for that particular assignment unless expressly allowed by the instructor, lying to an instructor, lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic dishonesty. It also includes misleading preceptors or the Clinical Director regarding clinical experience or falsifying clinical documents.

- **Professionalism**: Students should act professionally in dress, speech, and demeanor (see Appendix for specific information). Public opinion of midwifery and related professions is shaped through impressions of individual practitioners and students. Common sense standards of behavior and appearance are expected of FSTM students. Care providers are sensitive to the impression clients receive from students associated with their practices. A student’s failure to meet behavioral expectations could result in dismissal from a preceptor site or from the program.

Violations of the academic honesty policy will be handled in the following manner:

1. For the first offense, the instructor should inform the Academic Director or Clinical Director. When appropriate, a meeting will be held with the student. If it is determined that a violation has occurred, a Performance Review will be held, and the student may be placed on probation. Depending on the severity of the offense, including blatant violations of the MANA Statement of Values and Ethics (full statement found in Appendix), FSTM reserves the right to dismiss a student from the program without offering a probationary period.

2. A subsequent violation during the probationary period will result in dismissal from the program.
Attendance Policy

Students may not attend classes at FSTM unless they have registered and paid for class(es). Students who do not attend at least one of the first two meetings of a class or clinical experience may be dropped from the course in accordance with the course drop/add policy.

Types of Absences:
1. Excused absences may be granted by FSTM administration. Possible examples of excused absences include:
   - Illness of the student or a member of the student’s immediate family
   - Death in the student’s immediate family
   - Religious holidays, provided that advance notice was provided to FSTM and the student’s instructor(s)
   - This absence is without grade penalty, provided that the student requests make-up work from the instructor and completes that work.
   - The student may be required to submit written, verifiable documentation of the reason for the absence at the discretion of FSTM administration or faculty.
2. Discretionary absences:
   - Students are permitted to miss one hour of class per credit hour of a course each semester.
   - This absence is without grade penalty, provided that the student requests make-up work from the instructor and completes that work.
3. Unexcused absences are those which meet any of the following criteria:
   - Absence from class beyond the time permitted for a discretionary absence
   - Excused absence for which written documentation is requested by FSTM administration or instructor, but not provided by the student
   - All other absences that are not in adherence with one of the following FSTM attendance policies:
     o Discretionary absences
     o Excused absences
4. Birth-related absences: Only applicable for students in Year 1, Term 2 or beyond who are also enrolled and actively engaged in Clinical Lab. See the “Birth-Related Absence Policy” in Clinical Policies & Procedures section of the catalog.

Disciplinary Policy

When a student is found to be in violation of FSTM Policies and Procedures, the following actions will be taken:
- A verbal and written notification of the violation(s) will be given to the student by the Academic or Clinical Director.
- If the violation continues, the student will meet with a disciplinary committee comprised of the Academic or Clinical Director, the faculty member involved, if any, and another FSTM Director. A probationary period may be assigned.
- If the problem has not been remedied by the end of the probationary period, the student will be dismissed from the program.

Equipment and Texts

Students are responsible for the purchase of supplies and books. Textbook lists and any required supplies lists will be given at least two weeks prior to the start of a new semester.
Leave of Absence

A student may request a Leave of Absence (LOA), if necessary.
- A request must be submitted in writing to the Academic Director describing the reasons for the request and an estimated date of return. All tests, assignments and clinical work must be made up on a schedule approved by the faculty.
- A leave of absence may be requested for no less than one term, and no more than one year during the entire program. In order to be considered for an approved leave of absence a student must:
  - Be in good academic standing with no “Incompletes” pending
  - Be current in all financial obligations to the school
- To ensure continuity and logical progression in the student’s studies, it may be necessary for a student returning from a Leave of Absence to enroll on a less-than-full-time basis if the core midwifery courses are being taught only once each year.

Scheduling and Class Hours

A current schedule of classroom hours for each term will be available 3-4 weeks prior to the beginning of classes. Scheduling at clinical sites will be done in collaboration with FSTM, the student, and the clinical sites.

Grading Policy

GPA is calculated using a point system. A and A+ are given 4 points per credit of the course, B+ receives 3.3 points, B receives 3, C receives 2, and F receives 0 points. The total is divided by the number of credits attempted, and the result is the GPA. Students’ academic performance will be graded on the following scale:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE CODE</th>
<th>ACADEMIC STANDING</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-86%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>75-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
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Course Drop/Add Policy

The drop/add period for all classes will be the first two weeks of the semester. Students may drop or register for additional classes during this period without academic or financial penalty. If a student drops a regularly scheduled course after the drop/add period but before the last day to withdraw, she or he will receive a grade of “W” and will not be eligible for tuition refund.

To drop or add a course, students must:
- Complete a drop/add form, available from the Academic Director.
- Obtain approval from the Academic Director for dropping or adding a course.
- The approved drop/add form must be submitted to the administrative office by the end of the drop/add period.
Course Withdraw Policy

A student may withdraw from a class and receive a grade of “W” under the following conditions:

- A grade of “W” can be assigned until the Last Date to Withdraw and Receive a “W” for the semester. After that date, if a student stops attending class, a grade of “F” will be assigned.
- To receive a grade of “W,” the student must meet with the Academic Director, Clinical Director, and (if receiving Title IV funding) the Financial Aid Coordinator prior to the Last Date to Withdraw.
- If the Withdrawal is approved, the student will be notified and a grade of “W” will appear on the transcript.
- If the course is a prerequisite to another course, the student may not register for the subsequent course until a passing grade is on record.
- The semester in which a student withdraws from a course will be counted toward the maximum time frame of 6 years unless the student does so during the drop/add period.
- Refunds are not given for Course Withdraws.

Incomplete Policy

Incompletes are given at the discretion of the instructor. A student must offer a compelling reason for the request and a plan for completing the course work. At least 80% of the course work must have been completed at the time of the request. An “I” will appear on the grade report until the instructor submits a final grade. If the course is a prerequisite for another course, the student may not register for the subsequent course until a passing grade is on record. A grade of “I” will not be factored into the GPA because no credit has been earned before a grade has been issued. Students must complete the course work by the end of the following semester or the given deadline set by the Academic Director, or an “F” will automatically become the final grade.

Failing and Repeating a Course

Students may only repeat a course if the initial attempt resulted in a failing grade. When a student fails a course she or he will be required to repeat it for a passing grade and will be placed on Academic Probation. Students on Academic Probation may be required to attend a Performance Review and may be required to meet with the Academic Director. In the event that a student fails a course, the student may be required to enroll at less than full time until the course can be repeated to ensure that all prerequisites are met. Failing then repeating a course will not extend the maximum time frame. Students must repeat any failed courses the next time they are offered, which is usually one year following the initial attempt. Both attempts will be recorded on the student’s final transcript and will be calculated in the cumulative GPA.

The school will make every attempt to provide referrals for appropriate private tutoring for students who are experiencing academic challenge.

Failure to pass a course on a second attempt may result in dismissal. Students who fail three (3) or more classes throughout the course of the entire program may be dismissed.

Academic Probation

Any student whose grade point average falls below 2.5 or fails to successfully complete 67% of cumulative attempted credits will be placed on academic probation. Students will remain on academic probation for one semester and will be eligible for Federal Financial Aid during that period under Financial Aid Warning (see below). Probation will be lifted once the student
completes the semester within Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards (see above) for both qualitative (grade average) and quantitative (rate of completion of credits) measures. Students on academic probation will be required to meet with the Academic Director at the beginning and middle of each term that they are on probation.

If following a first period of Financial Aid Warning a student is not meeting SAP, she or he will not be eligible for Federal Financial Aid (i.e. back-to-back Warning periods will not be granted without a successful appeal), and will be in jeopardy of dismissal from the midwifery program.

**Auditing Courses Policy**

Students may audit certain courses when space is available. Students wishing to audit a course must obtain instructor and administrative approval and register for the course during regular registration. There is no credit given for a course that has been audited, and a grade of “X” will be assigned. Students who register to audit are expected to attend class and fully participate in the course, except on test days. In order to audit any course, necessary prerequisites must be met. To change from a grade to an audit, students must apply in writing within the first two weeks of the course.

Provided that above guidelines are followed, a student may audit a class free of charge if the student has already taken, passed and paid in full for the course. A student who first audits a class must pay full price for the class if she or he chooses to take it for a grade a second time.

**Withheld Grades**

The school will withhold grade reports and transcripts if a student has outstanding debts to FSTM, which can include administrative file forms and/or any unpaid balance on her or his account.

**Graduation Requirements**

- Complete all classes listed in the program curriculum with a grade of “C” or better.
- Complete all clinical requirements listed in the program requirements, and submit appropriate and completed documentation to the FSTM office.
- Submit completed skills checklist with signatures to FSTM office.
- All financial obligations must be met
- Financial Aid students complete Exit Counselling.

**NARM Certification Requirements**

For the Direct-Entry Midwifery Program and Licensure by Endorsement Program:

2. MEAC school graduates are expected to apply for NARM certification within three years of graduation. If application for certification is made after this time, NARM will require additional documentation.
3. Clinical requirements must be completed (Clinical Lab credits: 23, total Clinical Lab clock hours: 1380). Please refer to the Clinical Policy and Procedure section of the catalog.
4. Provide a copy of your notarized graduation diploma or a copy of final transcripts with the school insignia.
5. A statement verifying that the student has successfully performed all of the skills on the NARM Verification Form.
6. Those applying to take the NARM exam before graduation must have a Letter of Intention from FSTM, which verifies that all requirements have been completed. Requirements include completing all Academic classes at FSTM and meeting the minimum clinical requirements set forth by NARM (effective January 1, 2015).

7. Required documentation to take the NARM exam includes:
   - A copy of the CPR and NRP card
   - Practice Guidelines
   - An Informed Consent document
   - Forms and handouts relating to midwifery practice
   - An Emergency Care Plan document
   - Cultural Competency course or module completed

Performance Review

Student midwives at FSTM may undergo a yearly performance review. This review will be conducted by the Academic Director and at least one of the following: Executive Director, Clinical Director and/or Members of the faculty. The purpose of the review is to evaluate the student’s academic standing, clinical skills and professionalism. Failure to receive a favorable review may result in the dismissal from the program, probation or denial of placement at preceptor sites until such time as a favorable review is obtained.

Criteria for the Performance Review include, but are not limited to, the following areas:
   - Academic or Clinical Probation or Warning due to unsatisfactory academic or clinical performance.
   - Proper respect for the birth setting, birthing women and their families
   - Maintaining confidentiality according to HIPAA guidelines.
   - Timeliness in Academic and Clinical settings
   - Respect toward preceptors, faculty, fellow students, staff and clients
   - Appropriate behavior while at clinical sites including following preceptor guidelines
   - Demonstration of skills
   - Follow-through on commitments and projects
   - Sobriety when on call, in class or in any student midwife capacity
   - Sound judgment, including performing only authorized procedures
   - Positive and professional attitude
   - Appropriate attire and hygiene at births, in clinic and while carrying out professional duties
   - Appropriate communication to collaborative care practitioners

The Performance Review is not an event that requires specific preparation on the part of the student. The review covers the student midwife’s behaviors and attitudes with respect to the school and the practice of midwifery. To insure a positive review, the best preparation is for the student to honor all obligations, in a timely manner, with a professional attitude.

Conditions for Dismissal

A student may be dismissed for any of the following reasons:
   - Failure to meet minimum standards for academic or clinical progress after a probationary period or clinical requirements.
   - Failing 3 or more classes throughout the entire midwifery program.
   - Failure to correct violations after notification by the Academic Director and/or the Clinical Director.
   - Failure to adhere to the FSTM Policies and Procedures.
• Failure to meet financial commitments.
• Failure to attend birth when on-call (see clinical section).
• Violating HIPAA guidelines.
• Dismissal from 2 or more clinical sites due to poor performance or behavior.
• Failing Clinical Skills Exam more than once.
• Attending classes or clinical experience under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
• Failure to correct behaviors identified at Performance Review.

Dismissal and Re-Admission

When a student is dismissed, the student will meet with the Academic Director and/or Clinical Director to discuss the reason for dismissal and options for readmission. A specific plan for readmission will be established depending on the reasons for dismissal. Students who are dismissed for financial indebtedness may be allowed to reenter the program when the debt has been resolved.

Students who are dismissed for academic or clinical failure may apply for readmission one full year after the date of dismissal. Students who wish to reenter school after dismissal must make a request in writing to the Executive Director. She or he must provide evidence of having remedied academic or clinical problems and indicate promise of successful performance.

Readmission is at the discretion of the Academic, Clinical and Executive Directors. Students will be notified of status in writing, by mail. The student should expect to repeat the entrance procedure before being readmitted. Upon readmission following dismissal for academic failure, students will be placed on Academic or Clinical Probation, may be eligible for Title IV aid, and thus will have one semester to meet Standards of Satisfactory Progress; academic or clinical failure in that semester will result in permanent dismissal from the program. Students who are dismissed are not entitled to refunds.

Students who are dismissed for cheating, plagiarism, theft, alcohol or drug abuse, violence, HIPAA violations or any other behavior that may be harmful to the learning environment or reputation of FSTM and/or would endanger the safety or well-being of any person, the school, preceptor site or anyone present at a birth will not be readmitted.

Formal Complaints & Grievances

If you wish to make a formal complaint or grievance, you must submit a formal complaint in writing to the Executive Director.

° The Executive Director will review the complaint and determine its validity and gravity through as much investigation as is required.
° Investigation often means contacting the student for more details and then discussing the complaint with persons directly involved.
° The Executive Director will mediate complaint resolution and will address formal complaints no later than 60 days after receipt.

If the student feels a sufficient resolution to the grievance or complaint is not reached through mediation, the student may make written grievance to the Board of Directors. The Board will consider the complaint at the next Board Meeting. Complaints and their resolutions will be logged in FSTM’s Formal Complaint File, which is held for seven years. No discrimination or harassment of a student who has submitted a formal complaint will be tolerated.
If you feel that your complaints concerning your education were not resolved adequately by FSTM, you may contact the Commission for Independent Education or the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council. They will act on all written and signed complaints. Please direct your concerns to either or both of these agencies:

**Samuel Ferguson**
Midwifery Education Accreditation Council
Executive Director
1935 Pauline Blvd., Ste. 100B
Commission for Independent Education
Commission for Independent Education
325 W. Gaines St, Suite 1414
Tallahassee, FL. 32399-0400

**Appeal Policy**

A student may initiate an appeal or petition requesting an exception to any academic, administrative, clinical or financial policy or decision regarding her or his enrollment. Students who are not meeting the minimum academic standards of progress may appeal this determination due to mitigating or unusual circumstances.

- An academic appeal must include the reason that the student failed to meet Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), as well as evidence or explanation of what changes have been made that will allow the student to meet SAP in the following term.
- The length of appeal granted for mitigating circumstances will be determined by the Academic and Executive Directors at the time of the initial appeal, but will not exceed one year. Regarding appeals for not meeting Standards of Academic Progress which are granted, students will be eligible for Title IV aid throughout the length of their appeal.
- Two copies of the petition must be submitted in writing and delivered to the FSTM office either in person or by certified mail. It must be clearly titled “petition,” and must be signed by the petitioner.
- One copy of the petition will be submitted to the appropriate director (Academic, Clinical or Financial), and one copy will be submitted to the Executive Director.
- The petition will be reviewed by the Directors described above. All parties will be informed as to the date; time and place the petition will be discussed and may be required to attend. The Administration will make a decision within 30 days of reviewing the petition.

If the original petition is not resolved to the student’s satisfaction, the student may make an appeal directly to the Board of Directors. The Board will then review the petition at the next meeting; meetings are held monthly. The student petitioner, faculty, and or staff member referenced in the petition may be asked to attend the meeting. A decision will be made at that Board meeting and all parties will be informed.

If a decision by the Board of Directors does not adequately resolve the situation to the satisfaction of the student, FSTM’s accrediting agency may be contacted.

**Midwifery Education Accreditation Council**
1935 Pauline Blvd., Ste. 100B
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
www.meacschools.org

**Record Retention and Inspection**

All student records are permanently on file at the FSTM Administrative Office. Any student wishing to see her or his records may do so by appointment during office hours. Students and graduates must fill out a Transcript Release Form, and a fee of $12.00 will be assessed per transcript. Graduates can receive 3 transcripts at no cost upon graduation.
Fees / Fiscal Information

Financial Policy

Upon registration, students assume full responsibility for payment of their tuition and other fees associated with their education at the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery Inc., in accordance with the payment policies of the school. Tuition in its entirety must be paid prior to the start of each semester. Formal payment plans are available by request. At least 50% of the tuition must be paid prior to the start of the semester, accompanied by a formal payment plan arranged with the Finance Department for the remaining balance during the course of the semester. All tuition and other fees must be paid by the end of each semester in order for the student to register for any subsequent semester. Cancellation after the third (3rd) Business Day, but before the first class, results in a refund of all monies paid, with the exception of $75 of the application fee.

If the student is receiving Federal Financial Aid (also known as Title IV) and/or any other financial aid, FSTM will disburse the money first to the school and the remainder to the student within three (3) business days upon receipt.

If a student has an unpaid balance at the end of a term and is unable to make payment in full, she or he will not be eligible to register for any subsequent term. A student under these circumstances may submit a written request to the Finance Department to establish a payment plan to pay off any outstanding balance. The payment plan must be approved and signed in order for the student to be eligible to register for a subsequent term.

Financial Aid Opportunities

We have a number of financial aid opportunities available for FSTM students. Funding sources include guidelines and restrictions so please be sure to meet with our Financial Aid Coordinator for more information on your personal financial aid options.

Below is a list of funding options that we currently accept:

- Pell Grants
- Stafford Loans (both subsidized or unsubsidized)
- Plus Loans
- Bright Futures scholarships
- Florida Prepaid Plan (529 College Savings Plan)
- Career Source Florida Program (Workforce Investment Act)
- VA Funding
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Other Private Grants & Scholarships

Federal Financial Aid

Students who are US citizens or permanent residents may be eligible for Pell Grants, Stafford Loans, or Plus Loans. Stafford Loans may be either subsidized or unsubsidized. Students can apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. To learn more about financial aid eligibility, contact the FSTM Financial Aid Coordinator.

Enrollment Status for Federal Title IV Financial Aid

Because FSTM offers a program in credit hours and terms but does not award a degree, the program is subject to clock to credit conversion when calculating enrollment status for Federal Student Aid (FSA). To determine whether a student is enrolled full-time, three-fourths time or half-time, the institution must divide the number of clock hours in each term by 37.5. The resulting
number is the FSA, or “converted,” credits for that term. Full time enrollment is 12 converted credits, three-fourths time is at least 9, and half-time is at least 6 converted credits.

Grade Level Progression Policy for Title IV
In order for students to progress from first to second year FSA award amounts they must complete 30 converted credits (see above). Students will be eligible for second year award amounts once they have completed 30 converted credits. No students will reach 60 converted credits under the current FSTM curriculum. Currently, First-Year loans are $4,700.00 per semester.

Any student taking the complete Direct-Entry curriculum will be eligible for first-year award amounts from Year 1 Term 1 through Year 2 Term 2. Second-year award amounts may be available in Year 2 Term 3 through the end of the program. Currently, Second-Year loans are $5,200.00 per semester.

Satisfactory Academic Progress
Standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) are published yearly in our course catalog, which is available in print and electronic formats. The same standards will be used for all students regardless of program enrolled and whether or not the student is receiving Title IV funding. The continuation of students who lack the ability, dedication or maturity to learn is inconsistent with the goals of the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery. Students must maintain a passing cumulative grade point average (GPA 2.5) and successfully complete 67% of cumulative credits per semester, to be assessed every semester.

A student whose GPA drops below 2.5 or who fails to complete at least 2/3 (67%) of cumulative credits will be placed on Academic Probation for failing to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards and will be required to attend a Performance Review.

Students will be evaluated at the end of each semester by the course instructor, in accordance with the criteria listed in the course syllabus. Grades will be posted online via our online grade book.

The grade for clinical coursework (Clinical Lab) is determined by the Clinical Director based on fulfillment of all requirements outlined in the Clinical Lab syllabus, including but not limited to midterm check-ins, submission of clinical experience forms, clinical hours log: showing fulfillment of clinical hours.

The Academic Director will evaluate academic progress at the end of every semester once grades have been submitted. A determination will be made regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Any student who is not meeting SAP standards will continue to be eligible for Title IV aid for one semester, with a financial aid status of “Academic Probation.” If at any time a student fails to meet SAP, she or he will be notified in writing and again during a Performance Review.

Financial Aid Probation
If for any reason a student fails to meet SAP in that subsequent semester and is not dismissed from the program eligibility for financial aid will be revoked, unless the student successfully appeals or petitions for continued eligibility. In the case of a successful appeal, financial aid status will be changed to “Financial Aid Probation”.

A student who wishes to appeal a determination of unsatisfactory progress may initiate petition procedures, per our Appeal Policy.
Veterans Attendance Policy

- Veterans must attend the first day of class in order to be eligible for benefits.
- Excused absences will be granted for extenuating circumstances only. Excused absences will be substantiated by entries in students’ files.
- Early departures, class cuts, tardiness, etc. for any portion of an hour will be counted as a full hour of absence.
- Students exceeding three (3) days unexcused absences in a calendar month WILL BE DISMISSED for unsatisfactory attendance.

Veteran’s Standards of Academic Progress

If the cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 at the end of any term the student will be placed on academic probation. The GPA must be brought up to 2.0 or better by the following term or the veteran student will be terminated from veteran benefits.

Recertification for Veterans Administration Benefits

Upon obtaining a 2.0 cumulative grade point average, the veteran student can be recertified for veteran benefits.

Program Withdrawal and Refund Policy

Should the student withdraw or be dismissed for any reason, all refunds will be made according to the following refund schedule:

- Program withdrawal must be made as an official written request, which includes email requests.
- The complete enrollment fee will be refunded if the student withdraws from the program within three (3) business days after signing the Enrollment Agreement and making the initial payment.
- Program withdrawal before the third (3rd) business day, and before the first class will result in a refund of all tuition and fees paid.
- Program withdrawal after classes have begun, but prior to 60% completion of the term, will result in a prorated refund computed on the number of days attended as a percentage of total program days for the term.
- No refund will be given after 60% of the term has passed.
- Program withdrawal date: The program withdrawal date for refund computation purposes is the date written notice of withdrawal is received in the Academic office.
- Refunds will be made within 30 days of receipt of the Program Withdrawal Notice.
- No refunds will be made for books, lab fees and/or supply assessments.
Academic Coursework Policies & Procedures

Class Break Policy
Department of Education Rule: For each 60 minute hour of class time students will receive 50 minutes of instruction in the presence of an instructor and 10 minutes of break.

Course or Program Cancellation Policy
The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery, Inc. reserves the right to cancel or postpone a class or program for any reason at its sole discretion, including insufficient student enrollment. FSTM administration will, however, attempt to make cancellation decisions well in advance of the beginning date of class, and will further strive to honor commitments made to any students already enrolled in a particular program. If the school elects to cancel classes or programs, enrolled students are credited a 100% refund of tuition and fees paid for the class or program.

Non-Matriculating Student Policy
Non-matriculating students must fill out a non-matriculating student agreement and pay an enrollment fee of $30 per term. They will be billed full tuition for all classes taken. Not all courses are open to non-matriculating students.

Prerequisites Policy
Course prerequisites are listed with individual course descriptions. Course prerequisites are absolutely required to be satisfied before moving forward to subsequent courses in the program.

Research Requirement
The following courses carry a Research Requirement:
    Antepartum, Intrapartum, Issues in Professional Midwifery, Female Sexuality for Midwives, Nutrition, Psychology for Midwives and Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology.

Students will learn the valuable skill of gathering and synthesizing information to present either in oral or written form. In each of the above classes, instructors assign either a research paper of at least 5 pages or a research-based presentation and all research assignments are required to be in correct APA Format according to the most recent APA Guidelines and Standards. Students will need to turn in a bibliography for each research assignment that includes referenced journals and texts in APA Format.
Clinical Lab Policies & Procedures

Prior to Enrolling in Clinical Lab:
Students are required to submit a current Physical Health Form. The Physical Exam must occur within one year of starting FSTM to be considered current.

Students shall submit proof of current immunizations or titers for the following tests. Immunizations/Titers should have occurred within one year of starting FSTM to be considered current; a copy of official lab results is considered acceptable proof:
- Hepatitis B
- Varicella
- MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
- TB Test

In addition, we require:
- FSTM Student ID Badge made in Year One, Term One.
- A Clinical Resume written and approved in Year One, Term One.
- Students must be current in certifications of CPR and Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) in Year One, Term One.
- Students must interview with potential preceptors, as arranged by the Clinical Director.

Clinical Experience Requirements
Students may start their clinical preceptorship in Year 1, Term 2 of the program. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher in order to be eligible to attend Clinical Lab. All clinical requirements are in compliance with Chapter 467, Florida Statute, the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM), and the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC).

NARM Regulations require:
- A minimum of 5 births must be conducted in the home.
- A minimum of 2 births must be planned Hospital Births. This cannot be during an Intrapartum Transport, but can be an Antepartum Transport.
- In all categories, the Assistant under Supervision requirements must be completed before the student midwife can begin Primary under Supervision.

Total Midwifery Clinical Lab Credits-23 Clock Hours-1380

Clinical Lab Overview

Enrollment in Clinical Lab:
Students may be eligible to enroll in Clinical Lab starting in Year One, Term Two and continue to enroll each semester throughout the program. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher in order to be eligible to attend Clinical Lab. Students have the option to complete Clinical Lab one semester early to allow time in Y3T3 for study time for the NARM written exam.

Clinical Check-Ins: Students will meet with the Clinical Director at least once each semester to discuss progress at their assigned clinical site.

Clinical Experience Forms: Students will be required to submit clinical forms monthly (due one month from the date of the experience to the Clinical Director).

Clinical Hours: Students will document clinical hours continuously on the Clinical Hours form, and will submit a final version at the end of each semester. Each Clinical Lab credit is worth 60 hours.
The total amount of hours submitted must meet the minimal requirement of Clinical Lab credits registered for (i.e. if the student registered for 2 credits of Clinical Lab, they must show documentation of at least 120 Clinical Lab clock hours).

**Driving Time:** Students cannot count driving time on the Clinical Hours log from their home to clinic and/or births.

**Clinical Lab Extra Credits:** Upon review and approval by the Clinical Director, additional Clinical Lab credits can be added during drop/add, if the student expects to exceed the amount of clinical hours they registered for by 60 hours or more.

**In Progress (IP) Grade:** A grade of IP may be issued if a student has not completed the hours needed for the credits registered for in a given semester. A grade of IP will only be issued for an approved reason, per a meeting with the Clinical Director. The student must complete the Clinical Lab credits by the end of the following semester, or a failing grade will be issued for that Clinical Lab course.

**Preceptor & Clinic Placement**

**Preceptor Placement Guidelines:** The Clinical Director will schedule an interview between the student and potential preceptors, prior to clinical placement. Clinical placement will be assigned per semester.

Students are not permitted to change Clinical sites without the Clinical Director’s approval. If a student changes sites without permission all clinical experiences at the unapproved site will be denied and a performance review scheduled.

**Students Clinical Responsibilities**

**Extra Costs:** All costs related to travel, room, and board at clinical sites.

**Car and Cell Phone:** Students must have reliable transportation while on call and remaining accessible at all times by telephone.

**CPR and NRP:** Maintaining current certifications in both CPR and NRP during the entirety of their clinical preceptorship. The student is responsible for the fees and scheduling of these trainings and must maintain a proof of certification in both CPR and NRP on file at FSTM. If CPR and NRP certifications lapse while enrolled in Clinical Lab, students must discontinue attending all clinical experiences until they renew certifications. This could result in a student failing a semester of Clinical Lab, if it is not resolved.

**NARM Skills Verification Checklist**

We have adapted the book *Practical Skills Guide for Midwives* (PSGM) by Pam Weaver and Sharon Evans for use in documenting skills verification. All students must purchase the current edition upon entering the midwifery program.

Students are responsible for obtaining *two signatures* for each skill listed in the book. Students will receive signatures in Healthcare Skills I and II during the first year, as well as Practicum classes throughout the program.

Official preceptors with FSTM, Instructors, and the Clinical Director can verify skills and sign in the PSGM book.
Students will need to turn in the signed pages in the back of the book to FSTM before applying to take the NARM written exam in their senior year.

- **1**\(^{st}\) SIGNATURE: When the student has been instructed about the skill in the classroom setting or in their preceptor site.
- **2**\(^{nd}\) SIGNATURE: When the student has practiced the skill and demonstrates proficiency.

**Students must have two signatures from different preceptors or instructors for the following skills:**

1. Basic maternal physical exam
2. Routine prenatal exam
3. Newborn exam
4. 4-6 week postpartum check-up

**Clinical Skills Practice and Exams Overview**

**GYN/Pelvic Exams:** Students will receive instruction on how to perform a pelvic exam in Y1T2. Students will observe and practice hands-on skills on a live model in 1203L Healthcare Skills II Lab.

**GYN/Pelvic Skills Exam:** Students will perform a complete pelvic exam on a live model in Y2T1 and verbalize all steps involved, as if talking to a real midwifery client. Students will also have the opportunity to practice the steps of pelvimetry on the live model during this session. This Skills Exam happens in 2102 Midwifery Practicum IIA.

**Practicum Class:** Students will be given the opportunity to practice skills during Midwifery Practicum class, which happens each semester beginning in Y1T2.

**Clinical Skills Exam (CSE):** In Y3T2 of the midwifery program, students will complete an 8-hour skills exam to determine proficiency in advanced skills prior to graduation as a part of the 3202 Clinical Skills Practicum course. This exam is a requirement of NARM and must be completed before graduation. Refer to the CSE Study Guide for a complete description of the exam and information on preparing to take the test. Students MUST pass this exam in order to graduate from FSTM.
This table should act as a general guideline for students and preceptors in gauging student involvement at a preceptor site. Please note: the approximate number of hours for each term are based on the standard number of credits assigned for Clinical Lab during that term.
Professional Liability

FSTM students are covered by professional medical liability insurance via the school. The student agrees to inform the FSTM Clinical Director of any incident or situation that they believe may result in a liability claim within 24 hours of occurrence.

Law and Rule at Preceptor Sites

Florida Statute 467: Students shall review and abide by Florida Statute 467 Law and Rules. Students shall abide by the Clinical site’s personnel policies, protocols, and contracts as deemed by the Preceptor(s). General guidelines as follows:

- If the student is asked to perform clinical duties outside of the scope of practice, per Florida Statute 467 Law and Rule, the student should decline only after a discussion with the Preceptor and notify the Clinical Director within 24 hours.
- The unlicensed practice of midwifery in the state of Florida is a felony (FS. 467.201): The student must, at all times, function within the student/preceptor relationship and the provisions of Chapter 467, Florida Law and Rules.
- While enrolled at FSTM, the student agrees not to be present at a birth or clinical experience or to perform midwifery services without the presence of a supervising FSTM-approved Preceptor.
- HIPAA: The student acknowledges the importance of HIPAA confidentiality and agrees not to use real names when discussing client cases in class, with classmates, and in written form. This means: Clients, midwives, physicians, and events that take place at the Preceptor/Clinical Sites. (see detailed section following)

HIPAA Guidelines

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy and Security Rules are intended to enforce standards of ethics and confidentiality.

- When presenting case studies in the classroom setting students should not use the names of the client and medical practitioner.
- When submitting clinical experience documentation to FSTM, student midwives should make sure to use client codes instead of real names (this includes the first name of the client).
- Student midwives are encouraged to keep a private log (for personal use only) of all client names with client codes to use as a reference when submitting clinical paperwork.
- When student midwives are submitting documentation to NARM to apply to sit for the NARM exam they should redact all client names on copies of forms used to verify clinical experiences.
- Student midwives should never photo-copy client records from paper or electronic charts without direct permission from the medical practitioner and the client.

Violations of HIPAA will result in the following:
1. A Performance Review will be held with the Clinical Director and another director of FSTM.
2. The student may be placed on Clinical Probation for one complete semester, including a leave of absence from their clinical site.
3. The student may be dismissed from the midwifery program immediately if a formal complaint is issued by the preceptor or client.
Challenges in the Clinical Site

Students and Preceptors have a right to mediation should a problem arise. Mediation is available through the school. Please notify the Clinical Director within 24 hours if a dispute has occurred. In the event that disagreements or problems regarding behavior or clinical performance are not resolved, the preceptor has the right to direct the school to withdraw a student from the preceptor site.

- Students will continue with current Preceptor(s) until the end of the semester. Changes mid-semester will only happen if the student is dismissed from a site by the Preceptor due to poor performance or other reasons.
- If a student refuses to attend a birth while on-call, they may be placed on Clinical Probation and be immediately dismissed or suspended from their current Clinical Site. This may result in a failing grade in Clinical Lab or dismissal from FSTM.
- If a student is dismissed from their Clinical Site due to poor performance, a Performance Review will be scheduled with the Clinical Director and the Academic Director or the Executive Director.

Birth-Related Absence Policy

Students are required to be off-call for ALL FSTM classes. Birth-related absences occur when an on-call student attending a birth is prevented from going to class.

- Students must be in Year 1 Term 2 or beyond and enrolled in Clinical Lab.
- Students will be granted up to 2 clock hours for each credit hour of the course missed for birth-related absences each semester.
- 1 credit hour of academic classes = 15 clock hours
- 1 credit hour of academic classes with a lab component (designated with “L” after the course number) = 30 clock hours
- Any additional birth-related absences will be considered unexcused absences.
- It is the student’s responsibility to inform each instructor of the birth-related absence before the start of each class missed, by telephone or email (when at all possible – allowing for actual attendance at the birth).
- If at all possible students are encouraged to notify instructors in advance through one of the following methods:
  - Speaking with the instructor in person or via a phone call
  - Sending an email and receiving a response from the instructor
  - Simply leaving a voice message or sending an email is not considered contacting the instructor. If the student is unable to reach the instructor through either of the methods stated above, the student must contact the Academic Director or Clinical Director.
- Any missed course work is expected to be made up in a timely manner. Some missed work may be unable to be made up, at the instructor’s discretion.
- The student is responsible for submitting to each instructor of a missed class documentation via a “Birth-Related Absence Form”, including
  - The Preceptor’s signature
  - The date and time of the birth
  - The date and times the student was in attendance at the birth
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

Below are course descriptions for all FSTM coursework. Pre-requisites are noted for each course as well as number of credits and clock hours.

ANTEPARTUM 1303  3 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: FLORIDA LAW AND RULE 1107; ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II 1201/1201L; HEALTHCARE SKILLS II 1203/1203L; REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 1301/1301L (CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT).

This course will provide the student midwife with didactic material necessary to provide care from the initial contact with a client through the onset of labor. The normal pregnancy will be emphasized. Students will explore a wide range of topics including the probable, presumptive and positive signs of pregnancy, deviations from the normal pregnancy, physiologic basis of and solutions for the common discomforts of pregnancy. The student will develop educational materials for use with clients. The class will integrate the medical/midwifery models while providing the foundation for the student to begin her or his evolution toward providing primary care at clinical sites. 45 CLOCK HOURS

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I  1101/1101L  4 CREDITS
This two- course series presents an in-depth review of the body’s organization and structure. It also introduces the student to basic physiologic concepts as they relate to normal body function and maintenance of health. The laboratory experience demonstrates human and microscopic anatomic and physiologic processes through drawings and various models. With LAB. 75 CLOCK HOURS

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II  1201/1201L  3 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I 1101/1101L

This two- course series presents an in-depth review of the body’s organization and structure. It also introduces the student to basic physiologic concepts as they relate to normal body function and maintenance of health. The laboratory experience demonstrates human and microscopic anatomic and physiologic processes through drawings and various models. With LAB. 45 CLOCK HOURS

BASIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS 1106  1 CREDIT
This is the first communication course in a series that continues throughout the first two years of our program. The first course encourages personal growth of the student and lays the foundation for emotional awareness in communication. Topics addressed include basic communication skills, setting boundaries, and effective listening skills. Students practice dealing with difficult issues, sharpening their communication skills through role-playing scenarios, crisis management, and developing professionalism. The role of the midwife as a healer will also be explored. 15 CLOCK HOURS

BREASTFEEDING 1205  2 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 1301/1301L; POSTPARTUM 2203 (CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT); NEWBORN 2206 (CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT)

This course will cover numerous aspects of breastfeeding, including anatomy and physiology, breastfeeding education for clients, proper use of pumping devices, and formulating care plans. The early recognition of simple problems and implementation of solutions will be emphasized. Students will also learn early support intervention techniques and identify referral services. 30 CLOCK HOURS.

CLINICAL LAB 1200CL, 1300CL, 2100CL, 2200CL, 2300CL, 3100CL, 3200CL, 3300CL , 4100CL, 4200CL, 4300CL , 5100CL  1-4 CREDITS

Clinical Lab starts in Year 1 Term 2 and continues throughout the midwifery program. Students will be assigned to work directly with a qualified Preceptor. Preceptors are Florida Licensed Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, Registered Nurses or Obstetricians who work in home birth practices, birth centers and hospital settings. Clinical experiences will include attending prenatal and postpartum appointments, participation during labor and birth, and learning office procedures for Midwifery practices. Students will progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum,
Intrapartum and Postpartum period. The student is responsible for completing 23 Clinical Lab credits throughout the midwifery program. Please see Clinical Policies and Procedures section for additional details. EACH CLINICAL CREDIT IS EQUAL TO 60 CLOCK HOURS (TOTAL 1380).

**CLINICAL SKILLS PRACTICUM 3202  1 CREDIT**
This course involves a comprehensive clinical skills exam made up of selected clinical skills and procedures, as outlined in the most recent edition of the Practical Skills Guide for Midwifery, by Weaver & Evans. The course is set up to include a series of skills practice days which end in a cumulative clinical skills exam. 15 CLOCK HOURS

**COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT 3104  1 CREDIT**
PREREQUISITES: FLORIDA LAW AND RULE 1107; DIAGNOSTIC TESTING 1305; ANTEPARTUM 1303; INTRAPARTUM 2103; POSTPARTUM 2203; NEWBORN 2206. This course will review the indications for consultation, referral and collaborative care according to F.S. 467, the Midwifery Practice Act. Students will explore the role of a Licensed Midwife as a member of a healthcare team while learning skills for communicating as a medical professional. Applying risk assessment from 64 B24 Florida Administrative Code during prenatal, Intrapartum and postpartum care to determine a site and provider for each client will be emphasized. Interpreting data to identify current and potential health problems and needs, establishing a collaboration plan with a physician and ensuring clients’ safety and dignity during transport will be discussed. 15 CLOCK HOURS

**DIAGNOSTIC TESTING 1305  1 CREDIT**
The essence of prenatal care is to monitor the well-being of the mother and the developing child. In this course students will become familiar with the most widely utilized lab and imaging tools, including all those required by Florida Law, that are used to assist the midwife in determining the health status of the mother and fetus in order to recognize when intervention is necessary. 15 CLOCK HOURS

**ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING A PRACTICE 3201  2 CREDITS**
PREREQUISITES: FLORIDA LAW AND RULE 1107; 3RD YEAR ENROLLMENT. This course is an overview of the professional and legal issues related to establishing and maintaining a practice. We will discuss the benefits and problems of working with insurance, HMOs and Medicaid and the requirements of operating a business. The everyday workings and administration of a practice will be explored. Emphasis will be on the expanding role of midwifery within our health care system. 30 CLOCK HOURS.

**FEMALE SEXUALITY FOR MIDWIVES 1204  2 CREDITS**
This course introduces the student to the female sexual system and its contribution to the health and well-being of non-pregnant women, women in each stage of pregnancy, labor, delivery and the postpartum period. Basic female sexual dysfunction is discussed, with training in interviewing and history-taking around sexual issues. Students will observe a pelvic exam. 30 CLOCK HOURS.

**FETAL MONITORING 2104 1 CREDIT**
This course is designed to integrate the history, theory and principles of fetal surveillance with practical application of auscultation. Students will gain an understanding of relevant anatomy and physiology of maternal utero-placental-fetal circulation and uterine function and activity and its effects on fetal oxygenation. Students will also gain an understanding of the oxygen transfer chain and pathophysiology of disrupted oxygen transfer to the fetus. All components of the fetal heart rate will be discussed including: baseline, accelerations, decelerations, variability, and trends over time. 15 CLOCK HOURS

**FLORIDA LAW AND RULE 1107 1 CREDIT**
The focus of this course is Florida Statute 467, the Midwifery Practice Act, and 64B24 in the Administrative Code. The law and rule specific to the practice of direct-entry midwives in Florida, the history of the law, the legislative process and the rule making process will be covered, as well as the role of the Council of Licensed Midwifery, the Department of Health and the Midwives Association of Florida. 15 CLOCK HOURS
GYNECOLOGY AND WOMEN’S HEALTH 3101   2 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 1301/1301L; ANTEPARTUM 1303.
This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of well woman care. Students will gain the knowledge and skills to provide care, support and information to women regarding their overall reproductive health, including understanding the normal life cycle of women; causes of, evaluation of and treatment for problems associated with the female reproductive system and breasts; information and provisions or referral for various methods of contraception; issues involved in decision-making regarding unwanted pregnancies, and resources for counseling and referral; issues involving infertility; and the interpretation of lab results. 30 CLOCK HOURS

HEALTHCARE SKILLS I   1103   2 CREDITS
This foundation course introduces the theory and performance of basic healthcare skills essential to a career in midwifery. Students will gain an understanding of medical terminology relevant to midwifery and learn to properly chart clients’ records; learn to develop healthcare plans; explore principles of body mechanics, utilization of therapeutic communication techniques and aseptic and sterile techniques; be able to assess client hydration and elimination status and identify need for intervention with therapeutic measures; and study administration of relevant medications and prenatal care components. Students will be introduced to physical assessment. 30 CLOCK HOURS

HEALTHCARE SKILLS II 1203/1203L   3 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: HEALTHCARE SKILLS I 1103.
This course is a continuation of Healthcare Skills I, with emphasis placed on development of advanced healthcare skills relevant to midwifery practice. Students will undertake an in-depth systems approach to physical assessment, interpretation of prenatal data, advanced laboratory technique including venipuncture, neonatal physical assessment and lab work. With LAB. 60 CLOCK HOURS

HERB WORKSHOP 2205   1 CREDIT
This course is an introduction to the herbs and herbal preparations used by traditional midwives during the childbearing year. Students will learn the properties and parts, methods of preparation, indications and contraindications of most commonly used herbs in midwifery practice. Students will have the opportunity to prepare tinctures, oils and salves during this workshop style class. 15 CLOCK HOURS

HISTORY OF MIDWIFERY 1105   1 CREDIT
This course will provide a historical dimension to the current practice of midwifery in the United States. The multi-faceted roots of U.S. midwifery will be emphasized, including immigrant midwives, indigenous midwives, rural southern midwifery, the nurse midwife, and the birth renaissance midwife. 15 CLOCK HOURS

INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS 1306   1 CREDIT
PREREQUISITES: BASIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS 1106
This is the second communication course in a series that continues throughout the first two years of our program. This course focuses on learning non-violent communication. Among other skills, students learn to manage anger, make requests, and identify judgments. Students practice dealing with difficult issues, sharpening their communication skills through role-playing scenarios, crisis management, and developing professionalism. 15 CLOCK HOURS

INTRAPARTUM 2103   3 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 1301/1301L; ANTEPARTUM 1303.
Midwifery students will learn the steps of the normal labor process including mechanisms of labor and birth. Students will review the anatomy and physiology of the reproductive organs, structures and fetal anatomy, and will learn to assess the well-being of mother and child and screen for complications in each stage of labor. Upon completion of the course students will demonstrate knowledge and management of the normal labor and delivery, recognition of complications and use of appropriate interventions, including knowledge of when to transfer. 45 CLOCK HOURS
ISSUES IN PROFESSIONAL MIDWIFERY 3204  1 CREDIT
PREREQUISITES: FLORIDA LAW AND RULE 1107, 3RD YEAR ENROLLMENT.
This course introduces the senior midwifery student to the current issues that impact the midwifery profession. The role of the midwife as a change agent in her community and in the professional organizations will be emphasized. Current trends in midwifery education, midwifery legislation, public education, third-party reimbursement, ethics, and consumer advocacy will be discussed. The role of Florida Licensed Midwives in national and international issues will also be explored. 15 CLOCK HOURS

MICROBIOLOGY FOR MIDWIVES 2201/2201L  3 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I  1101/1101L; ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II 1201/1201L.
This course will provide the student with a broad overview of the principles of microbiology and basic immunology necessary for midwifery practice. Students will be encouraged to think critically and will become familiar with interpreting commonly ordered lab reports. Emphasis will be placed on practical application of these scientific principles, including biological mechanisms of prenatal testing and childhood immunizations. With LAB. 60 CLOCK HOURS

MIDWIFERY PRACTICUMS  1 CREDIT (EACH)
In these courses students will meet with their instructor to discuss their experiences at clinical sites, and review and practice clinical skills taught in the previous semester. The concept of confidentiality will be emphasized. A review of material presented in other courses pertaining to clinical skills will be done using skills drills, research projects, student presentations and case reviews. Each term, the focus is placed on the previous term’s materials. 15 CLOCK HOURS
• 1202 Midwifery Practicum IA - Birth Assistant Skills Practice: Training on how to be a competent birth assistant, which includes a review of basic clinical skills.
• 1302 Midwifery Practicum IB - Healthcare Skills Practice: Includes a phlebotomy training and complete review of all healthcare skills, with a focus on prenatal clinical skills.
• 2102 Midwifery Practicum IIA - Antepartum Skills Practice: Complete review and practice of all antepartum skills.
• 2202 Midwifery Practicum IIB - Intrapartum Skills Practice: Complete review and practice of all intrapartum skills.
• 2302 Midwifery Practicum IIC - Diagnostic Testing & Newborn Skills Practice: Review of diagnostic tests and newborn exams and protocols.

NARM REVIEW 3103  1 CREDIT
A complete review for the NARM exam, which is the official LM/CPM licensing exam, recognized by national standards and Florida state standards. This course covers student learning and testing styles, as well as a comprehensive study guide and mock exam questions. 15 CLOCK HOURS

NEWBORN 2206  2 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: INTRAPARTUM 2103; POSTPARTUM 2203 (CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT).
In this course the student midwife will learn normal newborn examinations and behavioral assessments, as well as infant anatomy and physiology and common complications affecting the newborn. Signs and symptoms of impending problems, physical exams, routine medications, when to transfer to the NICU and the 24-48 hour home visit will be discussed. Upon completion the student will be able to perform the complete newborn exam. This module emphasizes the appreciation and beauty of the "amazing newborn" and explores the messages the newborn sends regarding its own health and well-being, particularly during the first four hours of life. 30 CLOCK HOURS
NUTRITION FOR THE CHILDBEARING YEAR 2101   2 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: ANTEPARTUM 1303.
This course will provide the student with a foundation in nutrition and will focus on assessment and counseling skills. Nutritional requirements during pre-pregnancy, pregnancy, lactation, postpartum and infancy will be covered, including topics such as factors that affect weight gain during pregnancy, care plans for pregnant women with eating disorders, nutritional and fluid demands of women with prolonged labor and many other nutritional topics. The physiological and immunological components of breast milk will also be reviewed. 30 CLOCK HOURS

PHARMACOLOGY 2303  2 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II 1201/1201L; ANTEPARTUM 1303; DIAGNOSTIC TESTING 1305.
This course presents basic principles of pharmacology and drug therapy for pregnancy, birth and postpartum. Students will explore, among other topics, pharmodynamics and pharmokinetics. The goal of this course is to provide a foundation for the Licensed Midwife to function safely in the administration of medicine. 30 CLOCK HOURS

POSTPARTUM 2203   1 CREDIT
PREREQUISITES: INTRAPARTUM 2103; NEWBORN 2206 (CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT).
In this course the midwifery student will gain an understanding of the normal events that occur immediately postpartum. Also included are the emotional, psychosocial and sexual variations that may occur during this period. The causes of common postpartum discomforts and how to alleviate them will be discussed. Postpartum nutritional requirements, evaluations and counseling of the client will be covered, and students will learn how to monitor the needs of the mother and child in the “fourth trimester,” including conducting the 24 hour, 2 week and 6 week postpartum visits. Upon completion of this class, students will be able to recognize deviations from normal in the postpartum period and respond with appropriate intervention. 15 CLOCK HOURS

PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS 2106   1 CREDIT
PREREQUISITES: INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS 1306
In the last course of the series, students learn to apply communication skills to their personal and professional relationships in order to become more effective midwives. The role of the midwife as a healer will also be explored. 15 CLOCK HOURS

PSYCHOLOGY FOR MIDWIVES 2105   2 CREDITS
This course, developed especially for midwives, is the psychological study of the changes that occur in people and their behavior during the lifespan. Special emphasis will be given to women’s development from puberty to menopause, with highlights on the normal psychology of women during pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum. Other specific topics include body image and eating disorders, sexual abuse, domestic violence, fatherhood and psychological responses to unexpected birth outcomes such as miscarriage, stillbirth, fetal death and cesarean birth. 30 CLOCK HOURS.

PUBLIC HEALTH 2301   2 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: MICROBIOLOGY 2201/2201L; ANTEPARTUM 1303.
This course will review the structure of the Public Health System at the federal, state and local level and how it relates to the community, the prevention of disease, illnesses and mortality rate. A section of this course will cover HIV/AIDS training, which is required by the State of Florida for LM licensure. Students will not only learn disease identification, they will also explore the reasons for required prenatal and postnatal testing and the procedures involved in counseling and prevention techniques, including statistics, policy making and legislation. 30 CLOCK HOURS

RESEARCH EVALUATION 1104   1 CREDIT
This course is designed to give the student a basic introduction to the types, quality, and formats of scholarly research. Students will evaluate articles presented in peer-reviewed journals, will discuss primary, secondary, and tertiary sources, will discuss how research presented might apply to midwifery practice, and will be introduced briefly to the principles of statistics as they pertain to medical research. The course will also cover APA citation style as it is used in documenting sources in literature reviews, papers, and other
academic documents. This course is specifically geared toward preparing the student for the research portion of subsequent courses. 15 CLOCK HOURS

REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 1301/1301L 4 CREDITS
PREREQUISITES: ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II 1201/1201L.
This is a basic science course developed for midwifery students. It is one of the foundations for courses in clinical management. It will build on knowledge gained in the Anatomy and Physiology course to provide an in-depth understanding of pregnancy, birth and lactation from a biophysical perspective. With LAB. 75 CLOCK HOURS

STUDENT SUCCESS LAB 1102L 1 CREDIT
The purpose of this course is to equip the student with basic skills and knowledge to be successful in the school environment. Emphasis will be placed on midwifery school experience as preparation for midwifery practice and the expectation that students will devote a similar level of care, responsibility, and sacrifice to school as to midwifery practice. Topics such as study skills, time management, burnout prevention, stress management, basic computer skills, learning styles, and school etiquette will be covered. With LAB. 30 CLOCK HOURS

SUTURING FOR MIDWIVES 2204 1 CREDIT
PREREQUISITES: REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 1301/1301L; INTRAPARTUM 2103.
This course is designed to integrate theory and principles of suturing and wound healing with practical experience and knot tying techniques on laboratory models. Students will gain an understanding of relevant anatomy and physiology, causation and prevention of lacerations, severity of wounds, pre-suturing assessments, relaxation techniques to be used during the suturing process, postpartum assessment of the sutured area and teaching techniques to aid the client in facilitating the healing process. Principles of asepsis and anesthesia will also be covered. Learning objectives will be met through a combination of lecture material, reading assignments, hands-on practice, and visual aids. 15 CLOCK HOURS

TRADITIONAL HEALING MODALITIES I 1304 1 CREDIT
This course is the first in a series of three that span throughout the entire program. Introductions to holistic care options such as homeopathy, chiropractic therapy, massage, Watsu, acupuncture, and traditional Chinese medicine, as they are applicable to midwifery care, will be covered. This course will also include a Waterbirth workshop, which includes a review of Waterbirth techniques, benefits, and contraindications, along with waterbirth scenarios and emergency drills. 15 CLOCK HOURS

TRADITIONAL HEALING MODALITIES II 2304 1 CREDIT
PREREQUISITES: ANTEPARTUM 1303; INTRAPARTUM 2103; POSTPARTUM 2203; NEWBORN 2206.
This course is the second in a series of three that span throughout the entire program. Introductions to holistic care options such as homeopathy, chiropractic therapy, massage, Watsu, acupuncture, and traditional Chinese medicine, as they are applicable to midwifery care, will be covered. 15 CLOCK HOURS

TRADITIONAL HEALING MODALITIES III 3203 1 CREDIT
PREREQUISITES: ANTEPARTUM 1303; INTRAPARTUM 2103; POSTPARTUM 2203; NEWBORN 2206.
This course is the third in a series of three that span throughout the entire program. Introductions to holistic care options such as homeopathy, chiropractic therapy, massage, Watsu, acupuncture, and traditional Chinese medicine, as they are applicable to midwifery care, will be covered. 15 CLOCK HOURS

WRITING PROTOCOLS 3102 1 CREDIT
This course is designated for students to research, write and receive feedback on all Protocols for their midwifery practice. Final protocol documents are required to be evidence-based, in proper APA format and in accordance with F.S.467/Rule64B24, with detailed midwifery application. 15 CLOCK HOURS
**MIDWIVES MODEL OF CARE IS WOMAN-CENTERED**

The Midwives Model of Care™ is a fundamentally different approach to pregnancy and childbirth than contemporary obstetrics. Midwifery care is uniquely nurturing, hands-on care before, during, and after birth. Midwives are health care professionals specializing in pregnancy and childbirth who develop a trusting relationship with their clients, which results in confident, supported labor and birth. While there are different types of midwives practicing in various settings, all midwives are trained to provide comprehensive prenatal care and education, guide labor and birth, address complications, and care for newborns. The Midwives Model of Care™ is based on the fact that pregnancy and birth are normal life events. The application of this model has been proven to reduce the incidence of birth injury, trauma, and cesarean section.

The Midwives Model of Care includes:

- Monitoring the physical, psychological, and social well-being of the mother throughout the childbearing cycle
- Providing the mother with individualized education, counseling, prenatal care, continuous hands-on assistance during labor and delivery, and postpartum support
- Minimizing technological interventions
- Identifying and referring women who require obstetrical attention

This model of care meets standards set by the World Health Organization (WHO), which defines skilled maternal and neonatal care as: close to where and how [mothers and newborns] live, close to their birthing culture, but at the same time safe, with a skilled professional able to act immediately when complications occur (WHO, 2005, p. xxi). The WHO states that this care can best be provided by a registered midwife, or a professional health worker with equivalent skills, in midwife-led facilities. The WHO goes on to explain that professional midwives can avert, contain, or solve many of the largely unpredictable life-threatening problems that may arise during childbirth, while working collaboratively with the higher level of care offered by physicians and hospitals when mothers present problems that go beyond a midwife’s competency or equipment (WHO, 2005, p. xxi).
The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery, Inc.

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