



UNIVERSITY OF L'AQUILA



Department of Health, Life and
Environmental Sciences

Profile of
1st Cycle Degree in OBSTETRICS

Laurea in OSTETRICIA

DEGREE PROFILE OF
Laurea in OSTETRICIA
First Cycle Degree in OBSTETRICS

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| TYPE OF DEGREE & LENGTH | Single Degree (180 ECTS-credits), 3 years |
| INSTITUTION(S) | Università degli Studi dell'Aquila - <i>University of L'Aquila</i> , ITALY |
| ACCREDITATION ORGANISATION(S) | Italian Ministry of Education and Research Federazione Nazionale Collegi delle Ostetriche / <i>National Federation of Midwiferies Colleges</i> (http://www.fnco.it/) |
| PERIOD OF REFERENCE | Programme validated for 3 years for cohorts starting in October 2012 |
| CYCLE /LEVEL | QF for EHEA: First Cycle; EQF level: 6; NQF for Italy: Laurea |

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| A | PURPOSE |
| | <p>The Bachelor in Obstetrics is a nationally recognised high quality programme. Our graduates are welcomed by employers across Italy and abroad. Midwifery is a woman-centred ancient practice of attending women during their childbearing experiences and is founded on respect for women and on a strong belief in the value of women's work of bearing and rearing each generation. The three-year integrated programme trains professional obstetricians with duties attributed by <i>Decree of the Ministry of Health no. 740 of 14 September 1994 (professional profile)</i>, <i>Italian law no. 251 of 10 August 2000</i> and amendments. The Programme enables graduates to work as obstetricians following registration in the professional register <i>National Federation of Midwifery Colleges</i> (http://www.fnco.it/). In line with the applicable laws, obstetricians work under their own full autonomy and responsibility to assure the physical and psychological wellbeing of women, couples and families throughout their evolution (birth, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, pregnancy, menopause, old age) in their own social contexts.</p> |

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| B | CHARACTERISTICS | | |
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| C | EMPLOYABILITY & FURTHER EDUCATION | | |
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| | | and researchers. |
| 2 | FURTHER STUDIES | The Bachelor Degree in <i>Obstetrics</i> normally gives direct access to the connected Second Cycle degree programme. It also gives access to some other Second Cycle degree programmes in Health care professionals with further specialization, as well as in leadership and management specialization (in which case extra work may be necessary for admission) and 1-year professionalizing courses. |

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| D | EDUCATION STYLE | |
| 1 | LEARNING & TEACHING APPROACHES | Lectures, group-work, individual study and autonomous learning, interprofessional learning, self directed study, work placement. |
| 2 | ASSESSMENT METHODS | Assessment is normally made by means of an oral or written examination. The final exam consists in the preparation and dissertation of a written text and in a practical exam aimed at demonstrating that the candidate has acquired the essential professional skills and competences related to the professional profile. Degree holders obtain the credentials for the enrollment on the <i>National Federation of Midwifery Colleges</i> . |

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| E | PROGRAMME COMPETENCES | |
| 1 | GENERIC | |
| | <p>The degree programme meets the competences and quality assurance procedures required by <i>National Federation of Midwifery Colleges</i> (www.fnco.it), by the National Higher Education Quality Assurance Agency (AVA) requirements for degree courses at first level. This includes the Generic Competences expected for the first cycle graduated, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Knowledge, Analysis and synthesis: Knowledge and understanding of the subject area, understanding of the profession and ability to be critical and self-critical; capacity to support professional obstetric practice decisions with concepts and theories from the biological, medical and social sciences; — Flexible mind: Ability to make reasoned decisions and to interact with others in a constructive manner, even when dealing with difficult issues; ability to use critical analysis and reflection to enhance the quality of midwifery; — Leadership, Management and Team-working: Ability to work in a team and to interact constructively with others regardless of background and culture and respecting diversity; demonstrate leadership with providing safe, quality nursing care; coordinating the healthcare team; and when tasked with oversight and accountability for care delivery. — Communication skills: Ability to develop an effective communication style to interact with patients, families, and the interdisciplinary health team; — Field culture: Ability to apply field knowledge in practical situations and to act on the basis of ethical reasoning and advance the discipline through evolution of conceptual frameworks and the promotion of excellence in midwifery practice; — Learning ability: Capacity to learn and stay up-to-date with learning; — Problem solving: Ability to identify, pose and resolve problems; — Other skills: Ability to plan and manage time and to evaluate and maintain the quality of work produced and develop interdisciplinary relationships in midwifery | |
| 2 | SUBJECT SPECIFIC | |
| | <p>The Programme meets all the Specific Competences as established and agreed in collaboration with the field stakeholders, clustered within the key overarching competences summarized below:</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -biological phenomena related to the main functional mechanisms of organs and systems, in particular concerning the physiology of human reproduction and embryo development; -basics of physio-pathology applied to different clinical situations, for pathologies during pregnancy and for pregnancy, also concerning diagnostic parameters; -general vaccination practices in line with the applicable laws, as well as the basic notions of neonatal and childhood nutrition (hygiene and dietary needs of babies, mothers and the principles of breastfeeding); -drugs used in obstetrics, gynaecology and neonatology as well as the diagnostic protocols and treatments of neonatal pathologies; -legal provisions and ethics applicable to obstetric practice and the ability to act accordingly. <p>Analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ability to identify and diagnose the physical, psychological and social needs of women, couples and the community in | |

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| | <p>different socio-health environments, integrating theoretical and practical knowledge to respond to such needs technically and scientifically.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ability to identify the social and health needs of pregnant women and provide information aiming to resolve any conflictual situations concerning drug abuse, poverty, disabilities etc. -ability to analyse the problems of women's health in its biological and sexual cycle and assess the healthcare and social services provided to satisfy the main needs of women, newborn babies, couples and the community. <p>Application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ability to deliver reproductive health education programmes to women, couples and the community, specifically concerning sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and generally aimed at the prevention of female genital and glandular cancer using information and methods they are skilled in (e.g. breast examinations, smear tests, etc.). -Ability to monitor maternal and fetal wellbeing during physiological pregnancy, childbirth and pathological situations, in collaboration with a physician; -Ability to assist physiological childbirth and where required carry out episiotomies, episiorraphies and sutures of 1st and 2nd degree lacerations as well as cesarean sections. -Ability to assess and apply an ethical code of conduct and medical-legal rules to gynaecology, obstetrics and neonatal care. <p>Synthesis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ability to plan, provide and assess gynaecological and obstetric-neonatal care to healthy and sick patients as part of an integrated healthcare system, promoting positive and healthy lifestyles and adopting care systems oriented to self-management and self-care and capacity to provide reasons for and document the chosen actions and solutions; -Ability to correctly apply diagnostic prescriptions and treatments complying with scientific principles and adapting them to the patient in line with various priority health and reproductive health issues, and the priorities of the mother and couple. -Ability to gather and apply research results to clinical practice to improve quality in terms of efficiency and effectiveness of care, also through the optimisation of human and material resources; <p>Creativity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ability to apply different delivery technologies that are appropriate to different cultures and based on the principle of customisation and appropriateness of care. <p>Evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ability to plan care activities adopting guidelines based on scientific evidence also using specific process and result indicators; -Ability to apply knowledge, competencies and skills in the practice of innovative and traditional surgery in collaboration with specialist physicians and other healthcare staff; <p>Problem managing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ability to carry out emergency activities in pathological pregnancies or difficult births (podalic births). - ability to assume leadership roles within the scope of professional practice; <p>Communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ability to communicate both verbally and in writing with patients, relatives, colleagues and other professional groups in multidisciplinary and multiprofessional collaboration. |
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| F | COMPLETE LIST OF PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES |
| | <p>A newly graduated Bachelor of Obstetrics should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -apply principles of midwifery and other associated disciplines such as biological, social, behavioural sciences, nursing, ethics and the law to practice in accordance with the national competency standards for the Midwifery profession; -access and critically analyse issues to support midwifery practice in order to contribute to midwifery profession enhancement; -locate, extract and interpret relevant evidence and scientific literature; - communicate both verbally and written, in a way the woman, her family and professional colleagues can understand; -promote midwifery within the community in the context of public health policy; - demonstrate competence in technological literacy, collect and manage information ethically and effectively; -demonstrate ability in interdependent and self-directed learning; incorporate learning opportunities in midwifery practice; -invite, act upon, and offer constructive feedback on midwifery practice from women and colleagues; -recognise the importance of skilled professional care (midwifery) for women and babies in an international context; -incorporate relevant international evidence/recommendations into midwifery practice; -support culturally safe, non-discriminatory midwifery for all women and their babies and demonstrate an understanding of how diverse values, beliefs and socio-cultural differences may impact on the health of women and babies; -understand and apply the concepts of autonomy, accountability, responsibility and collaboration in practice; -demonstrate ethical midwifery practice for women and families receiving maternity services; -interpret the law relevant to the midwife's scope of practice; -Develop collaborative relationships with other members of the healthcare team by working dependently, independently and interdependently to deliver evidence-based patient-centered care to individuals, families, and communities. |

- adapt to new situations and be innovative when solving problems and making decisions, whether individually or in collaboration with patients or business partners;
- further develop his/her own knowledge, skills and competences as part of life-long learning, including identifying his/ her own learning requirements and assessing the learning outcome;
- continue theoretical and further education at a Master's or PhD degree level upon completion of the Bachelor's degree as well as participate in professional specialisation within a narrow professional field.

Comprehensive Scheme of the First Cycle Degree in OBSTETRICS

| YEAR | CODE | COURSE | Credits (ECTS) | Semester |
|---------------------|-------|--|----------------|------------|
| I | D3798 | Human Anatomy and Histology | 4 | 1 |
| | D1318 | Genetics and Applied Biology | 6 | 1 |
| | D1324 | Nursing Process Methodology | 12 | 1 |
| | D4203 | Physiology and General Pathology | 6 | 2 |
| | D1354 | General Obstetrics | 6 | 2 |
| | D1404 | Techniques for drugs administration | 7 | 2 |
| | | <i>Work Placement I</i> | 16 | 1 and 2 |
| II | D2362 | Human and psycho-pedagogical sciences | 6 | 1 |
| | D1422 | Gynaecology and Obstetrics | 6 | 1 |
| | D3907 | Anaesthesia and Resuscitation | 7 | 1 |
| | D4208 | Hygiene, Safety and Professional Organization | 6 | 2 |
| | D1466 | Care and Treatment in Maternal and Child Area | 6 | 2 |
| | | <i>Work Placement II</i> | 24 | 1 and 2 |
| III | D4211 | Gyneacological Physiopathology | 6 | 1 |
| | D4214 | Integrative and Formative Clinical Activities | 8 | 1 |
| | D4215 | Integration between hospital and territory | 9 | 2 |
| | | <i>Work Placement III</i> | 24 | 1 and 2 |
| I, II or III | | <i>Other activities/courses:</i> - <i>Professional Laboratories (3 ECTS)</i> - <i>English (3 ECTS)</i> - <i>Other activities (6 ECTS)</i> | 12 | 1 and/or 2 |
| | | <i>Free choice courses</i> | 6 | 1 and/or 2 |
| III | | <i>Thesis</i> | 6 | 2 |