

Academy of Classical Oriental Sciences

5 YEAR TCM PROGRAM - February 2009

The courses included in the fifth year of the five-year program bring together theoretical study, technical study, and practical application. All courses are designed, in terms of content, mode of delivery, and methods of evaluation, to achieve the Academy's goals of providing its students with the highest level of education, as well as fulfilling government education requirements.

In addition to Warren Fischer, Dr. TCM, Dean of the Academy, we are extremely fortunate to have Juan Huang, PhD, as instructor in the fifth year of studies. Dr. Huang has many years of teaching experience in China in advanced topics of Chinese medicine, in particular, TCM Classics and Internal Medicine of TCM. Her wealth of knowledge and excellent teaching skills will certainly be of enormous benefit to students of the Academy and to the advancement of the profession of TCM.

INTRODUCTION

The program of study at the Academy of Classical Oriental Sciences has been designed, to as large a degree as possible, to match similar programs of study at Chinese medicine universities in the People's Republic of China (PRC). These PRC university programs are generally 5 or 6 years in length and extremely comprehensive, encompassing not only all modalities of Chinese medicine: medical classics, acupuncture, Chinese medicinal formulas, *tui na* massage, *qi gong* therapy, diet therapy, but also related western medicine topics. As such, the program of studies at the Academy is comprehensive, rigorous, and challenging. Our goal is to produce TCM doctors of worth.

With a written history of over 2500 years, Chinese medicine encompasses a truly vast field of knowledge. TCM doctors find that their study does not end in the classroom, but continues throughout their clinical careers, ultimately lasting their entire lifetime, with still more to learn.

It is for this reason that the Academy has implemented a 5-year program of study; more advanced knowledge, skills and abilities can do nothing but enhance a career, advance the profession, and, ultimately, greatly benefit the patient. As such, we require the student who is not only serious, committed and diligent, but who also seeks excellence.

Year 5 is a year of gaining expertise. During this phase of the program, students will investigate, to a much greater depth, a variety of clinically relevant aspects of TCM, which includes in depth study of meridian diagnosis as well as investigation of diagnosis and herbal treatment in major TCM classics. Just as the tradition of Chinese medicine has evolved to integrate with western medicine over the past several decades, so will our students develop the expertise necessary to carry on this tradition in an *integrated medicine* system. This integration of knowledge will be approached in terms of the meridian system; the pharmacological investigation of Chinese medicines; as well as through a combined approach to clinical therapeutics.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission requirements for entry into the first year of all ACOS programs may be found on our website at www.acos.org.

Requirements to Transfer into Diploma Program

Both current students, as well as graduates of other TCM schools are welcomed as transfer students into all ACOS programs.

Non-Graduates: Students who are currently enrolled in a TCM program (both ACOS and non-ACOS), but have not yet fulfilled their graduation requirements are eligible to transfer into the appropriate year of the ACOS 5-year TCM program.

Graduates of TCM Programs and Licensed Practitioners

Graduates of Acupuncture, Herbology and TCM programs (both ACOS and non-ACOS) will be eligible for block transfer of credits for years completed in previous TCM programs.

Upon completion of the 5-year program, students will be awarded a Diploma in Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine and will have the required curriculum content and hours to write the provincial licensing examinations for the Dr. of TCM title in British Columbia.

Certificate for audit/continuing education credits

You may audit ACOS 5th year level courses to receive continuing education credits, provided you meet the educational prerequisites. All ACOS fifth year courses fulfill professional development requirements for CTCMA licensing in BC. A certificate of completion of courses will be issued to audit students.

*Graduates of a 4-year TCM program are eligible to audit the following courses:

- 501 TCM Herbal Classics*
- 502 Advanced Meridian Theory and Application*
- 504 Advanced Clinical Therapeutics (5th year prerequisites required)*
- 553 TCM Pharmacology & Toxicology of TCM Medicinals*
- 554 Advanced Clinical Therapeutics (5th year prerequisites required)*

*Graduates of a 3-year Acupuncture program are eligible to audit the following course:

- 502 Applied Meridians*

*Graduates of a 3-year Herbology program are eligible to audit the following courses:

- 501 TCM Herbal Classics*

APPLICATION PROCESS

New applicants must submit an application form, complete with supporting documents and the required application fee of \$100 to the Registrar's Office no later than April 1, 2009. The application fee for former students of ACOS is \$50.

There will be no application fee for matriculating students of ACOS; however you must submit to the Registrar, a written request to transfer into the program no later than April 1, 2009.

A Block Transfer Fee of \$300 for all successful applicants to the Diploma Program is payable upon notification of formal transfer.

For Application forms, please contact the Registrar's office or you may download the forms from our website at www.acos.org.

CURRICULUM

The 5-year TCM Program has been built upon the solid and comprehensive foundations of our existing 4-Year TCM Program. Please see our website at www.acos.org for a full list of courses and course descriptions of the 4-year program.

Students may complete the program on a full-time or part-time basis.

YEAR 5 SYNOPSIS

Term 9: May 4 – August 21, 2009

501. TCM Herbal Classics (lecture)	12 credits
502. Applied Meridians (lecture & practical)	6 credits
504. Advanced Clinical Therapeutics (lecture)	3 credits

Term Nine Total Credits *21 credits*

Term 10: September 8 – December 18, 2009

553. Pharmacology & Toxicology of TCM Medicinals (lecture)	4 credits
554. Advanced Clinical Therapeutics (lecture)	6 credits
555. Advanced Clinical Practicum Placement (practical)	10 credits

Term Ten Total Credits *20 credits*

Year 5 Total Credits **41 credits**

Year 5 Credit Hours **615 hours**

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Year Five: Term 9

501. TCM Herbal Classics (lecture) 12 credits. This course will focus on the study of three TCM Classics: Shang Han Lun (Treatise on Injury by Cold); Jin Kui Yao Lue Fang Lun (Synopsis Prescriptions of the Golden Chamber); and Wen Bing Xue (Febrile Disease Theory). Prerequisites: completion of 3-yr Herbology or 4-yr TCM Program

502. Applied Meridians (lecture & practical) 6 credits. The lecture portion of this course will focus on the in depth investigation of the classical meridian writings and their correlation with modern scientific findings. The practical portion of this course will emphasize the assimilation of learned knowledge through various means of movement. Students will each undergo a postural imbalance assessment and subsequent training in the correction of postural imbalance and faulty movement patterns. Prerequisites: completion of 3-yr Acupuncture or 4-yr TCM Program

504. Advanced Clinical Therapeutics (lecture) 3 credits. In this course TCM and Western medical knowledge will be presented and discussed conjointly in order to foster in students the *integrated medicine* approach. A wide range of illnesses will be covered in the fields of internal medicine, dermatology, neurology, otorhinolaryngology, ophthalmology, urology, immunology and gerontology. Treatment will focus on

advanced herbal formulas and the use of modern TCM herbs. Prerequisites: completion of 4-yr TCM Program

Year Five: Term 10

553. TCM Pharmacology & Toxicology of TCM Medicinals (lecture) 4 credits. This course will investigate modern scientific research findings in the field of TCM herbs. A variety of TCM herbs will be investigated both in terms of pharmacology and herb-drug interactions. Prerequisites: 4-yr TCM Program

554. Advanced Clinical Therapeutics (lecture) 6 credits. Continuation of topics from 504 in Term 9. In this course TCM and Western medical knowledge will be presented and discussed conjointly in order to foster in students the *integrated medicine* approach. A wide range of illnesses will be covered in the fields of internal medicine, dermatology, neurology, otorhinolaryngology, ophthalmology, urology, immunology and gerontology. Treatment will focus on advanced herbal formulas and the use of modern TCM herbs. Prerequisites: completion of 4-yr TCM Program

555. Advanced Clinical Practicum Placement – 5 year TCM (practical) 10 credits. Students will be placed in a variety of clinical settings with independent practitioners for a total of 150 practicum hours. Students will perform practical application of previously learned theory. Students will conduct patient interviews, diagnosis and treatment planning, and perform appropriate TCM treatments and follow up on patients' responses in treatment. Prerequisites: Successful completion of all first, second, third, fourth and fifth year TCM Program courses. Prerequisites: 554

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Full time students are expected to be available for lecture courses from Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4 pm during the terms; however, the usual schedule for classes during the summer term is primarily from 8 am to 12 pm. Timetables will be available two weeks before classes start.

Practicum placements

The Academy has established a number of practicum placements with highly skilled Doctors of TCM. The practicum course may vary in days and hours (Monday – Saturday) dependent upon the supervising practitioner's schedule.

Academic Year 2009 – 2010:

Term 9: May 4th to August 21nd, 2009
Final Exam Days: TBA

Academic Year 2010 – 2011:

Term 10: September 8nd to December 18th, 2009
Final Exam Days: TBA

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Tuition

Full time tuition rate: \$200.00/credit
 Part time tuition rate: \$205.00/credit
 Audit tuition rate: \$183.00/credit

Additional Fees:

Student Fees

Full time student fees are \$62.50 per term
 Part-time fees (less than 80% course load) are \$31.25 per term

Insurance and CTCMA Registration

All students enrolled in courses requiring patient contact must become registrants of the CTMCA and purchase student practitioner liability insurance through the school. Please inquire for current rates.

Students who are already licensed practitioners must also continue to carry their own professional liability insurance for coverage of their individual professional practices.

Textbooks and course materials

There will be required textbooks for each course. The cost of course material and textbooks will vary from course to course. The exact amount will be announced no later than two weeks in advance of delivery of each course.

STUDENT LOANS

This program is approved through the Canada Student Loans Program. Eligible students may receive financial assistance from CSL; please see the 2008-2009 or 2009-2010 CSL application package or, in BC, www.bcsap.bc.ca to see if you qualify under the program.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does the Dr. TCM title mean for (my) practice?

According to CTCMA, the scope of practice for the title of Dr. TCM includes the use of acupuncture, the formulation of a TCM diagnosis, the prescription of Chinese herbal medicines, as well as the use of other modalities of TCM such as food cures, *Tui Na* massage, and cupping therapy. In addition, the Dr. TCM is not required by law to refer patients to Western medical doctors after a specified number of treatments with limited success, as is required of Registered Acupuncturists, Registered TCM Herbalists, and Registered TCM Practitioners. CTCMA considers that the level of training of the Dr. TCM qualifies him or her to determine when and to whom referral is appropriate.

Who pays for my lodging during practicum?

Students are responsible for their own living costs and travel costs during practicum placements.

Can I do my practicum in China? Students may have the option of doing course 555 *Clinical Practicum* at ACOS approved hospitals/clinics in China. Expenses related to travel, accommodation and tuition payments to the hospital; however, is the responsibility of the student.