

Academy of Classical Oriental Sciences

ACUPUNCTURIST PROGRAM *(3 years)*

Term 1

101. Fundamentals of TCM (lecture) Introduction to fundamental theories including: YinYang; Qi; five phases; six essential substances; meridian theory; onset of disease, classical Chinese physiology (zang xiang), etiology and prognosis; seven emotions. Discussion of these topics will include their classical and modern interpretations.

7 credits

102. Meridians: Theory and Location (lecture) Topic areas include: introduction to the origin and development of the meridian system; introduction to the twelve regular meridians and eight extraordinary meridians through investigation of their earliest classical citations. Meridian gen-jie (root-branch), four seas and the six jing will also be introduced. Concurrent 101, 197

4 credits

103. Yang Sheng Fa (nourishing life principles) (lecture) Introduction to the naturalist (Daoist) world view; adjusting to the changes in nature and life; understanding social custom and relationship; living and eating according to natural principles; food and fasting as medicine.

3 credits

104. Introduction to Chinese Medicinal Substances (lecture) An overview of the origins of Chinese medicinal substances as well as their habitat, collection, and processing. The fundamental properties of Chinese medicinal substances will also be introduced. Basic botanical knowledge will be included as it applies.

1 credit

106. Taiji Quan (practical) A participation course designed to introduce students to the benefits of the physical exercise of taiji quan.

2 credits

109. Chinese Language I (lecture) An introduction to the modern Chinese language (Mandarin) with a focus on grammar, character writing and recognition, and how to negotiate a dictionary to look up terms and characters. Course content centers on TCM terminology and TCM in an informal setting.

3 credits

157. Touch Ethics/Body Landmarks (lecture and practical) A practical course which identifies the physical boundaries in the doctor/patient relationship. Issues of permission, safety and multi-dimensional boundaries will be included. Course will include palpation of major anatomical landmarks of the body.

1 credit

197. Western Anatomy/Physiology (lecture & lab) An in-depth study of the body's skeletal, muscular, nervous, respiratory, digestive, urinary, reproductive and endocrine systems, as well as an introduction to basic biochemistry and cellular physiology as defined by allopathic/Western medicine. The above is combined with a directed, detailed study of human anatomy. The skeletal, muscular, vascular and nervous systems will be examined in depth. As well, surface landmarks and other details of surface anatomy will be investigated. *This course is delivered over two terms.*
4.5 credits

Term One Total Credits: 25.5

Term 2

151. TCM Diagnostics (lecture) Topic areas include: the four methods (observation, osculation/olfaction, interrogation, palpation); an introduction to the main signs and their meaning in TCM; an introduction to tongue diagnosis and pulse taking in TCM; an introduction to the ba gang (eight unifying principles); basic clinical discussion and record keeping. Prerequisite 101
7 credits

159. Chinese Language II (lecture) A continuation of the skills taught in Chinese Language I. Course content centers on a more formal TCM setting and will include introduction to translation of modern Chinese TCM writings. Prerequisite 109
3 credits

161. Acupoints (lecture) A complete study of the location of all acupoints on the twelve regular meridians; therapeutic uses of the points; functions of the 140 most frequently used points; understanding of the relationship of the functions of points and the treatment of illness. Prerequisites 102; concurrent with 151
7 credits

164. Point Location Lab (practical) Adjunct and concurrent to course 161. Acupoints will be located on other students in class. Prerequisite 102; concurrent with 151
2 credits

167. Counseling Skills I (lecture & practical) The study of principles and ethics of therapeutic counseling. Focus is on methods of interaction.
2 credits

197. Western Anatomy/Physiology (lecture & lab) An in-depth study of the body's skeletal, muscular, nervous, respiratory, digestive, urinary, reproductive and endocrine systems, as well as an introduction to basic biochemistry and cellular physiology as defined by allopathic/Western medicine. The above is combined with a directed, detailed study of human anatomy. The skeletal, muscular, vascular and nervous systems will be examined in depth. As well, surface landmarks and other details of surface anatomy will be investigated.
4.5 credits

Term Two Total Credits: 25.5

Year 1 Total Credits: 51
Year 1 Credit Hours: 765

Term 3

201. Techniques of Acupuncture and Moxibustion (lecture & practical) Includes description of a wide variety of classical and modern techniques utilized on the basis of the meridian or acupoint theories. The majority of techniques will be demonstrated in class. Prerequisite 161, 164
3.5 credits

202. Extra Points (lecture) A complete study of the location and therapeutic uses of the Ren and Du vessel acupoints as well as the most commonly used extraordinary points. Prerequisite: 161, 164
2 credits

204. History of Chinese Medicine (lecture) Study will compare and contrast several philosophical perspectives of health and their relationship to Chinese medicine, both historically and today.
2 credits

205. Classmate Case Study (practical) As the beginning of practical work, the students will create case studies of their classmates; offer a discussion of the combined information on each student; offer a discussion of a classic case study. Prerequisites 101, 151
3 credits

208. Qi Gong I (practical) A physical exercise class which offers an introduction to the regulation of qi through movement, breath control, sound, visualization of intent and creative awareness training; will involve the study of several qi gong systems, breathing methods and the therapeutic approach of qi gong/dao yin as a treatment method.
2 credits

225. Introductory Clinical Observation (practical) Students will become familiar with the day-to-day running of a TCM Clinic. This will focus on observation of all aspects of the diagnostic and treatment procedure. Prerequisites: all first year courses at the discretion of the Academic Dean.
1 credit

227. Public Health & Allied Health Practices (lecture) This course introduces students to the public health system in Canada, as well as to various complementary health professions such as naturopathy, chiropractic, homeopathy, osteopathy, massage therapy, and physiotherapy, among others.
0.5 credits

240. Needling Lab I (practical) Introduction to the practical aspects of acupuncture, including finger strength exercises, needle insertion, lifting and thrusting (ti-cha), twirling and rotating (nian-zhuan), as well as practice of classical needling techniques. The practical application of Clean Needle Technique is requisite to passing this course. Lab coat required. Prerequisite: concurrent with 201
1 credit

292. Qing Zhi Bing: Mental and Emotional Disharmony Patterns (lecture) Study of the development of human consciousness; the seven emotions and their relationship to human life; the development of culture, religion and custom and their effects on human behavior; as well as an introduction to TCM treatment strategies. Prerequisite 151
3 credits

297. Western Pathology I (lecture) Study will help to familiarize the student with the etiology and pathological mechanisms of common diseases from an allopathic perspective. *This course is delivered over two terms.* Prerequisites 197
2 credits

Term Three Total Credits: 20

Term 4

241. Needling Lab II (practical) Continuation of 240. Study will include practical application of various acu-moxa techniques, including bloodletting, mang-zhen, huo-zhen, scalp acupuncture, cupping, ear acupuncture, needle warming moxibustion, direct moxibustion and partitioning moxibustion. In addition, needling techniques of the bei-shu points will be covered. The practical application of Clean Needle Technique is requisite to passing this course. Lab coat required. Prerequisites: 240, 251 (or concurrent)
1 credit

251. Therapeutics of Acumoxa I (lecture & practical) The examination of commonly observed illnesses, including: etiological factors, differential diagnosis of symptom complexes, principles of treatment, selection of acu-moxa treatment methods, prognosis and advice to the patient. Prerequisites 201, 202
6 credits

255A. Clinical Observation I (practical) In this course students will become familiar with the day-to-day running of the TCM clinic and Herbal Dispensary. This will focus on observation of all aspects of the diagnostic and treatment procedure. Prerequisites: all first, second year courses at the discretion of the Academic Dean.
3 credits

256. Tui Na I (lecture & practical) An introduction to the physical manipulations, treatment theory and principles of Tui Na treatments. Muscle layers of the surface anatomy will be included. The systematic treatment of basic illnesses with Tui Na; a continuation into the study of acupuncture point function; the use of implements and mediums (oils, liniments) to aid in the manipulation of tissue or qi. Prerequisites 101, 161, 164, 197, 208
3 credits

267. Counseling Skills II (lecture & practical) The study of principles and ethics of therapeutic counseling. Focus is on methods of interaction. Prerequisites 167; 292
2 credits

287. Immunology & Microbiology (lecture) Investigation of the fundamental concepts and principles of human immunology and microbiology as it relates to human pathology. Prerequisites 197 (or concurrent)
2 credits

297. Western Pathology I (lecture) Study will help to familiarize the student with the etiology and pathological mechanisms of common diseases from an allopathic perspective. Prerequisites 197
2 credits

307. Research Skills & Paper Preparation Survey of methods of research necessary for the TCM student and practitioner in writing scientific journal articles and papers. An examination of the journal article and thesis format through lecture and practice. *Generally taken in year prior to final year of program.*
1 credit

Term Four Total Credits: 20

Year 2 Total Credits: 40
Year 2 Credit Hours: 600

Term 5

301. Therapeutics of Acumoxa II (lecture & practical) A continuation of Therapeutics 251 with expansion on the topics. Includes in-class, student presentation of patient intake records. Concurrent with 305. Prerequisite 251
6 credits

302. Patent Formulas (lecture) Study of composition, indications and use of common Chinese patent medicines. Prerequisite 253
2 credits

305A. Clinical Observation II (practical) This course is a continuation of Clinical Observation I with increased focus on patient record keeping. Prerequisites: all first, second and concurrent third year courses at discretion of the Academic Dean.
6 credits

308. Qi Gong II (practical) Practical development of self-awareness in terms of breathing and body alignment. Trains the student in the advanced methods of Qi Gong that have been used by healers to develop the capacity to heal with qi (*Fa Qi*) and also increase the practitioner's sensitivity to the emotional and energetic state of other persons. Prerequisite 208
2 credits

340. Needling Lab III (practical) Continuation of 241. Study will include practical application of various acu-moxa techniques, including bloodletting, mang-zhen, huo-zhen, scalp acupuncture, cupping, ear acupuncture, needle warming moxibustion, direct moxibustion and partitioning moxibustion. Study will include needling of acupoints related by anatomical location, by function, or by needling technique. The practical application of Clean Needle Technique is requisite to passing this course. Lab coat required. Prerequisites: 241, 301 (or concurrent)
1 credit

397A. Western Pathology II (lecture) Discussion of basic signs and symptoms of illness; diagnostic methods and laboratory tests used in clinical allopathy; emphasis on differentiation of urgent and serious conditions; introduction to basic emergency procedures, CPR and basic first aid. *This course is delivered over two terms.* Prerequisite 297
2 credits

401. Therapeutics of Acumoxa III (lecture) This course continues to build on the topics and skills of the Therapeutics of Acumoxa II course, including diseases of the eyes, ears, nose and throat as well as treatment of emergency conditions. Ziwu liuzhu acupuncture methods will also be introduced. Prerequisite or concurrent: 301. *Generally taken in 3rd year of 3-year Programs & 4th year of TCM Programs.*
2 credits

404. Business Management (lecture and practical) Presentation of the practical aspects of setting up a medical practice including clinic maintenance, office management, marketing and creation of a business plan. Included is the study of laws and current issues concerning the practice of acupuncture in this country, specifically in British Columbia. There will be several out-of-class projects. *Generally taken in 3rd year of 3-year Programs & 4th year of TCM Programs.*

6 credits

417. Biomedical Ethics (lecture) The purpose of this course is to invite students to consider the moral and ethical responsibilities inherent in clinical medicine, as practitioners, members of a professional community, individuals, and as a complementary profession within the dominant medical delivery system.

2 credits

427. Pharmacology (lecture) This course will introduce the fundamentals of the science of pharmacology and include commonly used drugs in the major pharmaceutical categories.

Prerequisite 397A & 397B (or concurrent)

4 credits

Term Five Total Credits: 33

Term 6

304. Theory Comparison (lecture) Introduces historical schools of thought in acupuncture, their origin and development, associated classics and application in a modern clinical practice.

Prerequisites 201, 204

2 credits

341. Needling Lab IV (practical) Continuation of 340. Study will include practical application of various acu-moxa techniques, including bloodletting, mang-zhen, huo-zhen, scalp acupuncture, cupping, ear acupuncture, needle warming moxibustion, direct moxibustion and partitioning moxibustion. Study will include needling of acupoints related by anatomical location, by function, or by needling technique. The practical application of Clean Needle Technique is requisite to passing this course. Lab coat required. Prerequisites: 340

1 credit

347. Western Medicine Lab Diagnostics & Physical Examination (lecture & practical) This course will introduce students to the basic Western medicine procedures for the physical diagnosis of the entire body; as well, students will be introduced to Western medicine laboratory tests and procedures with reference to their diagnostic significance and normal range values. Prerequisite 297; 397A & 397B (or concurrent)

2 credits

355A. Clinical Observation III (practical) This course is a continuation of Clinical Observation II. Students will prepare patient intake records for presentation to class. Preliminary student-patient interaction will be undertaken in preparation for Supervised Clinical practice. Concurrent with 301. Prerequisites: all first, second, and concurrent third year courses at discretion of the Academic Dean.

6 credits

356. Tui Na II (lecture & practical) A continuation of 256 with focus of study on the therapeutic use of Tui Na in the treatment of various internal medicine and gynecological diseases; pediatric Tui-Na fundamentals and therapeutics will also be included. Prerequisite 256
3 credits

359. Huangdi Neijing Selections (lecture) This class involves the in-class translation and discussion of selected sections of the Huangdi Neijing (Yellow Emperor's Canon of Internal Medicine) in their original Chinese text. Prerequisites 101, 259, concurrent with TCM Program third year courses
3 credits

397A. Western Pathology II (lecture) Discussion of basic signs and symptoms of illness; diagnostic methods and laboratory tests used in clinical allopathy; emphasis on differentiation of urgent and serious conditions; introduction to basic emergency procedures, CPR and basic first aid. Prerequisite 297
2 credits

397B. Western Pathology II Case Studies (practical) Adjunct to 397A, this course will present and analyze relevant clinical case studies in order to deepen student understanding. Concurrent with 397A.
1 credit

Term Six Total Credits: 20

Term 7

365. Clinical Practicum Placement (practical) Students will be placed in a variety of clinical settings throughout western Canada with independent practitioners. There may be opportunity for clinical placement in China. Placements will range from five weeks to three months. Students will be performing practical application of previously learned theory. Students will conduct patient interviews, participate in diagnosis and treatment planning, and perform appropriate acupuncture treatments and follow-up on patients' responses in treatment. Prerequisites: successful completion of all first, second, and third year Acupuncturist Program courses. Concurrent with 451A
15 credits

451A. Research Paper (project) Allows the student to examine a topic of their choice (with the approval of the Academic Dean). Students will be expected to do independent readings, provide case studies, including differential diagnosis and treatment outlines, prepare a research paper and present their findings. Prerequisites: successful completion of all first, second, and third year Acupuncturist Program courses. Concurrent with 365
6 credits

Term Seven Total Credits: 21

Year 3 Total Credits: 74
Year 3 Credit Hours: 1100

TOTAL PROGRAM CREDITS: 165
TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 2475