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# Master of Integrative Wellness Management Degree Program (MIWM)

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# Master of Integrative Healthcare Leadership Degree Program (MIHL)

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The information contained in this catalog is subject to change. The College reserves the right to revise the curriculum, policy, and other related matters.

Rev 08.31.2023
**FALL 2023**

Application Deadline: August 15, 2023
Registration Date - Returning Students: July 17-29, 2023
Clinic Begins: August 16, 2023
Classes Begins: September 6, 2023
Last Day of the Semester: December 19, 2023
Clinic Ends: December 19, 2023

**Fall Semester Holidays**

- Labor Day: September 4, 2023
- Thanksgiving: November 23-25, 2023
- Christmas: December 25-26, 2023
- New Year’s Day: January 1, 2024

**SPRING 2023**

Application Deadline: December 12, 2023
Registration Date: November 13-24, 2023
Clinic Begins: December 20, 2023
Classes Begins: January 3, 2024
Last Day of the Semester: April 16, 2024
Clinic Ends: April 16, 2024

**SUMMER 2023**

Application Deadline: April 9, 2024
Registration Date: March 18-29, 2024
Clinic Begins: April 17, 2024
Classes Begins: May 1, 2024
Last Day of the Semester (12 weeks): July 23, 2024
Last Day of the Semester (15 weeks): August 13, 2024
First Day of the Semester (5 weeks): July 24, 2024
Last Day of the Semester (5 weeks): August 27, 2024

**Summer Semester Holidays**

- Memorial Day: May 27, 2024
- Independence Day: July 4, 2024

**Scholarship Application Deadline**

**For New Students**

- Fall 2023: July 11, 2023
- Spring 2024: November 7, 2023
- Summer 2024: March 12, 2024

**Dates are subject to change.**
Welcome
Welcome to the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (ACAOM). Along with the student handbook, this catalog is intended to give you important information regarding the College’s policies and procedures as well as course information. We hope this information will help you have a successful and rewarding academic career at the College. Please read and refer to this catalog for appropriate guidance as needed.

Mission
American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine is a post baccalaureate academic institution dedicated to educating and conferring degrees upon graduating individuals having equipped them for successful careers as healthcare practitioners based on the theories, principles, and clinical applications of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM).

We embrace the tenets of Western science and promote the integration of TCM into mainstream biomedicine. Our clinics provide the community with affordable healthcare services while developing student skills and broadening the body of TCM research.

We are committed to excellence in teaching, research, patient care, and community service based on the finest skills, latest technologies, and the highest ethical standards of healthcare delivery.

Vision
The vision of American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine is to strengthen the role of Acupuncture and Oriental medicine in providing complementary health care delivery in the United States. We believe that the collaboration of Oriental and Western medicines will yield a great number of advances and breakthroughs in the treatment of illness, resulting in better health care for all.

Consequently, we are dedicated to offering our students a solid education in Traditional Chinese Medicine while at the same time providing knowledge in Western medicine to facilitate their communication with patients and physicians.

Credentials
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Colleges
American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award Masters and Doctoral Degrees. Questions about the accreditation of American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA, 30033-4097, by calling 404-679-4500, or by using information available on SACSOC’s website (http://www.sacsoc.org/)

Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture & Herbal Medicine
The following programs offered by American College of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (ACAHM):

(1) Master of Acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization
(2) Doctor of Acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization • including a Doctor of Acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization degree completion track

The program(s) listed above may offer courses via distance education.

Accreditation status and notes may be viewed on the ACAHM Directory.

ACAHM is recognized by the United States Department of Education as the specialized accreditation agency for institutions/programs preparing acupuncture practitioners.

ACAHM does not accredit any programs at the undergraduate/bachelor level. ACAHM is located at 500 Lake Street, Suite 204, Excelsior, MN 55331; phone 952/212-2434; www.acahm.org

Public Disclosure Statement Effective as of 29 August 2023.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine is authorized to conduct courses, grant degrees, grant credit toward degrees, and to use certain protected academic terms in the State of Texas, Authority for this exemption will continue as long as the institution maintains its accreditation status with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and standards acceptable to the Coordinating Board. Questions or complaints about this institution should be addressed to:

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Box 12788, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
or call: (512) 427-6225

Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners
The legal requirements for licensure in Texas and entry into the profession can be obtained from:

Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners
P.O. Box 2029
Austin, TX 78768-2029
or call: (512) 305-7030

California Acupuncture Board Approval
The College is approved by the California Acupuncture Board. Graduates of our institution are eligible for licensure as acupuncturists in the states of Texas, California, and many other states. Additional requirements for California licensure can be obtained from:

California Acupuncture Board
1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 180
Sacramento, CA 95834
or call: (916) 515-5200

Notification to all program enrollees and applicants
Applicants with a Criminal History Disclaimer:

Applicants who have been convicted of a past offense, or assigned to deferred adjudication for the offence may be ineligible for a medical license to practice. While such applicants can be accepted for a program of study, there is a strong possibility that they would be unable to obtain an acupuncture (or other health-related) license through any state licensing authority.

A “licensing authority” is a state agency or political subdivision that issues an occupational license (for instance: The Texas Medical Board is the licensing authority that issues acupuncture licenses to qualified applicants who wish to practice acupuncture and Chinese medicine in Texas).

Most licensing authorities have defined regulations and restrictions relating to various past criminal offences. See: Texas Occupations Code, Sec. 53.025. Before applying to this or any school, an applicant with a past criminal conviction or deferred adjudication should first determine if they would be eligible for a state license in the state where they wish to practice after graduation.
Applicants with past criminal convictions are able to request a criminal history evaluation letter (See, Texas Occupations Code, Sec. 53.102) directly from the Texas Medical Board, or other relevant state licensing authority. The request must state the basis for the person's potential ineligibility.

It is strongly recommended that all applicants with a past criminal conviction, or who were assigned deferred adjudication for the offense, first obtain a criminal history evaluation letter from the relevant licensing authority before applying to an educational program that prepares a student for licensure. This process should be started early, because the process for obtaining a criminal history evaluation letter can take up to 90 days.

Any questions regarding this notification should be directed to the relevant licensing authority. The Texas Medical Board website can be reached at: http://www.tmb.state.tx.us

Notification to California Residents Only

The State of California established the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) to relieve or mitigate economic loss suffered by a student in an educational program at a qualifying institution, who is or was a California resident while enrolled, or was enrolled in a residency program, if the student enrolled in the institution, prepaid tuition, and suffered an economic loss. Unless relieved of the obligation to do so, you must pay the state-imposed assessment for the STRF, or it must be paid on your behalf, if you are a student in an educational program, who is a California resident, or are enrolled in a residency program, and prepay all or part of your tuition.

You are not eligible for protection from the STRF and you are not required to pay the STRF assessment, if you are not a California resident, or are not enrolled in a residency program."

"It is important that you keep copies of your enrollment agreement, financial aid documents, receipts, or any other information that documents the amount paid to the school. Questions regarding the STRF may be directed to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95833, (916) 431-6959 or (888) 370-7589.

To be eligible for STRF, you must be a California resident or are enrolled in a residency program, prepaid tuition, paid or deemed to have paid the STRF assessment, and suffered an economic loss as a result of any of the following:

1. The institution, a location of the institution, or an educational program offered by the institution was closed or discontinued, and you did not choose to participate in a teach-out plan approved by the Bureau or did not complete a chosen teach-out plan approved by the Bureau.

2. You were enrolled at an institution or a location of the institution within the 120 day period before the closure of the institution or location of the institution, or were enrolled in an educational program within the 120 day period before the program was discontinued.

3. You were enrolled at an institution or a location of the institution more than 120 days before the closure of the institution or location of the institution, in an educational program offered by the institution as to which the Bureau determined there was a significant decline in the quality or value of the program more than 120 days before closure.

4. The institution has been ordered to pay a refund by the Bureau but has failed to do so.

5. The institution has failed to pay or reimburse proceeds received by the institution in excess of tuition and other costs.

6. You have been awarded restitution, a refund, or other monetary award by an arbitrator or court, based on a violation of this chapter by an institution or representative of an institution, but have been unable to collect the award from the institution.

7. You sought legal counsel that resulted in the cancellation of one or more of your student loans and have an invoice for services rendered and evidence of the cancellation of the student loan or loans.

To qualify for STRF reimbursement, the application must be received within four (4) years from the date of the action or event that made the student eligible for recovery from STRF.

A student whose loan is revived by a loan holder or debt collector after a period of non-collection may, at any time, file a written application for recovery from STRF for the debt that would have otherwise been eligible for recovery. If it has been more than four (4) years since the action or event that made the student eligible, the student must have filed a written application for recovery within the original four (4) year period, unless the period has been extended by another act of law.

However, no claim can be paid to any student without a social security number or a taxpayer identification number.

Determination of Student Location

In order to comply with Department of Education regulations, ACAOM must make an official determination regarding the State in which a student is located at the time in which the student commences study so that state-specific disclosures can be provided to the student regarding licensure. Students are required to manually update their primary residence information at the start of each semester through Populi.

Pursuant to this policy, ACAOM will consider the most current permanent address provided by the student as the State in which the student is located at the time of enrollment. For purposes of this policy, students who do not provide a permanent address at the time of admission will be considered located in the state of Texas, unless the student updates this information with the office of the Registrar. Any direct disclosures related to educational programs and professional licensure/certification education requirements will be based on the student's reported location as set forth above.

Licensing and authorization requirements can vary by state therefore any relocation by prospective and current students can impact their ability to continue the course, meet the eligibility requirements of that state, and/or receive financial aid funding. Any student considering relocation should inform ACAOM, and also check for authorization and licensure eligibility requirements in the state you plan to reside in to practice.

Exclusions

The student's legal state of residence is not a factor in determining physical location for purposes of state authorization per 600.9(c).

Licensure Disclosure Statement

The U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, specifically 34 CFR 668.43 (a) (5) (v) and 34 CFR 668.43(c) requires disclosures by institutions regarding educational requirements for programs leading to professional licensure or certification regardless of modality. Students considering an academic program leading to
professional licensure in their state or territory are strongly encouraged to review the program-specific information contained in this catalog for the program(s) they are interested in. Students are also encouraged to contact the appropriate licensing agency to seek information and additional guidance before beginning a program outside of their state. Please be aware that there may be additional licensure requirements like professional examinations, background checks, years of work experience, fingerprinting requirements, etc. which are not covered by the academic program’s curriculum.

Most states require applicants to have completed a program accredited by ACAOM.org and successfully pass the certification exams administered by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM). We recommend checking the interactive map maintained by the NCCAOM and located here (https://www.nccaom.org/state-licensure/) for more detailed state-by-state information. You will be able to check your state and any potential state to which you wish to move.

Please note that the following states currently do not have a statutorily established practice act: Alabama, Oklahoma, South Dakota. As such, your degree may not qualify you for practice, or you would be unregulated or regulated under another board or agency in those states.

Distance Learning – SARA
These programs are approved for reciprocity as part of the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) which currently includes 49 states (all except California) and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. https://nc-sara.org/

Distance Learning California:
The college is registered with the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education as an out-of-state institution. https://www.bppe.ca.gov/

Distance Learning – Essential Skills for Success:
- Knowledge of computer terminology, such as browser, operating system, application, software, files, documents, icon, etc.
- Understanding of basic computer hardware and software with the ability to perform computer operations, such as:
  - Using keyboard and mouse
  - Managing files and folders: save, name, copy, move, backup, rename, delete, check properties
  - Software installation, security, and virus protection
  - Using software applications such as Word, PowerPoint, Excel, email
  - Knowledge of copying and pasting, spell-checking, and saving files in different formats
  - Uploading and downloading attachments
- Internet skills (connecting, accessing sites, using browsers)
- Ability to use online communication tools, such as email (create, send, receive, reply, print, send/receive attachments), discussion boards (read, search, post, reply, follow threads), chats, and messengers
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases
- Create online accounts

Before registering for a Distance Education course (online, hybrid online, or virtual) your computer must be compatible with Populi, and Zoom, and must have a working web camera, speakers, and microphone for full course.
For the best experience, students should use a computer no more than 5 years old, that is also fully updated with all available software and security patches provided by their operating system.

Compatible web browsers for using Populi and Zoom include the most updated versions of: Chrome, Safari, and Firefox.

Mobile devices such as smartphones or tablets can be used to access some aspects of distance education courses, but a computer or laptop that meet the above-posted specifications is required for full access including to certain exams, proctoring, or applications.

A minimum internet speed of 512kbps is required to successfully view some streaming video components that faculty may share with students, as well as for Zoom meeting success. Lower speeds may result in video stuttering or buffering, or sound being intermittent.

Some courses may require additional tools or technology that will be detailed on course syllabi. The College encourages faculty to use industry-standard software and tools to maximize ease of access, and minimize costs where appropriate.

Distance education students will be required to utilize their web cameras, speakers, and microphones to fully participate in many aspects on their distance education courses. While the college recognizes that sometimes a student may need to turn off their web camera feed for short durations during class (such as if they share their residence, and something in view of the camera requires momentary privacy). But students are encouraged to connect to their courses in a location with minimum distractions to maximize their course participation, and so that faculty can authenticate student identity for attendance and grading purposes. Not participating fully in courses via voice and video is not permitted.

Board of Governors
The Board of Governors has the legal authority and operating control of ACAOM. Policies and procedures are established by the Board of Governors and implemented by administration. The current members are:
  - Beverly Gor, Ed.D. (Chair)
  - Sandra Cesario, Ph.D. (Secretary)
  - Jerome Crowder, Ph.D.
  - Lan Li, Ph.D.
  - Linda Toyota, M.Ed.
  - Monica Mehta, B.S.

This institution was incorporated in Texas on January 15, 1991, under the name of American Academy of Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine, Inc. On July 3, 2001, the institution changed its name to American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine, Inc. The current officers of the Corporation are Shen Ping Liang, Minmay Liang, and Gotit Investment Co.

Administration
Gregory Sparkman
Interim President
Doctor of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine, American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
Doctor of Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine, American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
Master of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine, American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership, Union University, Jackson Tennessee
Wen Huang
Vice President of Academics Affairs, Department of Academics
Dean of Academic Affairs,
PhD in Medicine, Queensland University in Brisbane, Australia
Bachelor in Medicine (evaluated for equivalency to MD in USA),
Harbin Medical University, China

Minmay Liang
Executive Director, Office of Finance & Human Resources
BA in Public Finance, Cheng-Chi University, Taipei, Taiwan

Baisong Zhong
Associate Dean, Doctor of Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine, Master of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine Program and Senior Director,
Clinical Training Development
PhD in Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine
MS in Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine

Samuel Leong
Assistant Director, Clinical Training Development
DAOM, American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
MOM, American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine

Michael Dale Stafford
Chief Librarian
MLIS in Library Science, University of Texas at Austin
BA in History, California State University

Anthony McMillan
Librarian
MLIS, University North Texas
BA in English, Morehouse College

Kerry Madole
Library Specialist
MLS, Texas Women’s University
BS in Professional Writing, University of Houston

Theresa Ligon
Director, Office of Compliance and Student Services
BS in Journalism, Texas A&M University

Vicki Rosmann
Registrar, Administration
BS in Biology, Northern Arizona University

Melisa Lu
Academic Coordinator, Department of Academics
BA International Asian Studies, University of Texas at Austin

Carlota Quintero
Clinic Staff, Patient Services
Medical Assistant Certification, Ultrasound Diagnostic School
History
Jan. 1991 – College is founded by Shen Ping Liang, L.Ac. as American Academy of Acupuncture & Traditional Chinese Medicine
Aug. 1992 - The first class of students is enrolled
Nov. 1993 - The institution receives candidacy status from National Accreditation Commission for Schools and Colleges of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (NACSCAOM), the national agency that regulates Oriental Medicine institutions
Jul. 1995 - The institution graduates its first class
May 1996 - The institution is granted full accreditation by NACSCAOM
Jun. 1996 - The Academy changes its name to American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
Aug. 1997 - ACAOM confers its first class with Master’s Degree in Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
Dec. 1997 - ACAOM confers its first class with Master of Science in Oriental Medicine
May 1999 - ACAOM receives re-accreditation for 4 years until May 2003
Jan. 2000 - ACAOM reaches agreement with Dalian Hospital in China to provide externship hospital training to ACAOM students
Aug. 2000 - ACAOM program is approved by the New Mexico Board of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
Aug. 2000 - ACAOM reaches agreement with University of Houston Clear Lake Health Center to offer acupuncture in their clinic
Dec. 2000 - ACAOM reaches agreement with Memorial Hermann/Houston Baptist University Wellness Center to offer acupuncture treatments
Feb. 2001 - ACAOM receives full approval from the California Acupuncture Board
Mar. 2002 - ACAOM reaches agreement with Zhejiang Provincial Hospital, China
Jun. 2002 - ACAOM reaches agreement with Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital Outpatient Clinic to offer acupuncture treatments
Aug. 2002 - ACAOM Pain Program is accredited by the American Academy of Pain Management
Nov. 2002 - ACAOM reaches agreement with Tianjin University of TCM, China, to provide training abroad
May 2003 - ACAOM receives a 5 years re-accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine, previously NACSCAOM
Sep. 2003 - Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners transitions school regulatory duties to Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Sep. 2004 - ACAOM and Fudan University in Shanghai reach agreement to establish an externship program
Jan. 2005 - Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants a Certificate of Authority to ACAOM to award a Master of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine degree
Jan. 2006 – ACAOM and Methodist Hospital begin clinical cooperation to offer acupuncture
Jun. 2008 - The College is granted Candidacy status by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.
Aug. 2008 - ACAOM receives a 7 years re-accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine.
Apr. 2009 - Taipei Medical University and ACAOM sign sister school agreement.
Feb. 2011 – ACAOM reaches agreement with Luzhou Medical University.
Jun. 2012 – ACAOM receives regional accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
Oct. 2012-Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine and ACAOM sign sister school agreement
Dec. 2013 – ACAOM approved by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to offer a Master of Integrative Wellness Management degree program
Mar. 2014 – ACAOM approved by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to offer a Master of Integrative Healthcare Leadership degree program
Jun. 2014 – ACAOM approved by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to offer a Doctor of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine program
Sept. 2015 – ACAOM reaches agreement with Da-Yeh University, Taiwan.
Dec. 2016 – ACAOM reaches agreement to collaborate with Brazilian College of Chinese Medicine
Nov. 2017 – ACAOM approved by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to offer Doctor of Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine degree program
Dec. 2017 – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reaccredits ACAOM
Sep. 2018 – Gott Investment Co. finalizes acquisition of minority share of ACAOM
Aug. 2019 – China Ministry of Education recognizes the college’s degrees.
Aug. 2020 – ACAOM reaccredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
August 2023 – ACAOM obtains Distance Education Accreditation with ACAHM

ACAOM’s Academic Degree Programs
- Doctor of Acupuncture (DAcCHM) with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization – training students to become licensed acupuncturists, and specialized in the field of Oriental medicine
- Master of Acupuncture (MAcCHM) with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization program – training students to become licensed acupuncturists
- Master of Integrative Wellness Management (MIWM) program – training students to become healthcare administrators
- Master of Integrative Healthcare Leadership (MIHL) program – training students to become healthcare administration leaders
Admissions Eligibility
ACAOM is open to all qualified applicants and will provide educational opportunities to all persons regardless of race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, marital status, or physical disability.

The institution accepts applicants who meet the educational requirements and present evidence that their personal credentials and intellectual skills are of sufficient quality to indicate the likelihood of success in the study and practice of acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

Title IX Compliance
ACAOM does not discriminate against applicants on the basis of sex. Any questions or concerns about Title IX compliance should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator, Theresa Ligon at tligon@acaom.edu.

Federal Student Financial Aid
ACAOM participates in the Federal Student Financial Aid program (Title IV), which will fund its students their entire cost of attendance including tuition, fees and living expenses through unsubsidized Stafford loans and Graduate PLUS loans. To be eligible for Federal Student Aid, a student must be degree-seeking, registered for at least a half-time academic workload, and making satisfactory progress towards graduation. Eligible students may start taking financial aid any semester. In order to remain eligible for the next term, students receiving federal student loans should expect to enroll and attend at least three-quarter time each semester. Those who take too few credits each term risk losing loan eligibility. Conditionally admitted students are not eligible for federal financial aid.

To comply with federal regulations, students on financial aid are required to pursue academic work continuously each semester (fall, spring, & summer) until completion. A Leave of Absence of not more than one semester per year is allowed, with approval of the Financial Aid Officer. Semesters taken off are included in a student's Satisfactory Academic Progress calculation. Excessive terms taken off will result in the loss of further student loan eligibility due to low academic progress. If a student who receives federal loans takes a semester off without filing a Leave of Absence, that student will be marked as withdrawn in the National Student Loan Database which means required repayment begins 6 months after the date of withdrawal (or non-enrollment). If a student receiving loans does file a Leave of Absence form before taking a term off, their loans will be put into Leave of Absence Status for up to 180 days, after which repayment begins six months later. For more information on this and other loan rules, visit studentaid.gov.

Applying for Financial Aid
To apply for financial aid a student should:

1. Complete and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa. The form is filed annually to cover the period from July 1st through June 30th of the following year. This form provides basic information for determining eligibility for financial aid. ACAOM’s federal school code is 031533.

2. Complete Financial Aid Request Form
   This form contains detailed information for processing financial aid. First time applicants are encouraged to submit their request one month prior to the deadline to assure timely disbursement of funds. Please check with the Financial Aid Office for deadlines.

3. Complete Entrance Counseling at https://studentaid.gov/entrance-counseling

4. Sign your Master Promissory Note at: https://studentaid.gov/mpn/

5. Submit additional documents if requested by the Financial Aid Office. Financial aid payments are normally issued one week after the start of each semester once the add/drop period ends. Contact the Financial Aid Office if you have any questions.

Your admissions application will not be complete for processing until the FAFSA report is received. Contact financialaid@acaom.edu with any questions.

V.A. Benefits
ACAOM is approved to train veterans and other eligible persons under the provisions of Title 38, United States Code for its academic programs. Contact the Financial Aid Office for details. The institution will not impose any penalty, including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a covered individual borrow additional funds, on any covered individual because of the individual's inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement funding from VA under chapter 31 or 33. Contact financialaid@acaom.edu to inquire about specific VA benefits programs eligible veterans can use at ACAOM.edu.

Scholarships
There are several institutional scholarships available each year for qualified beginning students, and continuing students in the program that have completed at least three semesters in full-time status. Beginning students will automatically be considered for a New Student Scholarship if their application for admissions is completed on or before the scholarship deadline listed on the semester calendar. Contact admissions@acaom.edu for more details.

Institutional New Student Scholarship Policy:

1. The amount of the award depends on many factors; application does not guarantee a scholarship.
2. Student must enroll and complete a minimum of 9 hours each semester to remain scholarship-eligible.
3. The scholarship may be applied toward tuition and fees at ACAOM but cannot be redeemed for any other purposes.
4. If the scholarship winner is at the last semester of completing this degree program at ACAOM, the remaining balance of scholarship can be maximized and applied to that last semester’s tuition. Unused scholarship after completed program will be forfeited and cannot be redeemed for any other purposes.
5. Students who drop out of ACAOM will forfeit their remaining scholarship.
6. Students that drop below 9 credits or withdraw completely prior to completing a semester in which scholarship funds were used would have their earned and unearned scholarship amounts calculated based on the percentage of the term completed on the date of withdrawal or last date of attendance. The student would be responsible for repaying the unearned portion of the scholarship because they were no longer eligible to receive the funds upon the drop below 9 credits or withdrawal.

Tuition Refund Policy
All students, including non-degree seeking and conditional admissions students are required to follow the tuition refund policy.

Tuition Refund Policy (For Courses 7.5-15 Weeks Long)
The amount of tuition refund for regular courses (more than 7.5-15 weeks) will be based on the following guidelines:

-- 100% of tuition charges if the student withdraws during or before the first week of classes. However, all students are afforded three days after a class meets the first time to complete dropping any class without penalty.
-- At least 90% of tuition charges if the student withdraws within the first 10% of the semester.
-- At least 50% of tuition charges if the student withdraws between the first 10% and 25% of the semester.
-- At least 25% of tuition charges if the student withdraws between the end of the first 25% and the end of the first 50% of the semester.
-- No refund after more than 50% of the semester.

Tuition Refund Policy (For Courses 5-7.5 Weeks Long)
The amount of tuition refund for courses that are 5 to 7.5 weeks will be based on the following guidelines:
-- Students may attend one class meeting of a 7.5-week or 5-week course, and then drop the course before the next scheduled class meeting and receive a 100% tuition refund.
-- Students will receive a 50% refund if the student withdraws before 50% of the designated class meetings have taken place.
-- There will be no refund if a student withdraws after 50% of the designated course meetings have taken place.

Tuition Refund Policy (For Courses Less Than 5 Weeks Long)
The amount of tuition refund for short-term courses (less than 5 weeks) will be based on the following guidelines:
-- Students will receive a full refund if the student withdraws prior to the start of classes.
-- Students will receive a 50% refund if the student withdraws before 50% of the designated class meetings have taken place.
-- There will be no refund if a student withdraws after 50% of the designated course meetings have taken place.

Financial Aid Refund Due to Withdrawal from School
When a student who receives Federal Financial Aid withdraws from classes before completing the semester, ACAOM must calculate the amount of Title IV funds the student earned for the period before withdrawing, and the amount of unearned funds that must be returned to the Department of Education. This often results in a debt to the student that must be repaid immediately to the Department of Education. A detailed procedure is outlined in the document “Return of Title IV Funds” given to the student during Financial Aid Entrance Counseling. For details, contact the Financial Aid Office.
Doctor of Acupuncture (DACCHM) – with a Chinese Herbal medicine specialization

Students who complete the prescribed course of study at the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (ACAOM) will be awarded a Doctor of Acupuncture (DACCHM) – with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization. In conjunction with the DACCHM degree, students will also receive the Master of Acupuncture (MACCHM) - with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization upon completion of its requirements. The states that regulate and license professional acupuncturists recognize this degree as meeting requisite academic credential requirements for sitting for the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) licensure exam. The degree program is a 4-year degree program emphasizing traditional Chinese medicine, integrative approaches, and evidence-based research.

Philosophy
ACAOM provides a comprehensive curriculum for individuals to become practitioners of acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Our commitment is to help students achieve their highest potential, enabling them to enhance the quality of life in their community.

The major goals of this program are as follows:
1. To train its students in advanced core didactic and core clinical knowledge to become skilled and ethical healthcare practitioners in acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
2. To promote the integration of Oriental and Western medicines and develop students' knowledge and understanding of collaborations involving Chinese medicine practitioners and other healthcare practitioners
3. To educate students in evidence-based research, develop the students’ critical thinking skills, and use findings to support professional practice
4. To provide the community with effective, ethical, and affordable clinical services

Objectives
Students who have completed the program will:

1. Possess advanced core didactic and core clinical knowledge of the foundations of acupuncture and Oriental Medicine including:
   a. theories of traditional Chinese medicine
   b. TCM diagnosis and differentiation skills
   c. meridians and collaterals, the regular acupuncture points, extra points, auricular points, and the scalp points
   d. herbs and their combinations
   e. acupuncture and herbal medicine treatment principles
   f. acupressure and tui-na skills
   g. modification of treatment plans and protocols using new information from current quantitative and qualitative research
2. Possess knowledge of Western medical science. Specifically, they will be able to:
   a. identify disease symptoms based on Western medical terminology and locate acupuncture points based on knowledge of anatomical landmarks
   b. identify basic Western diagnostic methods
   c. utilize physical examination techniques and laboratory reports to complement Chinese medical treatment strategies
   d. communicate with physicians and make referrals when appropriate
   e. discuss, in the appropriate context, the patient's condition using vocabulary and concepts common to other members of the health care team
   f. describe evidence-based medicine and evidence-informed practice, and differentiate between the two
   g. describe data collection methods to facilitate information dissemination in the field
   h. assess research, including hypothesis, design, and methods, both qualitative and quantitative
   i. describe the role and purposes of outcomes research
3. Be able to apply their knowledge and skills in the treatment of patients. Specifically, they will be able to:
   a. analyze symptoms through observing, touching, smelling, hearing, and inquiring of patients
   b. analyze conditions by analyzing tongues and pulses
   c. synthesize and evaluate treatment strategies
   d. communicate effectively with patients
   e. explain the clinical indications, risks and benefits for diagnostic procedures
   f. outline the principles and applications of equipment utilized for diagnostic imaging, laboratory, and other relevant diagnostic tools
   g. assess written diagnostic reports, including the range of values that distinguish normal from abnormal findings, as relevant to patient care and communication with other health care providers.
   h. review findings from relevant diagnostic studies with objective and subjective findings from the assessment of the patient
   i. communicate effectively with other health care providers regarding the results of diagnostic studies
   j. guide a patient into health care systems, e.g. homeless care, elder care, and family services
   k. interact appropriately and skillfully with other members of the health care team and within that health care system
4. Have had sensitivity to ethical professional life engrained in their professional character. Specifically, they will be able to:
   a. treat patients with skill, respect, and compassion, and at the same time maintain professional boundaries
   b. have the skills necessary to contribute to the advancement and reputation of the profession by participating in professional organizations to the extent desired
   c. apply the importance of public service towards the health and well-being of all
   d. describe the relevant laws and regulations, including scope of practice, that may govern or limit conducting diagnostic studies
   e. identify, describe, and assess possible solutions to healthcare disparities due to socioeconomic factors
   f. describe the role of AOM professionals within current health care systems and the impact of that role on patient care
   g. employ patient care in the context of relevant health care systems
   h. differentiate between models of care and treatment modalities
   i. recognize the impact that organizational culture and established systems have on patient care
   j. describe the prevailing and emerging organization, structure and responsibilities of the health care team
   k. articulate the importance of supporting and participating in professional activities and organizations
   l. compare and contrast common medical models
   m. identify and remediate areas of professional weakness
   n. propose improvement methods in the analysis of practice for the purpose of developing a program of learning on a lifelong basis
   o. identify sources of ongoing professional development, education, and research, both classical and contemporary
   p. describe emerging technology systems for information access and management
   q. assess professional development needs, and use available professional development resources to respond to changes in the local, state, regional, and national health care environment
   r. use evidence-based medicine and/or evidence-informed practice to improve the patient care process
s. develop student’s knowledge and understanding of collaborations involving Chinese medicine practitioners and other healthcare practitioners.

t. develop the student’s ability to think critically, synthesize knowledge, and use research findings and literature to support professional practice.

**The Learning Process**

The learning process for achieving the stated objectives is as follows:

1. Learning begins with lectures, discussions, utilization of college resources such as the library, and practice. Classroom instruction provides teaching of the knowledge developed during the past several thousand years. Continuous assessment and feedback by skilled practitioners is an essential part of the learning process.

2. Pre-internship training is obtained through acupuncture technique courses and clinical observation. Students will learn from both practical and lecture methods.

3. Subsequent learning is achieved through practical training in the teaching clinic. Patient treatments supervised by ACAOM faculty complete the learning process.

**Prerequisite for Admissions**

To be eligible for admissions, prospective students must meet the following conditions:

1. A bachelor’s degree or equivalent is preferred (120 semester credit hours with at least 30 semester credit hours of general education and 30 semester hours being upper-level) from college or university that is accredited by an accrediting agency that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education or Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

2. An undergraduate cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. A student who has earned a master degree may be admitted on the basis of that degree with a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

**Alternative Admissions Option**

Applicants may be considered for admission if they have completed at least 90 baccalaureate-level semester credits (135 quarter credits) from a college or university that is accredited by an accrediting agency that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education or Council for Higher Education Accreditation with a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. The 90 credits must include at least 30 credits of general education courses drawn from the following areas:

- Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum 6 credits)
- Social/Behavioral Sciences (minimum 6 credits)
- Natural Sciences/mathematics (minimum 6 credits)
- Communications (minimum 6 credits)

Students who apply under the Alternative Admission Option must also submit a written petition requesting admissions considerations in addition to all other required supporting documents.

Submission of a petition does not guarantee approval or admission, and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

**Basic Science Requirement**

Certain courses require that the student have completed undergraduate-level Biology and Chemistry from an accredited school as a prerequisite. If the student has not completed these undergraduate courses at the time of admission, students are required to complete these basic science courses at another accredited school prior to enrolling in the courses. If these basic courses are not completed within the first two semesters at ACAOM.edu, the student will be blocked from progressing in the curriculum until these pre-requisites are met. Contact admissions@acaom.edu with any questions.

**Doctorate Completion Admissions**

Applicants interested in upgrading their accredited Master’s degree in Acupuncture and/or Chinese Medicine that was either earned from another ACAOM.org-accredited school or completed at ACAOM.edu are required to meet the same admission requirements as those applying to the Doctor of Acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization (DAcCHM) program. An evaluation of prior education may be required to determine if there are any course deficiencies.

**English Proficiency**

English language competency is required of all students seeking admission to the doctoral program. This must be demonstrated by one of the following means:

The applicant must have completed one of the following:

a) four years at a U.S. high school demonstrably delivered in English;

b) at least two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate-or graduate-level education in an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education;

c) at least two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate-or graduate-level education demonstrably delivered in English;

d) high school or two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate- or graduate-level education in an institution in one of the following countries or territories: American Samoa; Anguilla; Antigua & Barbuda; Australia; Barbados; Belize; Bermuda; Botswana; British Virgin Islands; Cameroon; Canada (except Quebec); Cayman Islands; Christmas Island; Cook Islands; Dominica; Federated States of Micronesia; Fiji; The Gambia; Ghana; Gibraltar; Grenada; Guam; Guyana; Ireland; Isle of Man; Jamaica; Kenya; Lesotho; Liberia; Malawi; Montserrat; Namibia; New Zealand; Nigeria; Norfolk Island; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Pitcairn Islands; Sierra Leone; Singapore; South Africa; South Sudan; St. Helena; St. Kitts & Nevis; St. Lucia; St. Vincent & the Grenadines; Swaziland; Tanzania; Trinidad and Tobago; Turks and Caicos Islands; United Kingdom; U.S. Virgin Islands; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe.

In all cases, English must have been both the language of instruction and the language of the curriculum used.

OR

The applicant must have completed one of the following assessments at the required level:

**Assessment Tool / Acceptable Score**

- English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL® iBT) / Total: 61
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS), Academic Format / Overall band: 6
- Duolingo English Test / 90
- China Standard of English Language (CSE) / CSE 6
- Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE) / C
- Cambridge English Advanced (CAE) / C
- Common European Framework Reference (CEFR) / B2
- Occupational English Test (OET) / 250, C
- Pearson Test of English (PTE), Academic / Overall: 45

Official documentation verifying one of the above options must be received by American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine directly from the issuing institution.

Applicants who do not have official documentation of one of the three options listed may submit a petition stating why they fulfill the English proficiency requirements along with any relevant supporting documentation. Submission of a petition does not guarantee approval or admission, and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
The Admissions Committee may request additional supporting documentation or an interview as needed to consider the petition. If the petition is denied, the applicant will need to acquire one of the listed options above to be re-considered for admissions.

**Evaluation of Transcripts**

Students and graduates with prior coursework at the Master’s level will have their transcripts evaluated for equivalency prior to transferring the courses to the Doctoral level. If deficiencies are found, additional courses may be required in order to fulfill all relevant doctoral level competencies. These may be courses developed specifically to bridge the gap between the Master’s level and Doctoral level courses.

**Non-Degree Seeking Students**

A student may request non-degree seeking status or may be asked by the College to accept this status for a period of time not to exceed one year (three consecutive semesters). A non-degree seeking student must meet all admissions requirements and all prerequisites for enrolling in courses. Once accepted, the student may enroll in only first year courses unless granted an exception by the Dean of Academic Affairs. The student will not be eligible for financial aid. The non-degree seeking status provides no guarantee to the student of being accepted as a degree seeking student at any time in the future.

A non-degree seeking student wishing to become a degree seeking student may apply to change status after successfully completing at least one semester and before the end of the third semester. The catalog to be followed by the degree seeking student will be the one in effect at the time of the change of status, which may be different.

**Conditional Admissions**

An applicant (usually with a degree from a foreign university) who has challenges in securing official transcripts of all his/her academic record in a timely fashion, but who can provide other strong evidence of a successful academic record may be considered for conditional admissions for one semester pending arrival of the required official documentation. Such cases may involve issues of an institution changing names, merging with another institution, or going out of business; records being seized by the state, destroyed or misplaced as a result of a state of war; or other unavoidable circumstances. Such students will be required to submit documentation and verification to the Admissions office, continue in the second semester as a conditional student pending the arrival of official academic records to complete the student’s admissions requirements. The student may not continue beyond the second semester without all required and official documents being received by the college.

Conditional admissions may also be granted to a student who is in the last semester of completing a bachelor degree (or equivalent, 120 semester hours) and has a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 grading system. Upon confirmation of satisfactory completion of the semester’s work in progress and receipt of the applicant’s official transcript, and meeting all other requirements, the admissions status will be upgraded to full, unconditional admissions.

International students who are in need of a school-issued F-1 I-20 are not eligible for Conditional Admissions. In order to be admitted and receive an I-20, international students must be fully and unconditionally admitted, including submission of all admissions documents such as sealed official transcripts, translations, evaluations, etc. International students who are unable to complete their application by the posted deadlines have the option to defer to the next semester to begin their program of study. An I-20 will not be issued for any applicant with an incomplete application that is missing any required official document(s). Students issued a F-1 I-20 that are unable to enter the US on, or up to a maximum of 30 days prior to, their program start date listed on the I-20 will not be allowed to enter the United States late, and must defer to begin in the following semester, and receive a new I-20 with the correct program start date.

Students accepted under Conditional Admission are not eligible for federal financial aid until all necessary documents are submitted and they are upgraded to unconditional admission status.

**Application Requirements**

In order to apply successfully to ACAOM, applicants must:

1. Complete the application form
2. Submit a digital photograph.
3. Submit official transcripts* from all accredited schools directly to ACAOM from all accredited colleges previously attended.
4. Write a personal statement: a one-page, type-written essay discussing your passion and goal towards the program.
5. Secure two recommendations from current or previous employers or other responsible individuals who have known you for more than 2 years. Recommendations should come from individuals not directly related to the applicant, that can attest to the applicant’s character and potential.
6. Provide a copy of valid personal identification (passport, driver’s license, or others).
7. Enclose a non-refundable application fee of $100 payable to ACAOM by the application deadline.
8. Interviews conducted by Admissions Committee (if necessary).
9. If you plan to apply for Federal student loans (Graduate Stafford Unsubsidized and/or Graduate PLUS loans) you must submit your FAFSA to us through https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afa. Our school code is 031533. Your application will not be complete for admissions processing until the FAFSA report is received.

*If any transcript is from an international institution and it cannot be determined that all academic requirements for admissions have been satisfied, then, a course-by-course credential evaluation of the academic transcript is required by a reputable foreign educational credential company such as gcevaluators.com, spantran.com, or others. It is recommended that applicants use a NACES-approved evaluation company to ensure quality and acceptance by more organizations such as state licensing bodies, etc.

**Requirements for International Students**

ACAOM is authorized under Federal law to enroll non-immigrant international students. The following additional documents are required:

- Submit proof of financial responsibility, either in the form of a recent bank statement or affidavit of support showing a guaranteed support of one year’s cost of attendance, and sponsor’s recent bank statement. Please contact the Admissions’ office to obtain an affidavit of support form.
- Copies of any and all previous I-20 (if applicable).
- International applicants applying for the MACCHM or DAcCHM programs are advised to obtain 3 copies of
their official transcripts at the time of application because these documents will also be required to apply for a state acupuncture license to practice, and by the NCAOM to apply for Board Certification. Obtaining them ahead of time will streamline the graduation and licensure processes.

**Tuition & Fees**

$445 per didactic and clinic credit hour. Estimated tuition for the entire program: $76,095 ($78,995 with fees included)

**Other Fees (non-refundable)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Semester Fee</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsequent Semesters</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Materials</td>
<td>$450-600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer Credits ($1,000 Max)</td>
<td>$75/course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit</td>
<td>$50/credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional diploma</td>
<td>$25 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official transcript</td>
<td>$5 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competency Examination</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make-Up Examination</td>
<td>$50 first one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional make-up Exam(s)</td>
<td>$100 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing fee for payment plan</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Student Setup Fee – domestic applicant</td>
<td>$350 (one time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Student Setup Fee – international applicant</td>
<td>$450 (one time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology fee (6 hours or more)</td>
<td>$100/semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student activity fee (6 hours or more)</td>
<td>$50/semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late registration or enrollment fee</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late tuition payment (each time/month)</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All tuition and fees are subject to change. A tuition payment plan can be arranged. Tuition payment(s) can be in the form of check, cash, credit/debit cards (Visa, MasterCard & Discover), or direct deposit. There is an additional transaction fee of 3% charged for paying with a credit card.

All tuition and fees should be paid in full by designated due dates. Students who have no delinquent accounts with the College and have not defaulted on any previous financial obligations incurred with ACAOM, may be permitted, at the discretion of the Financial Aid Administrator to pay in installments. No student is allowed to register for a semester if a debt is not paid from previous semesters. Unpaid amounts will result in the following:

-- Student Account placed on hold, which blocks future enrollment, release of official transcripts, diplomas and degrees until the balance is paid in full.

-- In addition, a delinquency report may be referred to an outside collection agency and reported to the credit bureau. The student will be responsible for all collection costs, including penalties, interest, attorney’s fees and court costs.

**Transfer Credit Policy**

A student who desires to have master degree semester credit hours earned at another accredited institution prior to enrolling in ACAOM count toward graduation requirements must apply for transfer of those semester hour credits at the time of admissions into the ACAOM program. Courses will be considered for transfer only if the coursework is equivalent to ACAOM courses in level, content and hours and is not older than five years at the time of request. Transfer of credits can only be considered for courses completed with a passing grade at the original school where the course was taken. There is a fee for transferring credits. See the section on “Tuition and Other Costs.”

Students must provide supporting documentation and course descriptions from the college catalog where credit was earned when requesting evaluation of the course for credits toward graduation at ACAOM. If they want to take equivalent courses at another institution while attending ACAOM, they are required to obtain prior approval of such credit for transfer from the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Non-accredited distance learning courses at any institution are not transferable. Coursework taken on a non-credit basis is not transferable.

The 5-year limitation may be waived for certain courses for students who were advanced degree-holding, practicing health care professionals within the previous five (5) years. ACAOM reserves the right to require a competency test for any course taken beyond the five-year period.

Courses equivalent in content and hours taken at an acupuncture school are directly transferable if the school is accredited, or a candidate for accreditation, by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Coursework from non-accredited acupuncture schools may be considered for transfer credit only upon successful completion of one or more competency exams as authorized by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Credits for any clinical training including internship and observation II are not transferable. Exceptions to this case must be approved by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Foreign transcripts must be evaluated by a foreign educational credentials firm prior to transfer credit evaluation. An official credentialing evaluation document must be received directly from the credentialing evaluation institution. Applicants are advised to use only NACES-approved credential evaluation companies to be certain their evaluation will be accepted by licensing and credentialing organizations post-graduation.

To be granted a degree from ACAOM, a transfer student may not transfer beyond 50% of required credits for graduation. Of that 50%, no more than 25% of the required clinical training can be accepted for transfer, upon approval by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

**Transfer to Other Institutions**

American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine offers regionally-accredited master’s and doctoral-level courses. Transferring of these courses to other colleges and universities will depend on the transfer credit policy of those institutions.

**Duration of the Program**

The doctoral degree is intended to be completed in 12 semesters. The program may be completed in a minimum of 9 semesters and a maximum of 18 semesters. Any transfer credit accepted toward graduation must be taken within these guidelines as further explained in the section on “Transfer of Credits from Another Institution to ACAOM.”

**Clinical Training**

ACAOM’s clinical faculty share their knowledge and experience gained through years of practice and refinement. The acupuncture, herbal, and pain management training provides the knowledge and confidence required to move students into the field of practice. During the clinic, students will treat patients under the direction and supervision of a licensed acupuncturist. The clinic also allows students to prescribe patented herbs and granules and to prepare loose herbs. Students will learn to apply the knowledge learned from classroom studies of about 300 herbs and 200 formulas. They will learn to recognize raw herbs, diagnose and treat patients, prepare and prescribe herbal formulas.
Diagnostic Proficiency Examination
Once a student enrolls in certain courses, he or she must take the Proficiency Examinations. These exams are a diagnostic indicator to allow both the student and the student's academic advisor know where the student's strengths and weaknesses exist, so that a customized remedial and/or tutorial plan can be enacted for that student.

Comprehensive Exam to Enter Clinical Training
To ensure that students acquire adequate knowledge before entering the internship, all students must pass all parts of the Comprehensive Examination within three consecutive semesters prior to entering the clinical phase of training. In order to preserve the educational standards and to protect patients, each section must be passed in order to begin clinical training.

No special administration or make-up examinations will be given for the Comprehensive Exams. If a student fails any of the components of the comprehensive exam three times or more, he/she will be required to do some remediation such as audit courses, receive tutoring of the component in which he/she has failed, or take a review course, as recommended by the Dean of Academic Affairs in consultation with the advisor before attempting the exam again.

Exit Examination
A written Exit Examination is given to students at the end of the last semester in the clinic. Students who fail the Exit Examination are required to continue in the same internship level and retake the exit examination at the next administration. In unusual circumstances, a make-up session for this exam may be conducted.

Outreach Clinical Training
When there are openings, students will have the option to observe and treat patients in outreach facilities including Houston Methodist at the Texas Medical Center, Houston Methodist at Sugar Land, Houston Methodist at San Jacinto, Houston Methodist at Willowbrook, Houston Methodist at West Houston Hospital, and Houston Methodist at the Woodlands. Students should check with the clinic administration for details on availability and the procedure for requesting such placement.

China or Taiwan Hospital Training
ACAOM offers students the opportunity for an educational trip to China or Taiwan to experience the land and culture from which acupuncture originated, while gaining clinical experience with premier acupuncturists of China or Taiwan. These students may rotate from one department to another in teaching hospital(s). Although the training is an elective, it provides a unique learning experience that cannot be found in the United States. Scholarships may be available.

Graduation Requirements
A student must meet the following criteria to graduate from this ACAOM degree program:
1. Satisfactorily complete all didactic instruction as written in the entering Catalog.
2. Complete all clinic observation and internship as written in the entering Catalog.
3. Satisfactorily exhibit professional conduct and professional clinical demeanor.
4. Successfully pass all required examinations.
5. Fulfill all financial obligations and return all library materials.
6. Successfully pass the Doctoral Capstone Project
7. Complete the Application for Graduation Approval form.
8. For students interested ONLY in California licensure: complete California requirements outlined below.
9. Complete all required community outreach requirements.

Practicing in California
The California Acupuncture Board requires all applicants to have a minimum of 2050 didactic hours and 950 clinic hours. Students interested in obtaining California licensure must have undergraduate credits on their transcript for the following undergraduate courses:
- GE 111 Chemistry & Biochemistry (3 credits)
- GE 112 General Physics (3 credits)
- GE 113 General Biology (4 credits)
The courses can be taken at any accredited undergraduate college. ACAOM will not offer these courses and the credits will not count as part of the ACAOM graduate study.

Course Load
Full Time
Full time students are defined as students who are taking a minimum of 12 semester credit hours in a combination of didactic and clinical training any semester. Full time students are limited to no more than 18 didactic hours plus a clinical course in any semester unless granted approval in writing for an exception by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Part Time
Part time students are individuals who are taking less than 12 semester credit hours any semester. Part time students are still required to complete the entire curriculum within six calendar years. Students who require longer than 6 years must receive special approval from the Dean of Academic Affairs, and they may be subject to additional graduation requirements.
## DACCHM – Doctor of Acupuncture with a Chinese Herbal Medicine Specialization Course Outline

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<td><strong>Fundamentals of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)</strong></td>
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<td>Foundations of TCM</td>
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<td>Physiology of TCM</td>
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<td>Etiology &amp; Pathogenesis of TCM</td>
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<td>Differentiation of Syndromes</td>
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## Tai-Chi & Qi-Gong

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Catalog 2023-2024 Page 18
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<td>Wen Bin (Warm Febrile Diseases) (elective)</td>
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**Clinical Medical Study**

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**Integrative Medicine**

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| Total elective | 3 | 90 |
| Total required | 33 | 1140 |

**Summary (category)**

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| Total Didactic Required          | 138   | 2137.5  |
| Total Clinic Required            | 33    | 1140    |
| Total Required                   | 171   | 3277.5  |

Students are required to follow all prerequisites, which are subject to change.

***Dedicated Herbology course hours. In addition to these hours, there are numerous integrative medicine courses in the curriculum that also contain a significant portion of Herbology hours. Total of all Herbology hours earned in this program exceeds 470.
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Total Required Credits: 171
Course Descriptions

**Acupuncture**

**AC-701 Special Topic: Selecting the Right Points and Point Location Practice (elective) – 0.5 Credits**
This course will focus on accurately diagnosing, selecting appropriate acupuncture points, and include a practical training on point location. Participants will learn how to confidently ask the appropriate questions and analyze the answers to formulate the best diagnosis. From there, participants will formulate the most appropriate treatment plan and review the point locations to ensure that the patient is getting the most effective treatment possible.
Prerequisites: AC724L Acupuncture Needling Techniques

**AC-731L Anatomical Acupuncture & Point Energetics I – 2 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab**
This is the first of three courses which present the distribution, function and pathological signs of the human body’s network of meridians and collaterals. Students will study the classifications, locations and anatomical landmarks of points on the first seven meridians of the circadian cycle: the meridians or the Lung, Large Intestine, Stomach, Spleen, Heart, Small Intestine, and Urinary Bladder. Point energetics, functions, indications, Contraindications, methods of needling, and appropriate use of moxibustion are all presented in this course as are the clinical applications of each point. Students will also learn about precautions when stimulating certain points. The lab portion of this course focuses on practical instruction and hands-on student practice.
Prerequisites: OM-730 Foundation of TCM, BS-741L Gross Anatomy

**AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture & Point Energetics II – 2 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab**
This is the second course in the Anatomical Acupuncture series. This course covers the pathways of the meridians, the symptoms and pathologies of the main channels and their connection to the viscera-bowels. This course covers the locations and local anatomy of acupuncture points on the meridian of the Kidney, Pericardium, San Jiao, Gall Bladder, Liver, Du and Ren. As in Anatomical Acupuncture I, Students will study the location, local anatomical structure, functions, indications, contraindications, methods of needling, appropriate moxibustion use, and clinical application of points presented. The lab portion of this course will focus on practical instruction and hands-on student practice. Needle insertion and manipulation of special points will be demonstrated.
Prerequisites: OM-730 Foundation of TCM, BS-741L Gross Anatomy

**AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture & Point Energetics III - 1 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab**
Students in this course will study the pathways, functions and indications of the eight extra meridians, divergent meridians, cutaneous regions, muscle regions and collaterals. Pathological indications of these meridians and collaterals will be discussed along with their relationship to the regular meridians. Students will also study the locations, functions, indications, methods of needling and clinical applications of the extra acupuncture points. This course includes lab time for hands-on practice with each extra acupuncture point and for review of regular points.
Prerequisites: AC-731L & AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I & II

**AC-727L Auricular Acupuncture - 1.5 Cr Did + 0.5 Cr Lab**
The ear can reflect important information about the entire body, making auricular diagnosis and acupuncture an important part of TCM. This course presents an in-depth study of auricular acupuncture and includes a detailed study of ear anatomy, of the meridians and their functions as they relate to the auricle, and of the locations, functions and indications of more than 100 auricular acupuncture points. The course teaches different auricular needling techniques and also covers the various indications and contraindications for auricular acupuncture. Detection of tender spots on the ear, diagnostic observations by the naked eye, and detection of electrical changes in the ear are all presented in detail. Clinical applications, including treatment of common syndromes and diseases, are also presented. Research into the use of auricular acupuncture will also be discussed. This course includes lab time for hands-on practice in point location, diagnosis, and treatment techniques.
Prerequisites: OM-731 Physiology of TCM, OM-751L TCM Diagnosis, AC-731L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I or AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics II

**AC-723L Scalp Acupuncture - 1.5 Cr Did + 0.5 Cr Lab**
This course deals with the developmental history and principles of scalp acupuncture, with scalp anatomy (which includes the skin of the scalp and associated brain functional areas), and with the relationships between scalp anatomy and acupuncture, and scalp acupuncture stimulation areas, standard lines, and zones. Several methods of scalp acupuncture are introduced, including the Jiao method and the Standard Line, or Zhu’s method. TCM channel theory and its relationship to the scalp are presented. This course emphasizes the study of scalp stimulation areas, standard line and scalp zone locations, indications and contraindications, functions, manipulations and needling techniques particular to scalp acupuncture.
Students will also learn about the treatment of common diseases as they relate to scalp acupuncture. This course includes lab time for hands-on practice.
Prerequisites: AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics III

**AC-724L Acupuncture & Needling Techniques – 1 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab**
This course covers basic insertion and needling techniques along with proper needling procedures and Clean Needle Technique (ONT). Students will gain an in-depth understanding of the tonification and reduction needling methods, and of potential positive or negative reactions to treatment. The course emphasizes practical hands-on instruction of needling manipulation by demonstration and application practice. In this course, students will learn and develop practical skills by practicing each technique upon one another of their classmates. This includes practical application and receiving of each technique among students enrolled in the class. This is an introductory course including Clean Needle Technique (C.N.T.), basic acupuncture needling techniques, and the clinical application of these techniques.
Prerequisites: AC-731L or AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I or II

**AC-725L Acupuncture & Supplemental Techniques- 1 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab**
This is the advanced course in the study of complex acupuncture needling, moxibustion, electro-acupuncture and cupping techniques, and how these techniques are used in the clinic practice. The course emphasizes practical hands-on instruction of needling manipulation by demonstration and application practice. In this course students will learn and develop practical skills by practicing each technique upon one another of their classmates.
This includes practical application and receiving of each technique among students enrolled in the class.
Prerequisites: AC-731L and AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I and II, AC-724L Acupuncture & Needling Techniques
AC-733 Usage of Acupoints – 3 Credits
This course will cover classical point's categories. These categories are key to understanding the clinical application of acupuncture points. The categories are described in classical texts and denote groups of points with related therapeutic functions, as well as their clinical application presented in the modern literature. The categories that will be covered the Five Shu points, the Yuan-Primary Points, the Luo connecting Points, Xi-Cleft Points, the Eight Confluent Points, the Eight Influential Points, the Front Mu and Back Shu points, etc. The properties, usage, and indications of each of these groups of points will be covered as will the principles of point's selection to treat particular syndromes.
Prerequisites: AC-724L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics III, OM-752 Differentiation of Syndromes

AC-801 Special Topic Deep Needling Techniques (elective) – 0.5 Credits
This course will focus on how to safely and effectively utilize deep needling techniques. It will focus on conditions that would be most appropriate for this technique along with contraindications. Participants will learn how to handle long needles, how to insert needles effectively, and how to manipulate the needle for better results.
Prerequisites: AC724L Acupuncture Needling Techniques

AC-810 Special Topic: New Techniques (1 credit, on campus)
The New Techniques Series will be comprised of techniques outside of the basic traditional Chinese medicine curriculum but popular for graduates to expand their skills. Participants will learn about face lift techniques, medical qi gong and how to apply it in strengthening the effectiveness of your treatments, Imaging technique, and Master Tong Points.
Prerequisites: AC724L Acupuncture Needling Techniques, TQ712 Qi Gong

AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases – 3 Credits
This course brings together the theories of Oriental Medicine etiology and pathogenesis, differentiation and diagnosis, acupuncture point locations, usage of acupuncture points, and selection of points to treat different illnesses. An analysis of strategies and methods used in the treatment of common diseases will be emphasized.
Prerequisite: AC-733 Usage of Acupoints

AC-811 Emergency Management & Safety Issues – 1 Credit
This pre-clinical training course covers urgent situations that require immediate attention. Students will learn specific procedures that need to be followed during emergency situations, which include risk management in working areas, emergency response for any practical accident, safe procedure with federal requirements for all patients and practitioners, and safe regulations for herbal medicine / dietary supplements. Research literature regarding acupuncture practice safety will also be discussed.
Prerequisite or Concurrent: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases, HB741L Herbolgy I, HB742L Herbolgy II, HB743L Herbolgy III, AC-725L Acupuncture Supplemental Techniques, CL731 Observation I, BS821 – Advanced Pathology

AC-812 Acudetox (elective) – 1 Credit
This course is presented as a 15 hour lecture and practice/demonstration of the NADA protocol and the Clean Needle Technique procedure, the utilization of needles, seeds and electro stimulation if needed. It will prepare the student in the application of the technique in patients/clients with advanced diagnosis of chemical dependence under appropriate supervision. Each participant will work in a group of peers prior to the utilization of the NADA protocol in patients and only under the supervision of the teacher.
Prerequisite: None

AC-713 Veterinary Acupuncture (elective) – 1 Credit
This course presents acupuncture as it applies to animals. The general locations, indications, and functions of acupuncture points will be discussed in relation to animals such as dogs, cats, horses, etc. The use of acupuncture treatment to address various disorders will also be covered.
Prerequisite: OM-730 Foundation of TCM

AC-821 Hand, Wrist, Ankle & Foot Acupuncture (elective) – 2 Credits
Different theories of acupuncture, such as hand, wrist, ankle, and foot acupuncture have branched out from the traditional theories of Oriental Medicine. This course will introduce these theories. Topics covered will include diagnosis, the location of acupuncture points and areas, point indications, contraindications, functions, and clinical applications.
Prerequisite: OM-730 Foundation of TCM

AC-826L Constitutional Facial Rejuvenation - 1.5 Cr Did + 0.5 Cr Lab (elective)
 Constitutional Facial Rejuvenation is an effective means of addressing the signs of aging on the face. This course gives the practitioner/student the knowledge and understanding of addressing the factors reflected on the topography of the face by the underlying constitution of the body and its viscera.

AC-720L Channel Palpation – 1 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab (elective)
Channel palpation is an objective diagnostic system for the practice of acupuncture that is based on palpating the acupuncture channels for diagnostically significant changes, such as nodules and muscular tension. This course is an introduction to channel palpation and its related theory where students will learn about the history and development of channel palpation from its origins in the Huang Di Nei Jing (The Yellow Emperor’s Internal Classic) to modern day application. Techniques used to palpate the 14 major channels will be taught and students will learn how to incorporate palpatory information into their clinical practice.
Prerequisite: AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture & Point Energetics III

AC-814 Acupuncture Study Review (elective) – 1 Credit
This course reviews materials covered in all the common areas of TCM acupuncture study completed during the first three academic years, including point location and point selection. This is a recommended course to prepare for the ACAOM intern entrance examination and the NCCAOM licensing examination.
Prerequisite: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases

Biomedical Science

BS-741L Gross Anatomy - 3 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab
This course covers the structure of the human body. The content is based on the Western medical approach, but the overall course objective is to provide students with sufficient anatomical knowledge to locate acupuncture points. Students will concentrate on nomenclature of the bones, muscles, nerves, arteries, veins, and the different organ systems.
Prerequisite: none

BS-742L Physiology - 3 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab
This course provides students with a basic and advanced understanding of the functions of the human body and the effects
of acupuncture on these functions. The normal physiological functions of the cardiovascular system, gastrointestinal system, and other systems will be discussed. Special emphasis will be given to the function of the neuromuscular system. For lab activity (one hour per class) students will be provided by group activity in class regarding case analysis and case discussion, measuring the vital signs, videos and discussion regarding different body systems, they practice the physiologic knowledge base necessary to enter the Chinese medical profession by applying physiological science in clinical scenarios and practice basic physiologic homeostatic mechanisms such as: feedback mechanism and accomplishing lab assignments.

Prerequisite: BS-741L Gross Anatomy, BS-723 Histology, undergraduate Biology, undergraduate Chemistry

**BS-728 Regional Anatomy – 2 Credits**
Regional anatomy is the study of the regional morphology and spatial interactions of the body structure. The course emphasizes aspects of regional anatomy which are essential to the clinical assessment of diseases of skeleton, musculature, joint and neurology from the view of Western medicine. The course will emphasize on how to analyze the surface anatomy knowledge and apply this for different palpation purposes eg: evaluation of patients in physical examinations. The anatomical relationship of some acupuncture points with underlying tissues, organs and bony structures will be discussed. Students will have in-class opportunities to palpate point locations using anatomical landmarks as guideposts.

Prerequisite: BS-741L Gross Anatomy

**BS-729 Neuroanatomy – 2 Credits**
This course will provide students with an understanding of the neural basis of acupuncture mechanisms and with a framework upon which to build clinical skills to treat common neurological problems encountered in acupuncture clinics. The course focuses on clinically pertinent aspects of the brain, emphasizing the major pathways between the brain and spinal cord and lesions of the central nervous system. Study of the structure and organization of the central nervous system, which is of vital importance in identification of neurologic location and diagnosis, will be emphasized. Professional development and professional application of neuroanatomy knowledge in health care field is encouraged during the course.

Prerequisites: BS-741L Gross Anatomy, BS-728 Regional Anatomy

**BS-723 Histology – 2 Credits**
A study of histology gives students a basic understanding of the structures which make up the human body. Students will learn about the microstructures of human tissue that help the body maintain normal physiological function, about damage to these structures and about associated causes of disease.

Prerequisite: undergraduate Biology

**BS-711 Hygiene, Public Health & Epidemiology – 1 Credit**
The basic purpose and functions of public health will be discussed. Issues such as the changing patterns of health associated with socio-demographic trends, environmental health & safety, and healthcare reform within the United States healthcare delivery system will be emphasized. Methods for prevention and control of disease and injury as well as global health issues and integration of Traditional Chinese Medicine into a public health paradigm will be presented.

Prerequisite: none

**BS-724 Microbiology – 2 Credits**
This course covers the basic principles of the pathogenesis of bacterial infection and host resistance to infection. It includes the initiation of the infectious process, mechanisms leading to the development of signs and symptoms of bacterial and viral diseases, and outcomes of the interaction between microorganisms and host.

Prerequisites: BS-741L Gross Anatomy, undergraduate Biology

**BS-725 Pathology – 2 Credits**
This course presents an introduction to the understanding of pathologic changes associated with human disease and the principles of injury and reactions to injury. In addition, the immuno-pathology, neoplasia, and the developmental and genetic diseases are also covered. Students taking this course will gain an overall understanding of the pathologic changes associated with the most frequently occurring and significant diseases of major organs and body systems.

Prerequisites: BS-742L Physiology, BS-723 Histology

**BS-726 Psychology – 2 Credits**
This course integrates psycho-social and biomedical science findings regarding how cultural, social, emotional and mental risk and protective factors may affect physical health and propensity to and recovery from illness. Students will learn, from a review of the historical evolution of psychological and psychiatric investigations and research, how systematic scientific principles and methods evolved and contributed to our current state of knowledge about the influences of cultural, social, emotional and mental factors on our health behaviors. Students will also be given a general introduction to psychological disorders, the clinical signs and symptoms of which they will need to recognize for patient treatment or referral in their actual clinical practice. Topics relating to patient communication may be discussed.

Prerequisite: None

**BS-821 Advanced Pathology – 2 Credits**
This course presents a systematic approach to the understanding of human disease with focus on the molecular, chemical and anatomic basis of pathology in order to be applicable in regular patient care practice. The major diseases of the following systems: neurologic, musculoskeletal, endocrine, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal and renal are included. Clinical diagnosis are presented and emphasized.

Prerequisites: BS-725 Pathology, BS-724 Microbiology, BS-729 Neuroanatomy

**BS-822 Pharmacology – 2 Credits**
In this course, students will learn how to apply their knowledge in major classifications and sub-classification of drugs and gain the ability to reference medications according to brand or generic names. Students will acquire knowledge of prescription and non-prescription medications, their common mechanisms of action that relate to their therapeutic action and side effects. Drugs of abuse and prescription medications that are also abused will be reviewed. Drug interactions will be emphasized. Important drug side effects that are recognize as adverse drug reactions will be analyzing and require appropriate referral will be remembering.

Prerequisites: BS-821 Advanced Pathology

**BS-712 Western Medical Terminology (elective) - 1 Credit**
Western Medical Terminology teaches students medical terminology as it relates to human anatomy and physiology, to diagnosis and to the treatment of illnesses. The understanding of these terms and their relationship to all the above will facilitate the students’ integration of Western medicine and Traditional Chinese medicine.

Prerequisite: none

**BS-823 Biomedicine Review (elective) – 2 Credits**
This elective biomedicine review class is recommended for those students taking the Biomedicine NCCAOM National Board Licensing Examination. This course serves as a comprehensive
review of the required biomedical course information taught at ACAOM. This course includes practical tests geared to help students assess their strengths and weaknesses, become familiar with the subjects on the exam, practice questions and techniques encountered on the NCCAOM examinations.

Prerequisites: BS-822 Pharmacology, CMWM-B41L Western Diagnostic Methods, CMWM-S33 Western Medical Laboratory & Imaging

**Clinical Training**

**CL-731 Clinical Observation I & Clerkship – 3 Credits**  
In this course, students practice professionalism and observe the clinical intern and faculty/licensed acupuncturists as they interview patients, develop diagnosis, conduct Western orthopedic diagnostic methods when appropriate, and treat patients with acupuncture, herbal medicine, moxibustion, Tui-Na and other forms of Oriental Medicine. Additionally, students will learn practical skills of office management, counseling and patient communication skills, including documentation by SOAP notes.

Prerequisites: OM-751L TCM Diagnosis, AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I & II, OSHA and HIPAA

**CL-723 Clinical Observation II – 2 Credits**  
This course continues learning begun in Clinical Observation and Clerkship I. In Clinical Observation II, students will practice professionalism assist the intern during the treatment process and become more involved in various aspects of patient contact including some form of counseling and patient communication and documentation by SOAP notes.

Prerequisites: CL-713 Clinical Observation & Clerkship I, OM-751L TCM Diagnosis, OM-752 Differentiation of Syndromes, AC-731L & AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I & II, OSHA and HIPAA

**CL-715 Clinical Theater – 1 Credit**  
This course trains students to become interns. The course provides mock and actual patient visits so that students learn the proper way to interact and communicate with patients. Included is the teaching of the communication protocol and diagnostic methods.

Concurrent: CL-714 Clinical Observation II & Clerkship

**CL-801 Problem Based Learning I/Rounds**  
Problem Based Learning (PBL) is a required course to be taken currently with each of the levels of Clinical Internship. Through case presentations and analysis, students will have ample opportunity to apply and develop all aspects of their growing knowledge of TCM in clinical application. Case taking and chart-keeping skills, TCM etiology, differentiation of syndromes, diagnosis, treatment plans and strategies of effective treatment are all employed as students present and discuss case studies of patients treated in the clinic. Students will also prepare research papers on specific conditions or diseases typical of those seen in clinic. PBL gives students the opportunity to learn from one another's experiences and to better understand various conditions and diseases from the perspectives of both Eastern and Western medicines.

Prerequisites: CL-864, 865, 866, 867 Clinical Internships I, II, III, & IV and CL-801, 802, 803, 804 Problem Based Learning I, II, III & IV

Concurrent: CL-864, 865, 866, 867, 868 Clinical Internships I, II, III, IV, or V

**CL-864 Clinical Internship I – 6 Credits**  
This course is the first clinical internship course. At this beginning stage of professional clinical training, interns have full supervision by the clinic supervisor. In addition, interns learn to fill out patient charts, gather patient data, locate acupuncture points, and to verify the appropriate needling techniques and utilize and document Western Diagnostic tests. Interns also assist in preparing herbal formulas for their patients. Clinical Internship I is a required course for all students. It must be taken after students take the Comprehensive Exams and taken concurrently with didactic courses.

Prerequisites: Successfully pass the comprehensive exams, PD722 Prof, Ethics & Laws of Practices, AC-811 Emergency Management & Safety Issues, CL-714 Clinical Observation II, CL-715 Clinical Theater, AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases, HB-744 & HB-841 Herbal Prescription I & II, AC 725L-Acupuncture & Supplemental Techniques, CMWM-B41L Western Diagnostic Methods, CMWM-S33 Western Medical Laboratory & Imaging, BS-822 Pharmacology, CNT, OSHA, HIPAA, CPR and First Aid

Concurrent: CL801 Problem Based Learning I

**CL-865 Clinical Internship II – 6 Credits**  
Clinical Internship II promotes professional development by providing students with their first step towards working independently from the group and close supervision. The supervisor will gradually give Internship II students more opportunity to independently communicate with patients, to develop diagnoses, to prescribe acupuncture and herbal formulas, and to deliver treatments. This course is the second clinical internship course. At this advanced stage of clinical training, students are expected to use their prior clinical experience to begin the development of diagnosis, treatment strategies, and implementation and documentation of Western Diagnostic tests. Clinical supervisors must be consulted on all cases prior to treatment. Clinical Internship II is a required course for all students. It must be taken after Clinical Internship I and taken concurrently with didactic courses.

Prerequisites: CL-864 Clinical Internship I  
Concurrent: CMWM-S33 Western Clinical Medicine, CL802 Problem based Learning II

**CL-866 Clinical Internship III – 6 Credits**  
Clinical Internship III is a continuation of professional development of Clinical Internship II, but provides students more independence. At this stage, students are expected to work more independently than at the stage of intern II as they perform new patient intakes, determine diagnoses, develop treatment plans, utilize and document Western Orthopedic Diagnostics and lifestyle changes and prescribe acupuncture and herbal formulas, insert and remove needles, and deliver any other needed treatments such as moxibustion or tui-na. The role of the clinical supervisor at this level is to verify students’ diagnoses, to help with development of treatment plans, and to verify students’ proposed acupuncture and herbal formulas. Clinical Internship III is a required course for all students. It must be taken after students take Clinical Internship II and taken concurrently with didactic courses.

Prerequisites: CL-865 Clinical Internship II, AC-727L Auricular Acupuncture, AC-723 Scalp Acupuncture, TN-832L Clinical Tui-Na, CMWM-S33 Western Clinical Medicine  
Concurrent: CL-803 Problem Based Learning III

**CL-867 Clinical Internship IV – 6 Credits**  
At this advanced stage of professional clinical training, students are expected to use their prior clinical experience to fully explore the complexities of each case. Clinical Internship IV is a required course for all students.

Prerequisites: CL866 Clinical Internship III  
Concurrent: CL804 Problem Based Learning IV

**CL-838 Advanced Integrative Internship V – 3 Credits**
This course is the last professional clinical training course. At this advanced stage of clinical training, students are expected to use their integrative knowledge in Eastern and Western medicine as well as advanced diagnostic skills to analyze the clinical indications, risks, and benefits. Students are expected to apply the principles and applications of equipment utilized for diagnostic imaging, laboratory, and other relevant diagnostic tools in the development of evidence based diagnosis. Students will also be able to assess written diagnostic reports, including the range of values that distinguish normal from abnormal findings as relevant to patient care and to communicate with other health care providers. Students are expected to communicate effectively with other health care providers regarding the results of diagnostic studies, review findings from relevant diagnostic studies with objective and subjective findings, and develop an evidence based treatment with modifications to the treatment plan based upon new clinic evident and research findings from the most advanced development in the field. Additionally, they should be proactive and able to guide a team and mentor students. Finally, students must demonstrate the ability to describe the relevant laws and regulations, including scope of practice that may govern or limit conducting diagnostic studies.

Prerequisites: CL-867 Clinical Internship IV
Concurrent: CL-805 Problem Based Learning V

CL-868 Advanced Integrative Internship V – 6 Credits
This course is the last professional clinical training course. At this advanced stage of clinical training, students are expected to use their integrative knowledge in Eastern and Western medicine as well as advanced diagnostic skills to analyze the clinical indications, risks, and benefits. Students are expected to apply the principles and applications of equipment utilized for diagnostic imaging, laboratory, and other relevant diagnostic tools in the development of evidence based diagnosis. Students will also be able to assess written diagnostic reports, including the range of values that distinguish normal from abnormal findings as relevant to patient care and to communicate with other health care providers. Students are expected to communicate effectively with other health care providers regarding the results of diagnostic studies, review findings from relevant diagnostic studies with objective and subjective findings, and develop an evidence based treatment with modifications to the treatment plan based upon new clinic evident and research findings from the most advanced development in the field. Additionally, they should be proactive and able to guide a team and mentor students. Finally, students must demonstrate the ability to describe the relevant laws and regulations, including scope of practice that may govern or limit conducting diagnostic studies.

Prerequisites: CL-867 Clinical Internship IV
Concurrent: CL-805 Problem Based Learning V

CL-831 Clinical Tui-Na Internship (elective) – 3 Credits
At the beginning of this course, clinic interns will perform patient contact, use diagnostic techniques, and provide Tui-Na hands-on manipulation under close supervision. Following the initial stages of the course, interns will work more independently to provide complete patient care.

Prerequisites: CL-864 Clinical Internship I
Concurrent: TN-832L Clinical Tui-Na I

Clinical Medical Study
CMWM-833 Western Medical Laboratory & Imaging – 3 Credits
This course will introduce students to Western medical diagnostic laboratory testing and modern diagnostic imaging. Students will learn the knowledge of using commonly used medical laboratory studies such as blood count, basic metabolic panel, urinalysis, liver panel, cardiac, thyroid panels, and pregnancy test in their regular patient care. The terminology associated with abnormal laboratory values, the relevance of laboratory findings to the patient's medical condition will be covered. Students will also learn how to interpret commonly used medical imaging studies as radiographic X-ray films, CT scans, basic ultrasound, and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the central nervous system, and endoscopy. The course will teach student to Read and understand the impression section of medical imaging reports, and the relevance of imaging findings to the patient’s medical condition.

Prerequisites: BS-821 Advanced Pathology

CMWM-841L Western Diagnostic Methods – 3 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab
The course is designed to introduce the TCM students to the knowledge and skills required to perform history taking, physical assessment of the adult patient, and record findings appropriately. This course introduces the Western physical diagnostic methods of inspection, palpation, percussion, and auscultation. History taking, medical interview, data collection, analysis, and basic physical examination techniques are also covered. Case studies of common diseases and interpretation of physical findings are presented. The lab portion of this course is in workshop format: students will briefly review basic anatomy and physiology, observe and participate in demonstration of physical examination techniques and then practice those techniques on one another. Medical instruments such as the stethoscope, sphygmomanometer, otoscope, tuning fork and diagnostic hammer may be used in this course. Since skills are easily lost without continued practice and validation of observations, class lectures and discussions, supervised laboratory sessions, and individual use of readings and audiovisual materials will be required for successful learning. Lab practice will also include patient history taking and chart writing.

Prerequisites: BS-821 Advanced Pathology

CMWM-834 Western Clinical Medicine – 3 Credits
This course presents common diseases from the viewpoint of Western medicine. The progression, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis of diseases are covered. Related physical assessments and lab tests are also reviewed.

Prerequisites: CMWM-841L Western Diagnostic Methods, CMWM-833 Western Medical Laboratory & Imaging, BS-822 Pharmacology

CMWM-822 Medical Referral – 2 Credits
This course teaches students evaluating normal from abnormal conditions based on principle symptoms of diagnosis, and applying this knowledge in clinical practice in order to identify when to refer to a Western medical practitioner. Special emphasis is given to emergency conditions that need referral to a Western physician. Symptoms and signs of mental and/or emotional disorders and substance abuse will be discussed. A survey of clinical practices of other types of health care practitioners is also covered in this course.

Prerequisite: CMWM-834 Western Clinical Medicine

Herbology
HB-741L Herbology I - 3.5 Cr Did + 0.5 Cr Lab
This is one of the three non-sequential courses which will introduce students to the numerous individual herbs commonly used in Traditional Chinese Medicine. Each herb will be analyzed and classified by its properties, channels entered, actions, and clinical indications. Dosage and administration, contraindications of each herb will also be studied. Modern research studies into certain herbs and their application into clinical practice will be discussed. The course also includes identification of herbs most commonly used in the clinic.

Prerequisite: OM-723 Etiology & Pathogenesis of TCM

HB-742L Herbology II - 3.5 Cr Did + 0.5 Cr Lab
This is one of the three non-sequential courses will introduce students to the numerous individual herbs commonly used in Traditional Chinese Medicine. Each herb will be analyzed and
classified by its properties, channels entered, actions, and clinical indications. Dosage and administration, contraindications of each herb will also be studied. The course content includes identification of herbs most commonly used in the clinic. This is a required course for all students and must be taken before taking Herbal Prescription.
Prerequisite: OM-723 Etiology & Pathogenesis of TCM

**HB-743L Herbology III - 3.5 Cr Did + 0.5 Cr Lab**
These three non-sequential courses will introduce students to the numerous individual herbs commonly used in Traditional Chinese Medicine. Each herb will be analyzed and classified by its properties, channels entered, actions, and clinical indications. Dosage and administration, contraindications of each herb will also be studied. The course content includes identification of herbs most commonly used in the clinic.
Prerequisite: OM-723 Etiology & Pathogenesis of TCM

**HB-744 Herbal Prescription I – 4 Credits**
This course presents the classic and commonly used herbal patented formulas, along with their composition and indications for use. Students will learn how to evaluate patient's clinical condition and select the patent formula according to TCM differentiation of syndrome.
Prerequisites: HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II

**HB-821 Classics of TCM – 2 Credits**
This course presents an overview of classical texts of Chinese medicine, including Huang Di Nei Jing (Yellow Emperor's Internal Medicine Classic), Shang Han Lun (Febrile Diseases), Wen Bin (Warm Febrile Disease), and Jin Gui Yao Lue (Prescriptions from the Golden Chamber). Theories of the classics are reviewed and case study examples are provided.
Prerequisites: HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II

**HB-827 Herbal Pharmacology and Herb-Drug Interaction – 2 Credits**
This course provides students with an understanding of Western concepts of herbal actions and mechanisms. Topics covered include analysis of some of the most useful herbs, chemical interactions and potential contraindications.
Prerequisites: HB-741L, 742L & 743L Herbology I, II & III

**HB-822 Homeopathy (elective) – 2 Credits**
Homeopathy is a scientific system of medicine based on the principle of "Similia similibus curentur," which means "let likes be treated by likes." This is a holistic system of medicine in which the medicine reacts energetically (as does Q) with mind, body, and spirit. This introductory course covers the history, philosophy and principles of homeopathy with emphasis on some commonly used homeopathic remedies. This course includes real-time, case-taking practice.
Prerequisite: CMWM-841L Western Diagnostic Methods

**HB-726 European Herbal Medicine (elective) – 2 Credits**
This course will introduce the numerous individual herbs commonly used in European Herbal Medicine. Herbs will be evaluated and introduced by their chemical compositions, their clinical uses, contra-indications, side effects and interactions with other herbs and mode of administration.
Students will become familiar with modern approach to the herbs and extend their knowledge about medicinal herbs beyond eastern perspective.
Prerequisite: none

**HB-823 Shan Han Lun (Febrile Diseases) (elective) – 2 Credits**
Shan Han Lun is a treatise on diseases caused by external factors. This course presents the differentiation of syndromes and their associated treatment strategies according to the Six Stages or Six Levels system. Included is a detailed analysis of various febrile diseases and the classic formulas used to treat them.
Prerequisites: HB-821 Classics of TCM

**HB-824 Herbology Review (elective) – 2 Credits**
This course reviews material taught in all previous herbal medicine classes, and includes an incorporated review of the fundamentals of TCM. Topics covered include the functions, indications, and contraindications of herbs and formulas, as well as other of their relevant properties.
Prerequisites: HB-744 Herbal Prescription I or HB-841 Herbal Prescription II
Concurrent: HB-744 Herbal Prescription I or HB-841 Herbal Prescription II

**HB-825 Wen Bin (Warm Febrile Diseases) (elective) – 2 Credits**
This course briefly introduces the history, disease causes, pattern identifications, and general diagnostic and treatment methods presented in Wen Bin. The course focuses most on disease factors, clinical manifestations, pulses and treatments of the Warm Diseases of the Four Seasons.
Prerequisites: HB-821 Classics of TCM

**Integrated Medicine**

**IM-721 Advanced Case Analysis – Integrative Herbology (elective)**
This course is designed to help the students develop advanced skills in analyzing, applying and critical thinking on clinical cases. The students are expected to access evidenced based and integrative medical literature in Herbology, Chinese medicine and Western biomedicine while also applying the knowledge together with the laboratory evidence and clinical evidence into the development and modification on diagnosis, differentiation and treatment plan. The students will be required to write high-quality case studies regarding finding and recommendations.
Concurrent or Prerequisite: CL-864 Clinical Internship I

**IM-722 Advanced Case Analysis – Integrative Acupuncture (elective)**
This course is designed to help the students develop advanced skills in analyzing, applying and critical thinking on clinical cases. The students are expected to access evidenced based and integrative medical literature in Acupuncture, Chinese medicine and Western biomedicine while also applying the knowledge together with the laboratory evidences and clinical evidences into the development and modification on diagnosis, differentiation and treatment plan. The students will be required to write high quality case studies regarding finding and recommendations.
Concurrent or Prerequisite: CL-864 Clinical Internship I
IM-810 Integrative Dermatology – 1 Credit
This is a 15-hour clinic survey course in the study of Traditional Chinese Medical diagnosis methods and treatment of strategies of condition affecting the skin. This course will provide students with the understanding of the diagnostic characteristics and treatment of common skin disease, the application of herbal formula according to TCM diagnosis and modifications. Prerequisites: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases, HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II, BS-821 Advanced Pathology

IM-815 Integrative Traumatology – 1 Credit
This course will introduce the integrative medical views related to traumatology. Special focus will be given to specific physical and psychological traumatic issues and the difference between Eastern and Western views and treatments. Prerequisites: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases, HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II, BS-821 Advanced Pathology

IM-820 Integrative Gynecology – 2 Credits
This course covers the normal and pathological physiology of the female reproductive system according to TCM theory integrated with western medicine gynecology concept of disease including etiology, pathology and diagnosis. The proper herbal medicinal formulas that apply to each syndrome of diseases are discussed in detail. Clinical cases and the principles used to properly recognize and manage gynecological diseases with Chinese herbs are presented. Prerequisites: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases, HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II, BS-821 Advanced Pathology

IM-812 Integrative Pediatrics – 1 Credit
TCM pediatrics introduces students to the unique physiology of the child, and to pathologies to which the child is particularly susceptible. Students will learn about the delicate nature of the child’s Lungs, Spleen and Kidneys, and about the special vulnerability of these organs to deficiency. Students will also learn about the child’s Heart and Liver, and about the vulnerability of these organs, during childhood, to conditions of excess. Students will use and enhance their diagnostic skills; for example, they will learn how to inspect the index vein of a child for disease diagnosis. Students will also study the diagnostic features and treatment strategies pertaining to common childhood diseases such as cold, asthma, and hyperkinetic syndrome. Infectious diseases common in childhood and diseases of newborns will also be presented. Prerequisites: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases, HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II, BS-821 Advanced Pathology

IM-823 Integrative Nutrition & Dietetics – 2 Credits
This course introduces the basic concepts of human nutrition, including the functions of the major nutrients (carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, vitamins, minerals and fiber) and food sources of each. The principles of nutritional assessment, energy balance, weight control, and how diet can enhance health and reduce the risk of chronic disease will be emphasized. This course will also introduce Traditional Chinese Medicine nutrition/food therapy and its role in health and healing. An integrated nutrition approach to prevent and manage various conditions such as overweight/obesity, cardiovascular disease (CVD), hypertension, and diabetes mellitus will be discussed. Prerequisites: HB-741L, 742L & 743L Herbology I, II & III

IM-831 Integrative Pain Management – 3 Credits
This course focuses on both the Western medical understanding of the physiology and pathology of pain and on TCM diagnosis and treatment of pain-related conditions. The course content includes the study of neurotransmitters and neuropathways (both associated with the mechanisms of pain) and in-depth study of pain-related conditions such as neuromuscular pain, skeletal pain, headache pain, spinal pain, diabetic neuropathy, phantom pain, visceral pain and gynecological pain. Students will learn how to measure pain and how to treat pain conditions with special needling techniques. Western medications commonly prescribed for pain and Herbal treatment for pain are presented. Prerequisites: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases

IM-832 Integrative Internal Medicine – 3 Credits
This course focuses on the treatment of internal diseases through the use of herbal medicine. Students will study a variety of internal syndromes, their etiologies, their differentiations, their associated treatment strategies and herbal remedies. The modification of herbal formulas according to varying conditions will be discussed in detail. Prerequisites: HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II

IM-813 Integrative Oncology – 1 Credit
This course will introduce the integrative medical views on oncology. Specific types of cancer related issues will be introduced along with integrative approaches between Eastern and Western medicine. Acupuncture treatments to relieve side effects of drugs will also be discussed. Prerequisites: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases, HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II, BS-821 Advanced Pathology

IM-814 Integrative Psychiatriology – 1 Credit
This course will introduce the integrative approaches to psychological disorders. Special focus will be given to the integration of Eastern and Western medicine and how acupuncture may alleviate the side effects of medications. Prerequisites: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases, HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II, BS-821 Advanced Pathology

IM-824L Integrative Orthopedics for Spinal Disorders – 2 Credits (1.5 Cr Did + 0.5 Cr Lab) (elective)
This course studies the examination, evaluation, diagnoses, treatments, prevention and prognosis of the spine and related diseases. It integrates Chinese and Western medicine by absorbing the precise anatomy of modern biomedicine and accepting the overall connection of traditional meridian theory. The content also covers the most updated spine health knowledge, dynamic examination of the spine, precise muscle testing, and meridian differentiation specifically related to acupuncture practice. The course will discuss real cases of the spine and related disorders, while also optimizing acupuncture and tu-nia techniques combined with stretching and exercises. Prerequisites: IM-831 Integrative Pain Management

Fundamentals of TCM

OM-701 Special Topic: Diagnosis: Pulse, Tongue, Ear Diagnostic Practical (elective) – 0.5 Credits
The course will be a mostly practical course where students will be able to look at many of their colleagues’ ears and tongues and feel each others’ pulses. Since learning TCM diagnostics is dependent on volume, faculty will facilitate this class to ensure that students are getting the volume of training and confirmation that they are seeing or feeling accurately. Prerequisites: OM751L TCM Diagnosis

OM-716 Special Topic: Five Element Archetypes, Five Spirits & Mental Health (elective) – 1 credit
Within this archetype system there are five different personality types. One of them will be your ‘Guardian’ or primary archetype; a second that is your ‘Support-Act’ archetype, and you will be a small part of the remaining three. The value of understanding, and implementing, the Five Element Archetypes and Five Spirits, into your clinic cannot be understated. They give you a greater insight into your patient’s personality – how they operate in their worlds; how they tick! This also aids you in the treatment of your patient’s emotional turmoil, stress and mental health. Each of the Five Element Archetypes, Five Spirits and emotional disorders will be thoroughly discussed, along with acupuncture point combination treatments provided. Essentially you will be given information that can be applied to your clinic, and personal lives immediately.

Prerequisites: none

OM-730 Foundation of TCM – 3 Credits
This is an introductory course in the study of traditional Chinese Medicine, which presents the history and development as well as the methodology in philosophy and acupuncture meridian definition and location. The basic theory of Yin-Yang, five elements theory and history behind herbal medicine will also be taught in this course. Students will learn about the basic concepts of using herbs and herbal formulas. A general overview of these systems will be the foundation for further understanding and integration of the use of acupuncture, moxibustion and Chinese herbal medicine. Lecture and demonstration are the bases for teaching this course.

Prerequisite: none

OM-731 Physiology of TCM – 3 Credits
Traditional Chinese medicine perceives the physiology of the human body differently than Western medicine. This course takes a comprehensive look at the principal functions and interactions of the internal organs, (the five Zang and the six Fu), and the extraordinary Fu. The concepts Qi, Blood, Body Fluids and Essence are introduced and discussed in detail. In addition to acquiring an understanding of the basic functions and components of the body, students in this course will also learn about the Three Treasures of the human body. This is a required course for all students and must be taken during the first semester of enrollment.

Concurrent: OM-730 Foundation of TCM

OM-723 Etiology & Pathogenesis of TCM – 2 Credits
The Etiology portion of this course categorizes the causes of disease from the Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) perspective, differentiating between the characteristics and properties of internal, external, and miscellaneous factors. The Pathogenesis portion of the course covers the occurrence, development, and transformation of disease as relates to changes in Yin, Yang, Qi, Blood, viscera, and meridians.

Prerequisites: OM-730 Foundation of TCM, OM-731 Physiology of TCM

OM-751L Diagnostic Methods of TCM (4 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab) 5 Credits
This course presents an in-depth analysis of diagnostic methods of TCM such as Observation, Listening/Smelling, Inquiring and Palpation. The special techniques of Tongue and Pulse Diagnosis will also be studied. Students will learn to analyze the tongue body and coating for the information both reveal about the internal organs and the location of pathogen within the body. Students will also study the mechanisms of pulse formation, the 28 types of pulses, their indications and identifications. Lab time will be devoted to comparing typical tongue coatings and pulses. This course will cover the practical aspects of every phase of the diagnosis process, including methods of patient communication and the collection, charting and storage of patient information.

Prerequisite: OM-731 Physiology of TCM

OM-752 Differentiation of Syndromes – 5 Credits
This course covers the differentiation of syndromes according to a number of TCM theories, including Eight Principles pattern identification, differentiation of Qi, Blood and Body fluids, differentiation of syndromes of the viscera, and differentiation of syndromes based on analysis of Six Meridian. Differentiation of Defensive Qi, Qi, Nutritive Qi and Blood, and differentiation based on patterns of Three Burners are also covered. Students begin to develop skills in clinical reasoning and problem solving with the techniques covered. Students will also learn how to write medical records.

Prerequisites: OM-751L Diagnostic Methods of TCM

OM-721 Nei Jin (elective) – 2 Credits
This course covers several of the most important concepts in treatment of the whole human body including: the theory of Yin-Yang and five-element theory, physiology, pathology, and diagnosis and treatment of diseases. The topics covered in this course are not introduced in the fundamental courses of Oriental Medicine and acupuncture. The course will also discuss the pathology of pain, Bi Syndrome, and Collaterals.

Prerequisites: OM-752 Differentiation of Syndromes

OM-811 TCM Foundation Review (elective) – 1 Credit
This course reviews materials covered in all the common areas of TCM study completed during the first three academic years. This is a recommended course to prepare for the NCCAOM intern entrance examination and the NCCAOM licensing examination.

Prerequisite: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases

Professional Development

PD-710 History of Medicine – 1 Credit
This course focuses on some of the key turning points in the development of Western medicine from classical times to the present. Students will also be introduced to the history of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), including the prominent physicians and classic texts.

Prerequisite: none

PD-720 Counseling & Patient Communication – 2 Credits
This course covers issues pertaining to patient-centered counseling and communication. Topics include communication skills for various situations (e.g. patient-provider communication; provider-referral communication; provider-caretaker communication; provider-market relations) and counseling techniques for use with patients and their significant others for various stages of illness (acute, chronic, end-of-life). Emphasis is placed on the communication process and the impact of culture, ethnicity and spirituality on health-seeking behaviors. Students will be afforded an opportunity to witness and discuss their own verbal and non-verbal behaviors as these relate to their interaction with others.

Prerequisites: BS-726 Psychology

PD-722 Ethics and Laws of Practices – 1.5 Credits
This section of the class will cover the various legal and ethical norms governing the practice of acupuncture, including the Texas statute, OSHA and HIPPA. We will consider some variations among states in the regulation of acupuncturists, and we will consider some of the more common legal issues related to the kind of business a practitioner can find themselves in. The student will also be exposed to the more common ethical issues, and techniques for ethical analysis.

Prerequisites: none

PD-811 Marketing & Integrative Clinic Management – 1.5 Credits
Students learn about running an integrative clinic and office and the related aspects of setting up and then marketing the integrative clinic so as to be successful in their business. This course will give students the practical knowledge of running an Oriental medicine clinic. Students will learn about operational issues related to Oriental medicine clinic, herbal pharmacology operation, the supplies and need of these specialized facilities and overall patient care. This course also covers the basics of building a business and includes the design of the business card, the informational brochure, the clinic layout and a business plan so that the students understand the level of commitment required in starting a business. The content is based on information contained with the textbook “Points for Profit” but will also include details on HIPAA, ethics and OSHA. By using the AHRO standards this course will help to improve student’s success by enhancing communication and assessment skills. Ethics and professional behavior, and laws of Oriental medicine practice will also be discussed. The overall course objective is to provide students with sufficient business knowledge to establish and successfully run their own clinic when they graduate. Furthermore, they will understand the work that will be required to initiate and promote their business, as well as learn to apply research and evidence based practices into their clinic and treatment protocols.

Prerequisites: CL-723 Clinical Observation II

PD-823 Clinical Research Design & Statistics – 2 Credits

In this course, students will learn how to conduct a literature search (via Medline and other relevant databases) for critical issues of their choosing; how to read and understand scientific articles; and how to critically evaluate the scientific merits and clinical relevance of the available research findings. Students will study the role of theory and hypothesis testing in research (particularly the drug development process) and come to understand the roles of hypothesis testing and biases in research. Students will learn how to apply the fundamentals of research principles and techniques to their own clinical practice. Students will conduct literature searches on relevant topics of their choosing and may be required to write their own papers for publication or prepare a research grant proposal for funding.

Prerequisites: none

PD-824 Doctoral Capstone Project – 2 credits

The doctoral capstone project will be a major project that is related to integrative medicine and evidence-based research. Students are expected to choose a topic that is approved by the faculty and provide both Eastern and Western medical perspectives. Data must be backed by research. Part A will focus on the Title and Introduction section. Part B will focus on the Literature Review section. Part C will focus on the Methodology & Results sections. Part D will focus on the Discussion/Conclusion and Reference/Bibliography sections.

Prerequisites: PD-823 Clinical Research Design & Statistics

Concurrent: CL-864 Clinical Internship I

PD-712 Skills in Professionalism & Leadership – 1 Credit

This course will teach students about leadership characteristics and the ability to effectively become a leader through the theoretical and hands-on practice of teaching lower level students. Students will learn to mentor lower level students and communicate effectively.

Concurrent: CL-866 Clinical Internship III

PD-724 Comparative Medicine (elective) – 2 Credits

In the course we begin with introductory material about medicine in general. We will look at theory and institutions, with some focus on global practice. You will become familiar with the notion of ideology, and the intersection of ideology, philosophy, institutions and practice. A school of medicine has its own specialized language for describing disease, treatment and cure; it has its own medicines and methods of treatment; literature; theories; history, culture; schools; means of recognizing competence; and, in some cases, regulations. For each school of medicine, we will explore its theory of life, and its dependent theories of the person, disease, remedy and cure. We will constantly use those criteria to compare the schools as the course unfolds. We will also begin the discussion of how to develop and understand reliable knowledge that is useful in healing and medicine. It will be developed in the sections on healing and RCTs in general, and otherwise throughout the course. We will also consider, during the course, public health (the socio-political determinants of health) as “alternative” medicine; and the idea of the political association (the state) as a person that can get ill.

Prerequisites: none

Tui-Na

TN-731L Acupressure & Tui-Na - 2 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab

This course covers the foundation of Tui-Na, including the basic theory of Tui-Na according to Chinese medicine, commonly used Tui-Na techniques and related TCM diagnostic tools. Class time will be allotted for thorough hands-on practice of each manipulation.

Prerequisites: AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics III

TN-832L Clinical Tui-Na I - 2 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab

TN-833 Clinical Tui-Na II (elective) – 3 Credits

Each of the above courses covers the clinical management of a variety of conditions, as well as the use of Tui-Na to treatment of a variety of internal medical conditions, such as epigastric pain, diarrhea, constipation, headache, hypertension, asthma, insomnia, and dysmenorrhea.

Prerequisites for TN-832: TN-731L Acupressure & Tui-Na

Prerequisites for TN-833: TN-832L Clinical Tui-Na I, AC-831 Treatment of Common Disease

TN-821 Pediatric Tui-Na (elective) – 2 Credits

This course introduces the techniques and commonly used points of Pediatric Tui-Na, and its use in the management and treatment of childhood diseases. Students in this course will develop a basic knowledge of a child's physiology and of the pathologies to which children are susceptible. Class time will include hands-on practice with other students.

Prerequisites: AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics III

TN-834 Clinical Tui-Na Practicum (elective) – 3 Credits

This course provides students the opportunity to apply Tui-Na techniques to a variety of conditions in the clinic via supervised practice of their Tui-Na skills.

Prerequisite: TN-731L Acupressure & Tui-Na

Concurrent: TN-832L Clinical Tui-Na I

Tai-Chi & Qi-Gong

TQ-711 Tai-Chi I – 1 Credit

TQ-713 Tai-Chi II (elective) – 1 Credit

Through lecture and practice, students will explore the origin, classification and benefits of Tai-Chi, an amazing Chinese martial art transformed into health-enhancing exercise. Students will also learn about currently available studies pertaining to Tai-Chi’s positive effects on young and old. This course presents 24 forms of (Yang-style) Tai Chi. Warm-up exercises, basic requirements of mind and body, and breathing skills important to Tai-chi practice are included. Students in this course will learn how Tai-Chi helps build Qi, helps maintain balance inside the body, and develops mental focus and physical dexterity.

Prerequisite for TQ-711: none

Prerequisite for TQ-713: TQ-711 Tai-Chi I
TQ-712 Qi-Gong I – 1 Credit
Qi-gong is effective in building Qi for personal well-being and for Qi-Gong therapy. In each of these courses, students will learn about the history and development of Qi-Gong, its relationship to the body and the fundamental techniques of both quiet and motion Qi-Gong. Students will gain an understanding of the indications, contraindications, and some of the precautions associated with Qi-Gong practice.
Prerequisites: none

TQ-714 Tai-Chi Sword (elective) – 1 Credit
Through lecture and practice, students will explore the origin, classification and benefits of Tai-Chi, an amazing Chinese martial art transformed into health-enhancing exercise. Students will also learn about currently available studies pertaining to Tai-Chi’s positive effects on young and old. This course presents 24 form (Yang-style) Tai-Chi, both regular and reverse. Warm-up exercises, basic requirements of mind and body, and breathing skills important to Tai-Chi practice are included. Students in this course will learn how Tai-Chi helps build Qi, helps maintain balance inside the body, and develops mental focus and physical dexterity. Tai-Chi Sword allows students to continue the practice of Tai-Chi using ancient Chinese sword techniques. Each of the three courses consists of lecture and practice.
Prerequisites: TQ-711 Tai-Chi I
Concurrent: TQ-713 Tai-Chi II, TQ-712 Qi-Gong I

TQ-715 Qi-Gong II (elective) – 1 Credit
Qi-gong is effective in building Qi for personal well-being and for Qi-Gong therapy. In each of these courses, students will learn about the history and development of Qi-Gong, its relationship to the body and the fundamental techniques of both quiet and motion Qi-Gong. Students will gain an understanding of the indications, contraindications, and some of the precautions associated with Qi-Gong practice.
Prerequisites: TQ-712 Qi-Gong I
Full Time Faculty

Wen Huang, M.D.*, Ph.D.
Manouchehr Hessabi, M.D.*, M.P.H.
Baisong Zhong, Ph.D., L.Ac
Tong Wang, Ph.D., L.Ac.
Samuel Leong, D.A.O.M., M.O.M., L.Ac.

Part Time Faculty

Charles Chen, D.A.O.M., L.Ac.
Maria Hernandez, Dr.P.H.
Husam Issa, M.D.*
Lin Jia, M.D.*, Ph.D., L.Ac.
Daniel Jiao, D.A.O.M., LAC
John Lunstroth, J.D.
Sucheta Shah, M.D.*, M.S.O.M., L.Ac.
Seyed Soltani, M.D., Ph.D.
Jacinda Tucker, Ph.D.
Hasen Xue, M.D.*, D.A.O.M., M.A.O.M., L.Ac.
Changqing Yang, L.Ac., Ph.D.
Yaping Zhang, M.D.*, Ph.D.

* Denotes that all foreign degrees have been formally evaluated for equivalency to M.D. in the U.S.

** List of faculty is subject to change.

National Certification Examination Information

Information regarding enrollment for the NCCAOM certification examinations can be obtained from the Registrar's Office. NCCAOM can be reached at:
NCCAOM
2001 K Street, NW, 3rd Floor North
Washington, D.C. 20006
Phone: (888) 381-1140
www.nccaom.org

Licensure Resources

Licensure in TEXAS
As a part of licensure requirements, you must take and pass all four exams under the “Oriental Medicine” certification program with NCCAOM.org. The legal requirements for licensure in Texas and entry into the profession can be obtained from the Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners, PRC, MC-240, P.O. Box 2029, Austin, Texas 78768-2029. (512) 305-7030.

Licensure in CALIFORNIA
ACAOM graduates will be allowed to sit in on the California licensing examination (CALE) if they have also completed undergraduate courses in General Chemistry or Biochemistry, Biology and Physics. The legal requirements for licensure in California and entry into the profession can be obtained from the California Acupuncture Board, 1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 180, Sacramento, CA 95814. (916) 515-5200.

Licensure in OTHER STATES
Students who graduate from our institution are eligible to apply for a state acupuncture license in many states. For specific requirements, please contact the individual state directly. You can also check here for a state-by-state listing of licensure requirements: https://www.nccaom.org/state-licensure/
Master of Acupuncture (MAcCHM) – with a Chinese Herbal Medicine Specialization

Students who complete the prescribed course of study at the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (ACAOM) will be awarded a Master of Acupuncture (MAcCHM) – with a Chinese herbal specialization. The states that regulate and license professional acupuncturists recognize this degree as meeting requisite academic credential requirements for sitting for the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM.org) certification exams which are required to obtain a state license to practice acupuncture in most states.

The degree program is a 4-year degree program because there are no prescribed programs at the bachelor’s degree level to prepare one for this master degree program. The program places heavy emphasis upon acquiring in-depth knowledge of both Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)—including knowledge of the properties and benefits of over 300 herbal medicines, the location and significance of over 360 regular acupuncture points—and Western Medicine. The program of study includes over 2 years of clinical experience where students acquire skills and knowledge essential to providing quality patient care. Before entering and upon completing clinic rotations, students must pass two major exams.

Philosophy
ACAOM provides a comprehensive curriculum for individuals to become practitioners of acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Our commitment is to help students achieve their highest potential, enabling them to enhance the quality of life in their community.

The major goals of this program are as follows:
1. To provide innovative educational opportunities for its students
2. To train its students to become skilled and ethical healthcare practitioners in acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
3. To promote the integration of Oriental and Western medicines
4. To provide the highest quality education through outstanding faculty, facilities, and equipment
5. To provide the community with effective, ethical, and affordable clinical services

Objectives
Students who have completed the program will:
1. Possess knowledge of the foundations of acupuncture and Oriental Medicine including:
   a. theories of traditional Chinese medicine
   b. TCM diagnosis and differentiation skills
   c. meridians and collaterals, the regular acupuncture points, extra points, auricular points, and the scalp points
   d. herbs and their combinations
   e. acupuncture and herbal medicine treatment principles
   f. acupressure and tui-na skills
2. Possess knowledge of Western medical science. Specifically, they will be able to:
   a. understand disease symptoms based on Western medical terminology and locate acupuncture points based on knowledge of anatomical landmarks
   b. understand basic Western diagnostic methods
   c. understand physical examination techniques and laboratory reports to complement Chinese medical treatment strategies
   d. communicate with physicians and make referrals when appropriate
3. Be able to apply their knowledge and skills in the treatment of patients. Specifically, they will be able to:
   a. analyze symptoms through observing, touching, smelling, hearing, and inquiring of patients
   b. analyze conditions by analyzing tongues and pulses
   c. synthesize and evaluate treatment strategies
   d. communicate effectively with patients
4. Have had sensitivity to ethical professional life engrained in their professional character. Specifically, they will be able to:
   a. treat patients with skill, respect, and compassion, and at the same time maintain professional boundaries
   b. acquire the skills necessary to contribute to the advancement and reputation of the profession by participating in professional organizations to the extent desired
   c. understand the importance of public service towards the health and well-being of all

The Learning Process
The learning process for achieving the stated objectives is as follows:
1. Learning begins with lectures, discussions, utilization of college resources such as the library, and practice. Classroom instruction provides teaching of the knowledge developed during the past several thousand years. Continuous assessment and feedback by skilled practitioners is an essential part of the learning process.
2. Pre-internship training is obtained through acupuncture technique courses and clinical observation. Students will learn from both practical and lecture methods.
3. Subsequent learning is achieved through practical training in the teaching clinic. Patient treatments supervised by ACAOM faculty complete the learning process.

Prerequisite for Admissions
To be eligible for admissions, prospective students must meet the following conditions:
1. A bachelor’s degree or equivalent is preferred (120 semester credit hours with at least 30 semester credit hours of general education and 30 semester hours being upper-level) from college or university that is accredited by an accrediting agency that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education or Council for Higher Education Accreditation.
2. An undergraduate cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, or a 3.0 GPA on the last 60 semester hours. A student who has earned a master degree may be admitted on the basis of that degree with a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

Alternative Admissions Option
Applicants may be considered for admission if they have completed at least 90 baccalaureate-level semester credits (135 quarter credits) from a college or university that is accredited by an accrediting agency that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education or Council for Higher Education Accreditation with a minimum overall grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. The 90 credits must include at least 30 credits of general education courses drawn from the following areas:
- Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum 6 credits)
- Social/Behavioral Sciences (minimum 6 credits)
- Natural Sciences/mathematics (minimum 6 credits)
- Communications (minimum 6 credits)

Students who apply under the Alternative Admission Option must also submit a written petition requesting admissions considerations in addition to all other required supporting documents.

Submission of a petition does not guarantee approval or admission, and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
English Proficiency

English language competency is required of all students seeking admission to the master program. This must be demonstrated by one of the following means:

The applicant must have completed one of the following:

a) four years at a U.S. high school demonstrably delivered in English;
b) at least two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate or graduate-level education in an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education;
c) at least two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate or graduate-level education demonstrably delivered in English;
d) high school or two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate or graduate-level education in an institution in one of the following countries or territories: American Samoa; Anguilla; Antigua & Barbuda; Australia; Bahamas; Barbados; Belize; Bermuda; Botswana; British Virgin Islands; Cameroon; Canada (except Quebec); Cayman Islands; Christmas Island; Cook Islands; Dominica; Federated States of Micronesia; Fiji; The Gambia; Ghana; Gibraltar; Grenada; Guam; Guyana; Ireland; Isle of Man; Jamaica; Kenya; Lesotho; Liberia; Malawi; Montserrat; Namibia; New Zealand; Nigeria; Norfolk Island; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Pitcairn Islands; Sierra Leone; Singapore; South Africa; South Sudan; St. Helena; St. Kitts & Nevis; St. Lucia; St. Vincent & the Grenadines; Swaziland; Tanzania; Trinidad and Tobago; Turks and Caicos Islands; United Kingdom; U.S. Virgin Islands; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe.

In all cases, English must have been both the language of instruction and the language of the curriculum used.

OR

The applicant must have completed one of the following assessments at the required level:

Assessment Tool/ Acceptable Score
English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL® iBT) / Total: 61
International English Language Testing System (IELTS), Academic Format / Overall band: 6
Duolingo English Test / 90
China Standard of English Language (CSE) / CSE 6
Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE) / C
Cambridge English Advanced (CAE) / C
Common European Framework Reference (CEFR) / B2
Occupational English Test (OET) / 250, C
Pearson Test of English (PTE), Academic / Overall: 45

Official documentation verifying one of the above options must be received by American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine directly from the issuing institution.

Applicants who do not have official documentation of one of the three options listed may submit a petition stating why they fulfill the English proficiency requirements along with any relevant supporting documentation. Submission of a petition does not guarantee approval or admission, and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

The Admissions Committee may request additional supporting documentation or an interview as needed to consider the petition. If the petition is denied, the applicant will need to acquire one of the listed options above to be re-considered for admissions.

 Conditional Admissions

An applicant (usually with a degree from a foreign university) who has challenges in securing official transcripts of all his/her academic record in a timely fashion, but who can provide other strong evidence of a successful academic record may be considered for conditional admissions for one semester pending arrival of the required official documentation. Such cases may involve issues of an institution changing names, merging with another institution, or going out of business; records being seized by the state, destroyed or misplaced as a result of a state of war; or other unavoidable circumstances. Such students may present unofficial or informal documents for consideration pending the arrival of official records and documentation of earned degree(s). Such temporary documents may include any or all of the following: a student’s copy of a transcript showing a degree from the college/university, a copy or original of a professional license issued to practice a profession in relation to the claimed degree, an evaluation of the student’s academic credentials—including his/her transcript—done earlier by a NACES-approved credential evaluation company, or other such documentation.

Upon the satisfactory completion of the one semester of study and the necessary official documents for regular admissions still not being available, the student may, with the approval of the admissions office, continue in the second semester as a conditional student pending the arrival of official academic records to complete the student’s admissions requirements. The student may not continue beyond the second semester without all required and requested official documents records being received by the college.

Conditional admissions may also be granted to a student who is in the last semester of completing a bachelor’s degree (or equivalent, 120 semester hours) and has a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 grading system. Upon confirmation of satisfactory completion of the semester’s work in progress, and meeting all other requirements, the admissions status will be upgraded to unconditional admission of the student.

Conditional admissions may also be granted to a student who is in the last semester of completing a bachelor degree (or equivalent, 120 semester hours) and has a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 grading system. Upon confirmation of satisfactory
In order to apply successfully to ACAOM, applicants must:
1. Complete the online application form.
2. Submit a digital photograph.
3. Submit official transcripts* directly to ACAOM from all colleges previously attended.
4. Write a personal statement: a one-page, typed-written essay discussing your passion and goal towards the program.
5. Secure two recommendations from current or previous employers or other responsible individuals who have known you for more than 2 years. Recommendations should come from individuals not directly related to the applicant, that can attest to the applicant's character and potential.
6. Provide a copy of valid personal identification (passport, driver's license, etc...).
7. Enclose a non-refundable application fee of $100 payable to ACAOM by the application deadline.
8. Interviews conducted by Admissions Committee (if necessary).
9. If you plan to apply for Federal student loans (Graduate Stafford Unsubsidized and/or Graduate PLUS loans) you must submit your FAFSA to us through https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa. Our school code is 031533. Your application will not be complete for admissions processing until the FAFSA report is received.

*If any transcript is from an international institution and it cannot be determined that all academic requirements for admissions have been satisfied, then, a course-by-course credential evaluation of the academic transcript is required by a reputable foreign educational credential company such as gcevaluators.com, spantran.com, or others. It is recommended that applicants use a NACES-approved evaluation company to ensure quality and acceptance by more organizations such as state licensing bodies, etc.

Requirements for International Students
ACAOM is authorized under Federal law to enroll non-immigrant international students. The following additional documents are required:
- Submit proof of financial responsibility, either in the form of a recent bank statement or affidavit of support showing a guaranteed support of one year's cost of attendance, and sponsor's recent bank statement. Please contact the Admissions' office to obtain an affidavit of support form.
- Copies of any and all previous I-20 (if applicable).
- International applicants applying for the MAcCHM or DAcCHM programs are advised to obtain 3 copies of their official transcripts at the time of application because these documents will also be required to apply for a state acupuncture license to practice, and by the NCCAOM to apply for Board Certification. Obtaining them ahead of time will streamline the graduation and licensure processes.

Tuition & Fees
$445 per didactic and clinic credit hour. Estimated tuition and fees for the entire program: $72,535 ($74,685 with fees)

Other Fees (non-refundable)
Books & Materials (Estimate per year): $450-600
Transfer Credits: ($1,000 Max) $75/course
Audit $50/credit
Additional diploma: $25 each
Additional transcript: $5 each
Competency Examination: $50
Make-Up Examination: $50 first one
Additional make-up Exam(s): $100 each
Processing fee for payment plan $50
New Student Setup Fee – domestic applicant $350 (one time)
New Student Setup Fee – international applicant $450 (one time)
Technology fee (6 hours or more) $100/semester
Student activity fee (6 hours or more) $50/semester
Late registration or enrollment fee $100
Late tuition payment (each time/month) $50

All tuition and fees are subject to change. A tuition payment plan can be arranged. Federal financial aid is also available. Tuition payment(s) can be in the form of check, cash, credit/debit cards (Visa, MasterCard & Discover), or direct deposit. There is an additional transaction fee of 3% charged for paying with a credit card.

All tuition and fees should be paid in full by designated due dates. Students who have no delinquent accounts with the College, and have not defaulted on any previous financial obligations incurred with ACAOM, may be permitted, at the discretion of the Financial Aid Administrator to pay in installments. No student is allowed to register for a semester if a debt is not paid from previous semesters. Unpaid amounts will result in the following:
-- Student Account placed on hold, which block future enrollment, release of official transcripts, diplomas and degrees until the balance is paid in full.
-- In addition, a delinquency report may be referred to an outside collection agency and reported to the credit bureau. The student will be responsible for all collection costs, including penalties, interest, attorney's fees and court costs.

Transfer Credit Policy
A student who desires to have master degree semester credit hours earned at another accredited institution prior to enrolling in ACAOM count toward graduation requirements must apply for transfer of those semester hour credits at the time of admissions into the ACAOM program. Courses will be considered for transfer only if the coursework is equivalent to ACAOM courses in level, content and hours and is not older than five years at the time of request. Transfer of credits can only be considered for courses completed with a passing grade at the original school where the course was taken. There is a fee for transferring credits. See the section on “Tuition and Other Costs.”

Students must provide supporting documentation and course descriptions from the college catalog where credit was earned when requesting evaluation of the course for credits toward graduation at
ACAOM. If they want to take equivalent courses at another institution while attending ACAOM, they are required to obtain prior approval of such credit for transfer from the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Non-accredited distance learning courses at any institution are not transferable. Coursework taken on a non-credit basis is not transferable.

The 5-year limitation may be waived for certain courses for students who were advanced degree-holding, practicing health care professionals within the previous five (5) years. ACAOM reserves the right to require a competency test for any course taken beyond the five-year period.

Courses equivalent in content and hours taken at an acupuncture school are directly transferable if the school is accredited, or a candidate for accreditation, by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Coursework from non-accredited acupuncture schools may be considered for transfer credit only upon successful completion of one or more competency exams as authorized by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Credits for any clinical training including internship and observation II are not transferable. Exceptions to this case must be approved by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Foreign transcripts must be evaluated by a foreign educational credentials firm prior to transfer credit evaluation. An official credentialing evaluation document must be received directly from the credential evaluation institution. Applicants are advised to use only NACES-approved credential evaluation companies to be certain their evaluation will be accepted by licensing and credentialing organizations post-graduation.

To be granted a degree from ACAOM, a transfer student may not transfer beyond 50% of required credits for graduation. Of that 50%, no more than 25% of the required clinical training can be accepted for transfer, upon approval by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Transfer to Other Institutions
American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine offers regionally accredited master’s and doctoral level courses. Transferring of these courses to other colleges and universities will depend on the transfer credit policy of those institutions.

Duration of the Program
The master degree is intended to be completed in 12 semesters. The program may be completed in a minimum of 9 semesters and a maximum of 18 semesters. Any transfer credit accepted toward graduation must have been taken within these guidelines as further explained in the section on “Transfer of Credits From Another Institution to ACAOM.

Clinical Training
ACAOM’s clinical faculty share their knowledge and experience gained through years of practice and refinement. The acupuncture, herbal, and pain management training provides the knowledge and confidence required to move students into the field of practice. During the clinic, students will treat patients under the direction and supervision of a licensed acupuncturist. The clinic also allows students to prescribe patented herbs and granules and to prepare loose herbs. Students will learn to apply the knowledge learned from classroom studies of about 300 herbs and 200 formulas. They will learn to recognize raw herbs, diagnose and treat patients, prepare and prescribe herbal formulas.

Diagnostic Proficiency Examination
Once a student enrolls in certain courses, he or she must take the Proficiency Examinations. This exam is a diagnostic indicator to allow both the student and the student’s academic advisor know where the student’s strengths and weaknesses exist, so that a customized remedial and/or tutorial plan can be enacted for that student.

Comprehensive Exam To Enter Clinical Training
To ensure that students acquire adequate knowledge before entering the internship, all students must pass all parts of the Comprehensive Examination prior to entering the clinical phase of training. In order to preserve the educational standards and to protect patients, each section must be passed in order to begin clinical training.

No special administration or make-up examinations will be given for the Comprehensive Exam. If a student fails any of the components of the comprehensive exam three times or more, he/she will be required to do some remediation such as audit courses, receive tutoring of the component in which he/she has failed, or take a review course, as recommended by the Dean of Academic Affairs in consultation with the advisor before attempting the exam again.

Exit Examination
A written Exit Examination is given to students at the end of the last semester in the clinic. Students who fail the Exit Examination are required to continue in the same internship level and retake the exit examination at the next administration. In unusual circumstances, a make-up session for this exam may be conducted.

Outreach Clinical Training
When there are openings, students will have the option to observe and treat patients in outreach facilities including Houston Methodist at the Texas Medical Center, Houston Methodist at Sugar Land, Houston Methodist at San Jacinto, Houston Methodist at Willowbrook, Houston Methodist at West Houston Hospital, and Houston Methodist at the Woodlands. Students should check with the clinic administration for details on availability and the procedure for requesting such placement.

China or Taiwan Hospital Training
ACAOM offers students the opportunity for an educational trip to China or Taiwan to experience the land and culture from which acupuncture originated while gaining clinical experience with premier acupuncturists of China or Taiwan. These students may rotate from one department to another in teaching hospital(s). Although the training is an elective, it provides a unique learning experience that cannot be found in the United States. Scholarships may be available.

Graduation Requirements
A student must meet the following criteria to graduate from the ACAOM MAcCHM degree program:

1. Satisfactorily complete all didactic instruction as written in the entering Catalog.
2. Complete all clinic observation and internship as written in the entering Catalog.
3. Satisfactorily exhibit professional conduct and professional clinical demeanor.
4. Successfully pass all required examinations.
5. Fulfill all financial obligations and return all library materials.
6. Complete the Application for Graduation Approval form.
7. For students interested ONLY in California licensure: complete California requirements outlined below.
8. Complete all required community outreach requirements.

Practicing in California
The California Acupuncture Board requires all applicants to have a minimum of 2050 didactic hours and 950 clinic hours. Students
interested in obtaining California licensure must have undergraduate credits on their transcript for the following undergraduate courses:
- GE 111 Chemistry & Biochemistry (3 credits)
- GE 112 General Physics (3 credits)
- GE 113 General Biology (4 credits)
The courses can be taken at any accredited undergraduate college. ACAOM will not offer these courses and the credits will not count as part of the ACAOM graduate study.

Course Load
Full Time
Full time students are defined as students who are taking a minimum of 12 semester credit hours in a combination of didactic and clinical training any semester. Full time students are limited to no more than 18 didactic hours plus a clinical course in any semester unless granted approval in writing for an exception by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Part Time
Part time students are individuals who are taking less than 12 semester credit hours any semester. Part time students are still required to complete the entire curriculum within six calendar years. Students who require longer than 6 years must receive special approval from the Dean of Academic Affairs, and they may be subject to additional graduation requirements.
# MAcCHM – Master of Acupuncture with a Chinese Herbal Medicine Specialization Course Outline

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<td>Foundation of TCM</td>
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<td>Etiology &amp; Pathogenesis of TCM</td>
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<td>OM-752</td>
<td>Differentiation of Syndromes</td>
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**Total elective 1 15**

**Total required 18 275**

## Acupuncture

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**Total elective 9 107.5**

**Total required 23 375**

## Tai-Chi & Qi-Gong

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<td>Qi-Gong I</td>
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**Total elective 3 45**

**Total required 2 30**

## Tui-Na

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**Total elective 9 135**

**Total required 6 100**
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## Clinical Medical Study

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## Clinical Training

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## Summary (category)

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Students are required to follow all prerequisites, which are subject to change.

***Dedicated Herbology course hours. In addition to these hours, there are numerous integrative medicine courses in the curriculum that also contain a significant portion of Herbology study. The total of all Herbology hours earned in this program exceeds 470.
## Master of Acupuncture (MACCHM) – with a Chinese Herbal Medicine Specialization Degree Plan

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**Total Required Credits:** 163

Students are required to follow all prerequisites, which are subject to change.

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Acupuncture
AC-731L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I (+ 1 Credit Lab) – 3 Credits
This is the first of three courses which present the distribution, function and pathological signs of the human body’s network of meridians and collaterals. Students will study the classifications, locations and anatomical landmarks of points on the first seven meridians of the circadian cycle: the meridians of the Lung, Large Intestine, Stomach, Spleen, Heart, Small Intestine, and Urinary Bladder. Point energetic functions, indications, contraindications, methods of needling and appropriate use of moxibustion are all presented in this course, as are the clinical applications of each point. Students will also learn about precautionary guidelines of importance to remember when stimulating certain points. The lab portion of this course will introduce Clean Needle Technique (CNT), and focus on student practice. Needle insertion and manipulation of special points will be demonstrated. Methods of locating meridians and acu-points will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.
Prerequisites: OM-730 Foundation of TCM, BS-741L Gross Anatomy

AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics II (+ 1 Credit Lab) – 3 Credits
This is the second course in the Anatomical Acupuncture series. This course covers the locations and local anatomy of acupuncture points on the meridians of the Kidney, Pericardium, Triple-Burner (San-Jiao), Gall Bladder, Liver, Du, and Ren. As in Anatomical Acupuncture I, students will study the functions, indications, contraindications, methods of needling, appropriate moxibustion use, and clinical applications of points presented. The lab portion of this course will introduce Clean Needle Technique (CNT), focus on practical instruction and hands-on student practice. Needle insertion and manipulation of special points will be demonstrated. Methods of locating meridians and acu-points will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.
Prerequisites: OM-730 Foundation of TCM, BS-741L Gross Anatomy

AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics III (+ 1 Credit Lab) – 2 Credits
Students in this course will study the pathways, functions and indications of the eight extra meridians, divergent meridians, coetaneous regions, muscle regions and collaterals. Pathological indications of these meridians and collaterals will be discussed along with their relationship to the regular meridians. Students will also study the locations, functions, indications, methods of needling, and clinical applications of Extra acupuncture points. This course includes lab time for review Clean Needle Technique (CNT), and focus on hands-on practice with each extra acupuncture point and for review of regular points. Methods of locating meridians and acu-points will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.
Prerequisites: AC-731L & AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I & II

AC-727L Auricular Acupuncture (+ 0.5 Credit Lab) – 2 Credits
The ear can reflect important information about the entire body, making auricular diagnosis and acupuncture an important part of TCM. This course presents an in-depth study of auricular acupuncture and includes a detailed study of ear anatomy, of the meridians and their functions as they relate to the auricle, and of the locations, functions and indications of more than 100 auricular acupuncture points. The course teaches different auricular needling techniques and also covers the various indications and contraindications for auricular acupuncture. Detection of tender spots on the ear, diagnostic observations by the naked eye, and detection of electrical changes in the ear are all presented in detail. Clinical applications, including treatment of common syndromes and diseases, are also presented. This course includes lab time for hands-on practice. Methods of locating meridians and acu-points will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.
Prerequisites: OM-731 Physiology of TCM, OM-751L TCM Diagnosis, AC-731L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I or AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics II

AC-723L Scalp Acupuncture (+ 0.5 Credit Lab) – 2 Credits
This course deals with the developmental history and principles of scalp acupuncture, with scalp anatomy (which includes the skin of the scalp and associated brain functional areas), and with the relationships between scalp anatomy and acupuncture, and scalp acupuncture stimulation areas, standard lines, and zones. Several methods of scalp acupuncture are introduced, including the Jiao method and the Standard Line, or Zhu’s, method. TCM channel theory and its relationship to the scalp are presented. This course emphasizes the study of scalp stimulation areas, standard line and scalp zone locations, indications and contraindications, functions, manipulations and needling techniques particular to scalp acupuncture. Students will also learn about the treatment of common diseases as they relate to scalp acupuncture. This course includes lab time for hands-on practice. Methods of locating meridians, lines and acu-points will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.
Prerequisite: AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics III

AC-724L Acupuncture & Needling Techniques (+ 1 Credit Lab) – 2 Credits
This course presents various basic insertion and needling techniques, along with proper needling procedures and Clean Needle Technique (CNT). Students will gain an in-depth understanding of the tonification and reduction needling methods, and of potential positive or negative reactions to treatment. The course emphasizes practical hands-on instruction of manipulation techniques. Methods will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.
Prerequisites: AC-731L or AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I or II

AC-725L Acupuncture Supplemental Techniques (+ 1 Credit Lab) – 2 Credits
This course covers the usage, techniques, and repercussions of usage of various acupuncture tools, including moxibustion, cupping, Plum Blossom needles, Seven Star needles, and others. Students will have practical hands-on instruction and practice with each tool presented. Techniques and applications of modern equipment such as electrical acupuncture, and magnets will also be presented. Methods will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.
Prerequisites: AC-731L and AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I and II, AC-724L Acupuncture & Needling Techniques

AC-733 Usage of Acupoints – 3 Credits
This course deals with the specific application of groups of acupuncture points used to treat acute and chronic conditions, to balance energy, and to create harmony in the body's life force. Points studied will include the Five Shu Points, the Yuan-Primary Points, the Luo-Connecting Points, Xi-Cleft Points, the Eight Confluent Points, the Eight Influential Points, the Front Mu and Back Shu points, etc... The properties, usage, and indications of each of these groups of points will be covered as will the principles of point selection to treat particular syndromes. Methods of locating meridians, and acu-points will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members. Prerequisites: AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics III, OM-723 Differentiation of Syndromes

AC-811 Emergency Management & Safety Issues – 1 Credit
This pre-clinic training course covers urgent situations that require immediate attention. Students will learn specific procedures that need to be followed during emergency situations, which include risk management in working areas, emergency response for any practical accident, safe procedure with federal requirements for all patients and practitioners, and safe regulations for herbal medicine and dietary supplements. The course includes eight (8) hours of CPR and First Aid. Other required pre-clinic studies including HIPAA and OSHA will be covered. Prerequisite or Concurrent: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases, HB-744 & HB-841 Herbal Prescriptions I and II, AC-725L Acupuncture Supplemental Techniques, CMWM-841L Western Diagnostic Methods, CMWM-833 Western Medical Laboratory & Imaging.

AC-812 Acu-detox (elective) – 1 Credit
This course is designed to help students understand chemical dependency addictions and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) approaches towards treating them. TCM diagnosis and treatments, including point selections, are presented in detail. Methods will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members. Prerequisite: None

AC-713 Veterinary Acupuncture (elective) – 1 Credit
This course presents acupuncture as it applies to animals. The general locations, indications, and functions of acupuncture points will be discussed in relation to animals such as dogs, cats, horses, etc. The use of acupuncture treatment to address various disorders will also be covered. Prerequisite: OM-730 Foundation of TCM

AC-821 Hand, Wrist, Ankle & Foot Acupuncture (elective) – 2 Credits
Different theories of acupuncture, such as hand, wrist, ankle, and foot acupuncture have branched out from the traditional theories of Oriental Medicine. This course will introduce these theories. Topics covered will include diagnosis, the location of acupuncture points and areas, point indications, contraindications, functions, and clinical applications. Methods will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members. Prerequisite: OM-730 Foundation of TCM

AC-826L Constitutional Facial Rejuvenation (elective) – 2 Credits
Constitutional Facial Rejuvenation is an effective means of addressing the signs of aging on the face. This course gives the practitioner/student the knowledge and understanding of addressing the factors reflected on the topography of the face by the underlying constitution of the body and its viscera. Methods will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members upon each other. Prerequisites: AC-731L and AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I and II, AC-724L Acupuncture & Needling Techniques, AC-725L Acupuncture Supplemental Techniques

AC-720L Channel Palpation - 1 Cr Did + 1 Cr Lab (elective)
Channel palpation is an objective diagnostic system for the practice of acupuncture that is based on palpating the acupuncture channels for diagnostically significant changes, such as nodules and muscular tension. This course is an introduction to channel palpation and its related theory where students will learn about the history and development of channel palpation from its origins in the Huang Di Nei Jing (The Yellow Emperor’s Internal Classic) to modern day application. Techniques used to palpate the 14 major channels will be taught and students will learn how to incorporate palpatory information into their clinical practice. Prerequisite: AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture & Point Energetics III

AC-713 Acupuncture Study Review (elective) – 1 Credit
This course reviews materials covered in all the common areas of TCM acupuncture study completed during the first three academic years, including point location and point selection. This is a recommended course to prepare for the ACAOM intern examination and the NCAOM licensing examination. Prerequisite: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases

AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases – 3 Credits
This course brings together the theories of Oriental Medicine etiology and pathogenesis, differentiation and diagnosis, acupuncture point locations, usage of acupuncture points, and selection of points to treat different illnesses. An analysis of strategies and methods used in the treatment of common diseases will be emphasized. Prerequisite: AC-733 Usage of Acupoints

Biomedical Science

BS-741L Gross Anatomy (+ 1 Credit Lab) – 4 Credits
This course covers the structure of the human body. The content is based on a Western medical approach, but the overall course objective is to provide students with sufficient anatomical knowledge to help locate acupuncture points. Students will concentrate on nomenclature of the bones, muscles, nerves, arteries, veins, and the different organ systems. Prerequisite: none

BS-742L Physiology (+ 1 Credit Lab) – 4 Credits
This course provides students with a basic understanding of the functions of the human body and the effects of acupuncture on these functions. The normal physiological functions of the cardiovascular system, gastrointestinal system, and other systems will be discussed. Special emphasis will be given to the function of the neuromuscular system. Prerequisite: BS-741L Gross Anatomy, BS-723Histology, undergrad Biology, undergrad Chemistry

BS-728 Regional Anatomy – 2 Credits
Regional anatomy is the study of the regional morphology and spatial interactions of the body structure. The course emphasizes aspects of regional anatomy which are essential to the clinical assessment of diseases of skeleton, musculature, joint and neurology from the views of both Oriental and Western medicine. The anatomical relationship of some acupuncture points with underlying tissues, organs and bony structures will be discussed. Students will have in-class opportunities to palpate point locations using anatomical landmarks as guideposts. Prerequisite: BS-741L Gross Anatomy

BS-729 Neuroanatomy – 2 Credits
This course will provide students with an understanding of the neural basis of acupuncture mechanisms and with a framework upon which to build clinical skills to treat common neurological problems encountered in acupuncture clinics. The course focuses on clinically pertinent aspects of the brain, emphasizing the major pathways between the brain and spinal cord and lesions of the central nervous system. Study of the structure and organization of the central nervous system, which is of vital importance in identification of neurologic location and diagnosis, will be emphasized.
Prerequisites: BS-741L Gross Anatomy, BS-728 Regional Anatomy

BS-723 Histology – 2 Credits
A study of histology gives students a basic understanding of the structures which make up the human body. Students will learn about the microstructures of human tissue that help the body maintain normal physiological function, about damage to these structures and about associated causes of disease.
Prerequisite: undergrad Biology

BS-711 Hygiene, Public Health & Epidemiology – 1 Credit
The basic purpose and functions of public health will be discussed. Issues such as the changing patterns of health associated with socio-demographic trends, environmental health & safety, and healthcare reform within the United States healthcare delivery system will be emphasized. Methods for prevention and control of disease and injury as well as global health issues and integration of Traditional Chinese Medicine into a public health paradigm will be presented.
Prerequisite: none

BS-724 Microbiology – 2 Credits
This course covers the basic principles of the pathogenesis of bacterial infection and host resistance to infection. It includes the initiation of the infectious process, mechanisms leading to the development of signs and symptoms of bacterial and viral diseases, and outcomes of the interaction between microorganisms and host.
Prerequisites: BS-741L Gross Anatomy, undergrad Biology

BS-725 Pathology – 2 Credits
This course presents an overview of pathological changes associated with human diseases. The principles of injury and reactions to injury, of immunopathology, of neoplasia, and of developmental and genetic diseases are also covered. Students taking this course will gain an overall understanding of the pathological changes associated with the most frequently occurring and significant diseases of major organs and body systems.
Prerequisites: BS-742L Physiology, BS-723 Histology
Concurrent: BS-724 Microbiology

BS-726 Psychology – 2 Credits
This course integrates psycho-social and biomedical science findings regarding how cultural, social, emotional and mental risk and protective factors may affect physical health and propensity to and recovery from illness. Students will learn, from a review of the historical evolution of psychological and psychiatric investigations and research, how systematic scientific principles and methods evolved and contributed to our current state of knowledge about the influences of cultural, social, emotional and mental factors on our health behaviors. Students will also be given a general introduction to psychological disorders, the clinical signs and symptoms of which they will need to recognize for patient treatment or referral in their actual clinical practice. Topics relating to patient communication may be discussed.
Prerequisite: none

BS-821 Advanced Pathology – 2 Credits
This course presents a systematic approach to the study of human disease, with focus on the molecular, chemical and anatomic basis of pathology, and on major diseases of the following systems: neurologic, musculoskeletal, endocrine, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal and renal. Clinical diagnosis and therapy are presented and emphasized.
Prerequisites: BS-725 Pathology, BS-724 Microbiology, BS-729 Neuroanatomy

BS-822 Pharmacology – 2 Credits
In this course, students will learn the major classifications and sub-classification of drugs and gain the ability to reference medications according to brand or generic names. Students will study the common mechanisms of action, action and side effects of prescription and non-prescription medications, including drugs of abuse. From study of the actions and common side effects of major drug categories as well as the mechanisms student will able to reference common actions, precautions and side effects, recognize adverse drug reactions and make appropriate referral. Knowledge of routes of administration, effects of the use of tobacco, alcohol and stress drugs will be discussed. Dietary supplements will also be discussed with focus on classification, common actions and side effects and signs and symptoms associated with excess, deficient states and adverse reactions.
Prerequisites: BS-821 Advanced Pathology

BS-512 Western Medical Terminology (elective) – 1 Credit
Western Medical Terminology teaches students medical terminology as it relates to human anatomy and physiology, to diagnosis and to the treatment of illnesses. The understanding of these terms and their relationship to all the above will facilitate the students’ integration of Western medicine and Traditional Chinese medicine.
Prerequisite: none

BS-623 Biomedicine Review (Elective) – 2 Credits
This elective biomedicine review class is recommended for those students taking the Biomedicine NCCAOM National Board Licensing Examination. This course serves as a comprehensive review of the required biomedical course information taught at ACAOM. This course includes practical tests geared to help students assess their strengths and weakness, become familiar with the subjects on the exam, practice questions and techniques encountered on the NCCAOM examinations.
Prerequisites: BS-632 Pharmacology CMWM-841L Western Diagnostic Methods, CMWM-833 Western Medical Laboratory & Imaging

Clinical Training
CL-731 Clinical Observation & Clerkship I – 3 Credits
In this course, students begin professional clinical training, observe the clinical intern and faculty or licensed acupuncturists as they interview patients, perform Western diagnostic orthopedic tests when necessary, develop Chinese medicine diagnosis, and treat patients with acupuncture, herbal medicine, moxibustion, Tui-Na and other forms of Oriental Medicine. Additionally, students will learn practical skills of office management, counseling and patient communication skills.
Prerequisites: OM-751L TCM Diagnosis, AC-731L & AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I & II, OSHA and HIPAA

CL-723 Clinical Observation II – 2 Credits
In Clinical Observation II, students will assist the intern during the treatment process and become more involved in various aspects of patient contact including some form of counseling and patient communication.
Prerequisites: CL-731 Clinical Observation & Clerkship I, OM-751L TCM Diagnosis, OM-752 Differentiation of Syndromes, AC-731L & AC-732L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics I & II, OSHA and HIPAA

**CL-715 Clinical Theater – 1 Credit**

This course trains students to become interns. The course provides mock and actual patient visits so that students learn the proper way to interact and communicate with patients. Included is the teaching of the communication protocol and diagnostic methods.

Concurrent: CL-714 Clinical Observation II & Clerkship

**CL-801 Problem Based Learning Session I**

**CL-802 Problem Based Learning Session II**

**CL-803 Problem Based Learning Session III**

**CL-804 Problem Based Learning Session IV**

Problem Based Learning (PBL) is a required course to be taken currently with each of the four levels of Clinical Internship. Through case presentations and analysis, students will have ample opportunity to apply and develop all aspects of their growing knowledge of TCM in clinical application. Case taking and chart-keeping skills, TCM etiology, differentiation of syndromes, diagnosis, Western Medicine orthopedic tests when necessary, patient communication, treatment plans and strategies of effective treatment are all employed as students present and discuss case studies of patients treated in the clinic. Students will also prepare research papers on specific conditions or diseases typical of those seen in clinic. PBL gives students the opportunity to learn from one another’s experiences and to better understand various conditions and diseases from the perspectives of both Eastern and Western medicines.

Concurrent: CL-601 Problem-Based Learning/Rounds (0 Credits)

**CL-806 Clinical Internship I – 6 Credits**

**CL-807 Clinical Internship II – 6 Credits**

**CL-808 Clinical Internship III – 6 Credits**

**CL-809 Clinical Internship IV – 6 Credits**

**CL-866 Clinical Internship III – 6 Credits**

Required Concurrent Course: CL 603 Problem-Based Learning (0 Credits)

Clinical Internship III is a continuation of professionalism in Clinical Internship II, but provides students more independence. At this stage, students are expected to work more independently than at the Intern II stage as they perform new-patient intakes, determine diagnoses, develop treatment plans, lifestyle changes, prescribe acupuncture and herbal formulas, insert and remove needles, and deliver any other needed treatments such as moxibustion or Tui-Na. The role of the clinical supervisor at this level is to verify students’ diagnoses, and use of appropriate Western Diagnosis, to help with development of treatment plans, and to verify students’ proposed acupuncture and herbal formulas.

Concurrent: CL-603 Problem Based Learning III

**CL-867 Clinical Internship IV – 6 Credits**

Required Concurrent Course: CL-804 Problem-Based Learning (0 Credits)

At this advanced stage of clinical training, students are expected to use their prior clinical experience to fully explore the complexities of each case. Clinical Internship IV students will be routinely required to provide complete patient care, independent of the supervisor. Supervisor input will focus on difficult or unusual cases. Clinical Internship IV is designed to train students to become professional independent practitioners.

Concurrent: CL-604 Problem Based Learning IV

**CL-631 Clinical Tui-Na Internship (elective) – 3 Credits**

At the beginning of this course, clinic interns will perform patient contact, use diagnostic techniques, and provide Tui-Na hands-on manipulation under close supervision. Following the initial stages of the course, interns will work more independently to provide complete patient care.

Concurrent: CL-631 Clinical Internship I

**Clinical Medical Study**

**CMWM-833 Western Medical Laboratory & Imaging – 3 Credits**

This course will introduce students to Western medical diagnostic laboratory testing and modern diagnostic imaging. Students will learn commonly used medical laboratory studies such as blood count, basic metabolic panel, urinalysis, liver panel, cardiac, thyroid panels, and pregnancy test. The terminology associated with abnormal laboratory values, the relevance of laboratory findings to the patient’s medical condition will be covered. Students will also learn how to interpret commonly used medical imaging studies as radiographic X-ray films, CT scans, basic ultrasonography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the central nervous system and endoscopy. The course will teach the student to read and understand the impression section of medical imaging reports and the relevance of imaging findings to the patient’s medical condition.

Concurrent: CL-601 Clinical Internship I

**CMWM-841L Western Diagnostic Methods (+Lab) – 4 Credits**

The course is designed to introduce the TCM student to the knowledge and skills required to perform history-taking, to make a physical assessment of the adult patient, and to record findings appropriately. This course introduces the Western physical
diagnostic methods of inspection, palpation, percussion, and auscultation. Case studies of common diseases and interpretation of physical findings of these diseases are presented. The lab portion of this course is in a workshop format: students will briefly review basic anatomy and physiology, observe and participate in demonstration of physical examination techniques and then practice those techniques on one another. Medical instruments such as the stethoscope, dynamometer, goniometer, O2 saturation meter, sphygmomanometer, otoscope, tuning fork and diagnostic hammer may be used in this course. Practice on Western Orthopedic tests utilized in the clinic for diagnostics. Since skills are easily lost without continued practice and validation of observations, class lecture and discussions, supervised laboratory, and individual use of readings and audiovisual materials will be required for successful learning. Lab practice will also include patient history-taking and chart-writing. 

Prerequisites: BS-821 Advanced Pathology

CMWM-834 Western Clinical Medicine – 3 Credits
This course presents common diseases from the viewpoint of Western medicine. The progression, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis of diseases are covered. Related physical assessments and lab tests are also reviewed. 

Prerequisites: CMWM-841L Western Diagnostic Methods, CMWM-833 Western Medical Laboratory & Imaging, BS-632 Pharmacology

CMWM-822 Medical Referral – 2 Credits
This course teaches students to distinguish normal from abnormal conditions based on principle symptoms of diagnosis, to recognize ominous signs and when to refer to a Western medical practitioner. Special emphasis is given to emergency conditions that need referral to a Western physician. Symptoms and signs of mental and/or emotional disorders and substance abuse will be discussed. A survey of clinical practices of other types of health care practitioners is also covered in this course. 

Prerequisites: CMWM-834 Western Clinical Medicine

Herbology

HB-741L Herbolgy I (With 0.5 Credit Lab) – 4 Credits
HB-742L Herbolgy II (With 0.5 Credit Lab) – 4 Credits
HB-743L Herbolgy III (With 0.5 Credit Lab) – 4 Credits
These three non-sequential courses will introduce students to the numerous individual herbs commonly used in Traditional Chinese Medicine. Each herb will be analyzed and classified by its properties, channels entered, actions, and clinical indications. Dosage and administration, contraindications of each herb will also be studied. The course content includes identification of herbs most commonly used in the clinic. 

Prerequisites for HB-741L, 542L, and 543L: OM-723 Etiology & Pathogenesis of TCM

HB-744 Herbal Prescription I – 4 Credits
HB-841 Herbal Prescription II – 4 Credits
Each of these non-sequential courses presents a comprehensive analysis of herbal formulas, focusing on their compositions, functions, indications and contraindications. The students' prior knowledge of diagnosis and differentiation of syndromes will be used to correctly analyze pathological conditions and to select accurate herbal prescriptions. The classic and commonly used herbal patented formulas, along with their composition and indications for use are also covered. 

Prerequisites for HB-744 & HB-841: HB-741L, 542L & 543L

HB-821 Classics of TCM – 2 Credits
This course presents an overview of classical texts of Chinese medicine, including Huang Di Nei Jing (Yellow Emperor’s Internal Medicine Classic), Shang Han Lun (Febrile Diseases), Wen Bin (Warm Febrile Disease), and Jin Gui Yao Lue (Prescriptions from the Golden Chamber). Theories of the classics are reviewed and case study examples are provided. 

Prerequisites: HB-744, HB-841 Herbal Prescriptions I & II, OM-752 Differentiation of Syndromes

HB-811 Herbal Patent Medicine – 1 Credit
This course presents the classical and modern commonly used patent herbal formulas, along with their composition and indications for clinical use. Students will learn to select the proper patent formula for a given patient based on TCM diagnosis and differentiation of syndrome. 

Prerequisite: HB-744 and HB-841 Herbal Prescription I, II

HB-622 Homeopathy (elective) – 2 Credits
Homeopathy is a scientific system of medicine based on the principle of “Similia similibus curentur,” which means “let likes be treated by likes.” This is a holistic system of medicine in which the medicine reacts energetically (as does Qi) with mind, body and spirit. This introductory course covers the history, philosophy and principles of homeopathy with emphasis on some commonly used homeopathic remedies. This course includes real-time, case-taking practice. 

Prerequisite: CMWM-841L Western Diagnostic Methods Concurrent: BS-724 Microbiology

HB-623 Shang Han Lun (elective) – 2 Credits
Shan Han Lun is a treatise on diseases caused by external factors. This course presents the differentiation of syndromes and their associated treatment strategies according to the Six Stages or Six Levels system. Included is a detailed analysis of various febrile diseases and the classic formulas used to treat them. 

Prerequisites: HB-821 Classics of TCM

HB-824 Herbology Review (elective) – 2 Credits
This course reviews material taught in all previous herbal medicine classes, and includes an incorporated review of the fundamentals of TCM. Topics covered include the functions, indications, and contraindications of herbs and formulas, as well as other of their relevant properties. (Recommended course to prepare for the Comprehensive Exam and the NCCAOM examination) 

Prerequisite: IM-832 Integrative Internal Medicine

HB-726 European Herbal Medicine (elective) – 2 Credits
This course will introduce the numerous individual herbs commonly used in European Herbal Medicine. Herbs will be evaluated and introduced by their chemical compositions, their clinical uses, contra-indications, side effects and interactions with other herbs and mode of administration. Students will become familiar with modern approach to the herbs and extend their knowledge about medicinal herbs beyond eastern perspective. 

Prerequisite: none

HB-825 Wen Bin (elective) – 2 Credits
This course briefly introduces the history, disease causes, pattern identifications, and general diagnostic and treatment methods presented in Wen Bin. The course focuses most on disease factors, clinical manifestations, pulses and treatments of the Warm Diseases of the Four Seasons. 

Prerequisites: HB-821 Classics of TCM

HB-826 Nei Jin (elective) – 2 Credits
This course covers several of the most important concepts in treatment of the whole human body including: the theory of Yin-Yang and five-element theory, physiology, pathology, and diagnosis and treatment of diseases. The topics covered in this course are not introduced in the fundamental courses of Oriental Medicine.

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**Integrative Medicine**

**IM-820 Integrative Gynecology – 2 Credits**
This course covers the normal and pathological physiology of the female reproductive system according to TCM theory integrated with western medicine gynecology concept of disease including etiology, pathology and diagnosis. The proper herbal medicinal formulas that apply to each syndrome of diseases are discussed in detail. Clinical cases and the principles used to properly recognize and manage gynecological diseases with Chinese herbs are presented.
Prerequisites: HB-744 & HB-841 Herbal Prescription I & II

**IM-832 Internal Medicine of TCM – 3 Credits**
This course focuses on the treatment of internal diseases through the use of herbal medicine. Students will study a variety of internal syndromes, their etiologies, their differentiations, their associated treatment strategies and herbal remedies. The modification of herbal formulas according to varying conditions will be discussed in detail.
Prerequisites: HB-744 & HB-841 Herbal Prescription I & II

**IM-812 Integrative Pediatrics – 1 Credit**
TCM pediatrics introduces students to the unique physiology of the child, and to pathologies to which the child is particularly susceptible. Students will learn about the delicate nature of the child’s Lungs, Spleen and Kidneys, and about the special vulnerability of these organs to deficiency. Students will also learn about the child’s Heart and Liver, and about the vulnerability of these organs, during childhood, to conditions of excess. Students will use and enhance their diagnostic skills; for example, they will learn how to inspect the index vein of a child for disease diagnosis. Students will also study the diagnostic features and treatment strategies pertaining to common childhood diseases such as cold, asthma, and hyperkinetic syndrome. Infectious diseases common in childhood and diseases of newborns will also be presented.
Prerequisites: HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II, AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases

**IM-810-Integrative Dermatology – 1 Credit**
TCM Dermatology introduces students to the etiologies and pathologies of conditions affecting the skin, such as injury to the seven emotions, exterior pathogens and improper diet. Students will learn about the diagnostic characteristics and treatment of common diseases and sexually transmitted diseases that relate to dermatology. Course content includes presentation of infectious bacterial, fungal and viral diseases, such as impetigo, tinea corporis, herpes zoster and venereal warts. Also discussed are the diagnosis and treatment of dermatitis and rheumatologic autoimmune skin diseases.
Prerequisites: HB-744 Herbal Prescription I, HB-841 Herbal Prescription II, AC-831 Treatment of Common Disease

**IM-831 Pain Management – 3 Credits**
This course focuses on both the Western medical understanding of the physiology and pathology of pain and on TCM diagnosis and treatment of pain-related conditions. The course content includes the study of neurotransmitters and neuropathways (both associated with the mechanisms of pain) and in-depth study of pain-related conditions such as neuromuscular pain, skeletal pain, headache pain, spinal pain, diabetic neuropathy, phantom pain, visceral pain and gynecological pain. Students will learn how to measure pain and how to treat pain conditions with special needling techniques. Western medications commonly prescribed for pain and Herbal treatment for pain are presented.
Prerequisite: AC-831 Traditional Treatment of Common Diseases

**HB-827 Herbal Pharmacology & Herb-Drug Interaction – 2 Credits**
This course provides students with an understanding of Western concepts of herbal actions and mechanisms. Topics covered include analysis of some of the most useful herbs, chemical interactions and potential contraindications.
Prerequisites: HB-741L to 743L Herbology I, II & III

**IM-823 Integrative Nutrition & Dietetics – 2 Credits**
This course introduces the basic concepts of human nutrition, including the functions of the major nutrients (carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, vitamins, minerals and fiber) and food sources of each. The principles of nutritional assessment, energy balance, weight control, and how diet can enhance health and reduce the risk of chronic disease will be emphasized. This course will also introduce Traditional Chinese Medicine nutrition/food therapy and its role in health and healing. An integrated nutrition approach to prevent and manage various conditions such as overweight/obesity, cardiovascular disease (CVD), hypertension, and diabetes mellitus will be discussed.
Prerequisites: HB-741L, 742L & 743L Herbology I, II & III

**Fundamentals of TCM**

**OM-730 Foundation of TCM – 3 Credits**
This course presents the theoretical system of Chinese medicine. Theories of Yin-Yang and the Five Elements, the concepts of acupuncture, moxibustion, classification and function of meridians and collaterals and introduction of Chinese Herbology are discussed. Methods of locating meridians and acu-points will be explored through visual identification and physical palpitation by and of all class members. Topics covered include Yin-Yang balance, the Generation and Controlling Cycle, and the Over-Controlling and Counter-Controlling Cycle of Five Elements. Focus is placed on the influence and application of the Yin-Yang philosophy and theory, both of which serve as foundation for the therapeutic principles and methods used to explain and analyze human physiology, pathology and diagnosis in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). Differences between Western medicine and TCM will be pointed out through comparison of their theories and perspectives on the physiological functions of internal organs, on causes and pathogenesis of diseases, and on diagnosis and modalities of treatment. Assessments will be offered of the strong and weak points of each of these two types of medicine.
Prerequisite: none

**OM-731 Physiology of TCM – 3 Credits**
Traditional Chinese Medicine perceives the physiology of the human body differently from Western medicine. This course takes a comprehensive look at the principal functions and interactions of the internal organs, (the five Zang and the six Fu), and the extraordinary Fu. The concepts Qi, Blood, Body Fluids and Essence are introduced and discussed in detail. In addition to acquiring an understanding of the basic functions and components of the body, students in this course will also learn about the Three Treasuries of the human body.
Concurrent: OM-730 Foundation of TCM

**OM-723 Etiology & Pathogenesis of TCM – 2 Credits**
The Etiology portion of this course categorizes the causes of disease from the Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) perspective, differentiating between the characteristics and properties of internal, external, and miscellaneous factors. The Pathogenesis portion of the course covers the occurrence, development, and transformation of disease as relates to changes in Yin, Yang, Qi, Blood, viscera, and meridians. Methods of identifying etiologies,
pathologies, and their various manifestations will be explored through visual identification and physical palpitation by and of all class members.

Prerequisites: OM-730 Foundation of TCM, OM-731 Physiology of TCM

OM-751L Diagnostic Methods of TCM (+1 Credit Lab) – 5 Credits
This course presents an in-depth analysis of diagnostic methods of TCM such as Observation, Listening/Smelling, Inquiry and Palpation. The special techniques of Tongue and Pulse Diagnosis will also be studied. Students will learn to analyze the tongue body and coating for the information both reveal about the internal organs and the location of pathogens within the body. Students will also study the mechanisms of pulse formation, the 28 types of pulses, their indications and identifications. Lab time will be devoted to comparing typical tongue coatings and pulses. This course will cover the practical aspects of every phase of the diagnosis process, including methods of patient communication and the collection, charting and storage of patient information. Methods will be explored through visual identification and physical palpitation of all class members.

Prerequisite: OM-731 Physiology of TCM
Concurrent: OM-723 Etiology & Pathogenesis of TCM

OM-752 Differentiation of Syndromes – 5 Credits
This course covers the differentiation of syndromes according to a number of TCM theories, including Eight Principles pattern identification, differentiation of syndromes of the viscera, and differentiation of syndromes based on analysis of defensive Qi, nutritive Qi and blood. Six meridian pattern identification, and differentiation based on patterns of the Three Burners are also covered. Focus is on exogenous, endogenous and pathogenic factors that cause disease. Syndromes studied will be applied to cases encountered in the clinic. Students will also learn how to record patient charts. Methods will be explored through visual identification and physical palpitation of all class members.

Prerequisites: OM-751L Diagnostic Methods of TCM

OM-811 TCM Foundation Review (elective) – 1 Credit
This course reviews materials covered in all the common areas of TCM study completed during the first three academic years. This is a recommended course to prepare for the ACAOM intern entrance examination and the NCCAOM licensing examination.

Prerequisite: AC-831 Treatment of Common Diseases

Professional Development

PD-710 History of Medicine – 1 Credit
This course introduces the development of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and Western medicine from ancient times to the present. Students will study the achievements of prominent doctors of TCM and Western medicine, and will learn about the classical texts of both. The development of TCM is presented in the timeline of sequential Chinese dynasties.

Prerequisite: none

PD-720 Counseling & Patient Communication – 2 Credits
This course covers issues pertaining to patient-centered counseling and communication. Topics include communication skills for various situations (e.g. patient-provider communication; provider-referral communication; provider-caretaker communication; provider-market relations) and counseling techniques for use with patients and their significant others for various stages of illness (acute, chronic, end-of-life). Emphasis is placed on the communication process and the impact of culture, ethnicity and spirituality on health-seeking behaviors. Students will be afforded an opportunity to witness and discuss their own verbal and non-verbal behaviors as these relate to their interaction with others.

Prerequisites: BS-726 Psychology

PD-723 Ethics and Laws of Practices – 1.5 Credits
This section of the class will cover the various legal and ethical norms governing the practice of acupuncture, including the Texas statute, OSHA and HIPPA. We will consider some variations among states in the regulation of acupuncturists, and we will consider some of the more common legal issues related to the kind of business a practitioner can find themselves in. The student will also be exposed to the more common ethical issues, and techniques for ethical analysis.

Prerequisites: none

PD-811 Marketing & Integrative Clinic Management – 1.5 Credits
Students learn about running an integrative clinic and office and the related aspects of setting up and then marketing the integrative clinic so as to be successful in their business. This course will give students the practical knowledge of running an Oriental medicine clinic. Students will learn about operational issues related to Oriental medicine clinic, herbal pharmacology operation, the supplies and need of these specialized facilities and overall patient care. A This course also covers the basics of building a business and includes the design of the business card, the informational brochure, the clinic layout and a business plan so that the students understand the level of commitment required in starting a business. The content is based on information contained with the textbook “Points for Profit” but will also include details on HIPAA, ethics and OSHA. By using the AHRQ standards this course will help to improve student’s success by enhancing communication and assessment skills. Ethics and professional behavior, and laws of Oriental medicine practice will also be discussed. The overall course objective is to provide students with sufficient business knowledge to establish and successfully run their own clinic when they graduate. Furthermore, they will understand the work that will be required to initiate and promote their business, as well as learn to apply research and evidence based practices into their clinic and treatment protocols.

Prerequisites: CL-723 Clinical Observation II

PD-823 Clinical Research Design & Statistics – 2 Credits
In this course, students will learn how to conduct a literature search (via Medline and other relevant databases) for critical issues of their choosing; how to read and understand scientific articles; and how to critically evaluate the scientific merits and clinical relevance of the available research findings. Students will study the role of theory and hypothesis testing in research (particularly the drug development process) and come to understand the roles of hypothesis testing and biases in research. Students will learn how to apply the fundamentals of research principles and techniques to their own clinical practice. Students will conduct literature searches on relevant topics of their choosing and may be required to write their own papers for publication or prepare a research grant proposal for funding.

Prerequisites: none

Tui- Na

TN-731L Acupressure & Tui-Na (+ 1 Credit Lab) – 3 Credits
This course covers the foundation of Tui-Na, including the basic theory of Tui-Na according to Chinese medicine, commonly used Tui-Na techniques and related TCM diagnostic tools. Class time will be allotted for thorough hands-on practice of each manipulation. Methods of locating meridians and acu-points will be explored through visual identification and physical palpitation of all class members.

Prerequisites: AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics III
TN-832L Clinical Tui-Na I (+ 1 Credit Lab) – 3 Credits
TN-833L Clinical Tui-Na II (elective) – 3 Credits

Each of the above courses covers the clinical management of a variety of conditions, as well as the use of Tui-Na to treat a variety of internal medical conditions, such as epigastric pain, diarrhea, constipation, headache, hypertension, asthma, insomnia, and dysmenorrhea. Methods will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.

Prerequisite for TN-832L: TN-731L Acu-pressure & Tui-Na
Prerequisite for TN-833L: TN-832L Clinical Tui-Na I, AC-831L Treatment of Common Disease

TN-512 Foot Acupressure (elective) – 1 Credit

The focus of this course is to understand the research, the medical benefits, history and mechanism of foot acupressure and be competent in the practice of administering foot acupressure treatments. At course conclusion, students will be able to conduct a foot acupressure intake, assessment and treatment plans.

Finally, students will review treatment plans for 8 common ailments including: hyper/hypotension, diabetes, anxiety/depression, fatigue, cancer prevention, cancer support & multiple sclerosis. Methods of will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.

Prerequisites: BS-741L Gross Anatomy, BS542L Physiology, AC-731L Acu I, AC-732L Acu II, or AC-726L Acu III

TN-621 Pediatric Tui-Na (elective) – 2 Credits

This course introduces the techniques and commonly used points of Pediatric Tui-Na, and its use in the management and treatment of childhood diseases. Students in this course will develop a basic knowledge of a child’s physiology and of the pathologies to which children are susceptible. Class time will include hands-on practice with other students. Methods of locating meridians and acu-points will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.

Prerequisites: AC-726L Anatomical Acupuncture and Point Energetics III

TN-634 Clinical Tui-Na Practicum (elective) – 3 Credits

This course provides students the opportunity to apply Tui-Na techniques to a variety of conditions in the clinic via supervised practice of their Tui-Na skills. Methods will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members upon each other.

Prerequisite: TN-731L Acupressure & Tui-Na

Concurrent: TN-832L Clinical Tui-Na I

Tai-Chi & Qi-Gong

TQ-711 Tai-Chi I – 1 Credit
TQ-713 Tai-Chi II (elective) – 1 Credit
TQ-714 Tai-Chi Sword (elective) – 1 Credit

Through lecture and practice, students will explore the origin, classification and benefits of Tai-Chi, an amazing Chinese martial art transformed into health-enhancing exercise. Students will also learn about currently available studies pertaining to Tai-Chi’s positive effects on young and old. This course presents 24 forms (Yang-style) Tai-Chi, both regular and reverse. Warm-up exercises, basic requirements of mind and body, and breathing skills important to Tai-Chi practice are included. Students in this course will learn how Tai-Chi helps build Qi, helps maintain balance inside the body, and develops mental focus and physical dexterity. Tai-Chi Sword allows students to continue the practice of Tai-Chi using ancient Chinese sword techniques. Each of the three courses consists of lecture and practice. Methods of locating will be explored through visual identification and physical palpation of all class members.

Prerequisite for TQ-711: none
Prerequisite for TQ-713: TQ-711 Tai-Chi I
Prerequisite for TQ-714: TQ-711 Tai-Chi I, Concurrent: TQ-713 Tai-Chi II and TQ-712 Qi-Gong I

TQ-712 Qi-Gong I – 1 Credit

Qi-gong is effective in building Qi for personal well-being and for Qi-Gong therapy. In each of these courses, students will learn about the history and development of Qi-Gong, its relationship to the body and the fundamental techniques of both quiet and motion Qi-Gong. Students will gain an understanding of the indications, contraindications, and some of the precautions associated with Qi-Gong practice.

Prerequisites: none

TQ-715 Qi-Gong II (elective) – 1 Credit

Qi-gong is effective in building Qi for personal well-being and for Qi-Gong therapy. In each of these courses, students will learn about the history and development of Qi-Gong, its relationship to the body and the fundamental techniques of both quiet and motion Qi-Gong. Students will gain an understanding of the indications, contraindications, and some of the precautions associated with Qi-Gong practice. This course presents several types of Qi-Gong: Small Heavenly Circle, which is a form of Quiet Qi-Gong; Eight Brocades, a form of Motion Qi-Gong; and Yi Jing Jing, (Bone Marrow Washing Qi-Gong), from Shao Lin Temple – another form of Motion Qi-Gong.

Prerequisite for TQ-712: none
Prerequisite for TQ-715: TQ-712 Qi-Gong I
**Full-Time Faculty**

Wen Huang, M.D.*, Ph.D.
Manouchehr Hessabi, M.D.*, M.P.H.
Baisong Zhong, Ph.D., L.Ac
Samuel Leong, D.A.O.M., M.O.M., L.Ac.
Tong Wang, Ph.D., L.Ac.

**Part-Time Faculty**

Charles Chen, D.A.O.M., L.Ac.
Maria Hernandez, Dr.P.H.
Husam Issa, M.D.*
Lin Jia, M.D.*, Ph.D., L.Ac.
Daniel Jiao, D.A.O.M., L.Ac.
John Lunstroth, J.D.
Sucheta Shah, M.D.*, M.S.O.M., L.Ac.
Seyed Soltani, M.D., Ph.D.
Jacinda Tucker, Ph.D.
Hasen Xue, M.D.*, D.A.O.M., M.A.O.M., L.Ac.
Yaping Zhang, M.D.*, Ph.D.

* Denotes that all foreign degrees have been formally evaluated for equivalency to M.D. in the U.S.
** List of faculty is subject to change.

**National Certification Examination Information**

Information regarding enrollment for the NCCAOM certification examinations can be obtained from the Registrar's Office. NCCAOM can be reached at:

NCCAOM
2001 K Street, NW, 3rd Floor North
Washington, D.C. 20006
Phone: (888) 381-1140
www.nccaom.org

**Licensure Resources**

**Licensure in TEXAS**

As a part of licensure requirements, you must take and pass all four exams under the "Oriental Medicine" certification program with NCCAOM.org. The legal requirements for licensure in Texas and entry into the profession can be obtained from the Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners, PRC, MC-240, P.O. Box 2029, Austin, Texas 78768-2029. (512) 305-7030.

**Licensure in CALIFORNIA**

ACAOM graduates will be allowed to sit in on the California licensing examination if they have also completed undergraduate courses in General Chemistry or Biochemistry, Biology and Physics. The legal requirements for licensure in California and entry into the profession can be obtained from the California Acupuncture Board, 1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 180, Sacramento, CA 95814. (916) 515-5200.

**Licensure in OTHER STATES**

Students who graduate from our institution may be able to practice in many states. For specific requirements, please contact the individual state directly.
Master of Integrative Wellness Management Degree Program (MIWM)

Students who complete the prescribed course of study at the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (ACAOM) will be awarded a Master of Integrative Wellness Management degree.

The degree program is a 4 semester degree program with the option of completing the program in 3 semesters and a maximum of 6 semesters. The program places heavy in Chinese medical theory, wellness, and healthcare management.

Philosophy

The major goals for this program are as follows:

1. To educate students in both Oriental medicine and wellness services theories and practice
2. To train its students to become skilled and ethical wellness managers
3. To promote the integration of Oriental and Western medicines
4. To provide the highest quality education through outstanding facility, faculty, and equipment

Objectives

Students who have completed the program will:

1. Possess knowledge of the major acupuncture and Oriental medicine concepts including theories of traditional Chinese medicine, most commonly used acupuncture points, major herbs and their combinations, common disorders related to Chinese medicine, basic acupuncture techniques, and knowledge of other Chinese medical modalities.
2. Possess knowledge in wellness services including the theories and principles of health promotion, wellness coaching, integrative nutrition, and physical activity and stress management.
3. Possess the knowledge to manage a wellness environment including assessment and evaluation techniques, strategic wellness management, and integrative medical knowledge.

Learning Process

Learning begins with lectures, discussions, utilization of college resources such as the library, and practice. Classroom instruction provides teaching of the traditional knowledge and practices developed during the past several thousand years. Continuous assessment and feedback by skilled practitioners is an essential part of the learning process.

Prerequisite for Admissions

To be eligible for admissions, prospective students must meet the following conditions:

1. A bachelor's degree or equivalent (120 semester credit hours with at least 30 semester credit hours of general education and 30 semester hours being upper-level) from college or university that is accredited by an agency that is approved by the U.S. Secretary of Education or Council for Higher Education Accreditation.
2. An undergraduate cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, or a 3.0 GPA on the last 60 semester hours. A student who has earned a master degree may be admitted on the basis of that degree with a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

Alternative Admissions Option

Applicants may be considered for admission if they have completed at least 90 baccalaureate-level semester credits (135 quarter credits) from a college or university that is accredited by an accrediting agency that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education or Council for Higher Education Accreditation with a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. The 90 credits must include at least 30 credits of general education courses drawn from the following areas:
- Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum 6 credits)
- Social/Behavioral Sciences (minimum 6 credits)
- Natural Sciences/mathematics (minimum 6 credits)
- Communications (minimum 6 credits)

Students who apply under the Alternative Admission Option must also submit a written petition requesting admissions considerations in addition to all other required supporting documents.

Submission of a petition does not guarantee approval or admission, and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Conditional Admissions

An applicant (usually with a degree from a foreign university) who has challenges in securing official transcripts of all his/her academic record in a timely fashion, but who can provide other strong evidence of a successful academic record may be considered for conditional admissions for one semester pending arrival of the required official documentation. Such cases may involve issues of an institution changing names, merging with another institution, or going out of business; records being seized by the state, destroyed or misplaced as a result of a state of war; or other unavoidable circumstances. Such students may present unofficial or informal documents for consideration pending the arrival of official records and documentation of earned degree(s). Such temporary documents may include any or all of the following: a student's copy of a transcript showing a degree from the college/university, a copy or original of a professional license issued to practice a profession in relation to the claimed degree, an evaluation of the student's academic credentials—including his/her transcript—done earlier by a NACES-approved credential evaluation company, or other such documentation.

Upon the satisfactory completion of the one semester of study and the necessary official documents for regular admissions still not being available, the student may, with the approval of the admissions office, continue in the second semester as a conditional student pending the arrival of official academic records to complete the student's admissions requirements. The student may not continue beyond the second semester without all required and requested official documents being received by the college.

Conditional admissions may also be granted to a student who is in the last semester of completing a bachelor degree (or equivalent, 120 semester hours) and has a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 grading system. Upon confirmation of satisfactory completion of the semester's work in progress by submitting an official transcript, and meeting all other requirements, the admissions status will be upgraded to regular admissions of the student.

International students who are in need of a school-issued F-1 I-20 are not eligible for Conditional Admissions. In order to be admitted and receive an I-20, international students must be fully and unconditionally admitted, including submission of all admissions documents such as sealed official transcripts, translations, evaluations, etc. International students who are unable to complete their application by the posted deadlines have the option to defer to the next semester to begin their program of study. An I-20 will not be issued for any applicant with an incomplete application that is missing any required official document(s).

Students accepted under Conditional Admission are not eligible for federal financial aid until all necessary documents are submitted and they are upgraded to regular admission status.

Application Requirements
In order to apply successfully to ACAOM, applicants must:
1. Complete the application form
2. Submit a digital photograph.
3. Submit official transcripts* directly to ACAOM from all accredited colleges previously attended.
4. Write a personal statement: a one-page, type-written essay discussing your passion and goal towards the program.
5. Secure two recommendations from current or previous employers or other responsible individuals who have known you for more than 2 years. Recommendations should come from individuals not directly related to the applicant, that can attest to the applicant's character and potential.
6. Provide a copy of valid personal identification (passport, driver's license, and others).
7. Enclose a non-refundable application fee of $100 payable to ACAOM by the application deadline.
8. Interviews conducted by Admissions Committee (if necessary).
9. If you plan to apply for Federal student loans (Graduate Stafford Unsubsidized and/or Graduate PLUS loans) you must submit your FAFSA to us through fafsa.ed.gov. Our school code is 031533. Your application will not be complete for admissions processing until the FAFSA report if received.

*If any transcript is from an international institution and it cannot be determined that all academic requirements for admissions have been satisfied, then, a course-by-course credential evaluation of the academic transcript is required by a reputable foreign educational credential company such as gcevaluators.com, spantran.com, or others. It is recommended that applicants use a NACES-approved evaluation company to ensure quality and acceptance by more organizations such as state licensing bodies, etc.

Additional Requirements for International Students
ACAO is authorized under Federal law to enroll non-immigrant international students. Additional requirements for international students:
- Submit proof of financial responsibility, either in the form of a recent bank statement or affidavit of support showing a guaranteed support of one year's cost of attendance, and sponsor's recent bank statement. Please contact the Admissions' office to obtain an affidavit of support form and the current Cost of Attendance amount for 2022-2023.
- Copies of any and all previous I-20 (if applicable).
- Additional documents as needed and requested by the International Student Services office.

English Proficiency
English language competency is required of all students seeking admission to the MIWM program that require a school-issued F-1 I-20. This must be demonstrated by one of the following means:

- Four years at a U.S. high school demonstrably delivered in English;
- At least two years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate or graduate-level education in an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education;
- At least two years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate or graduate-level education demonstrably delivered in English;
- High school or two years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate or graduate-level education in an institution in one of the following countries or territories: American Samoa, Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Botswana, British Virgin Islands, Cameroon, Canada (except Quebec), Cayman Islands, Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Dominica, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, The Gambia, Ghana, Gibraltar, Grenada, Guam, Guyana, Ireland, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Montserrat, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Pitcairn Islands, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, St. Helena, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Swaziland, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United Kingdom, U.S. Virgin Islands, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe;

In all cases, English must have been both the language of instruction and the language of the curriculum used.

OR

The applicant must have completed one of the following assessments at the required level:

- Assessment Tool/ Acceptable Score
  - English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL® iBT) / Total: 61
  - International English Language Testing System (IELTS), Academic Format / Overall band: 6
  - Duolingo English Test / 90
  - China Standard of English Language (CSE) / CSE 6
  - Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE) / C
  - Cambridge English Advanced (CAE) / C
  - Common European Framework Reference (CEFR) / B2
  - Occupational English Test (OET) / 250, C
  - Pearson Test of English (PTE), Academic / Overall: 45

Official documentation verifying one of the above options must be received by American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine directly from the issuing institution.

Applicants who do not have official documentation of one of the three options listed may submit a petition stating why they fulfill the English proficiency requirements along with any relevant supporting documentation. Submission of a petition does not guarantee approval or admission, and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

The Admissions Committee may request additional supporting documentation or an interview as needed to consider the petition. If the petition is denied, the applicant will need to acquire one of the listed options above to be re-considered for admissions.

Tuition & Fees
$445 per didactic or clinic credit hour.
Estimated tuition and fees for the entire education: $16,020 ($16,970 with fees)

Miscellaneous Fees (non-refundable)
- Books & Materials (Estimate per year): $450-600
- Transfer Credits: ($1,000 Max) $75/course
- Audit $50/credit
- Additional diploma: $5/each
- Additional transcript: $25 each
- Competency Examination: $50
- Make-Up Examination: $100 each
- Additional make-up Exam(s): $50 first one
- Late registration or enrollment fee $100 each
- Late tuition payment (each time/month) $50
- New Student Setup Fee – domestic applicant $350 (one time)
- New Student Setup Fee – international applicant $450 (one time)

All tuition and fees are subject to change. A tuition payment plan can be arranged. Federal financial aid is also available. Tuition
payment(s) can be in the form of check, cash, credit/debit cards (Visa, MasterCard & Discover), or direct deposit. There is an additional transaction fee of 3% charged for paying with a credit card.

All tuition and fees should be paid in full by the designated due dates. Students who have no delinquent accounts with the College, and have not defaulted on any previous financial obligations incurred with ACAOM, may be permitted, at the discretion of the Financial Aid Administrator to pay in installments. No student is allowed to register for a semester if a debt is not paid from previous semesters. Unpaid amounts will result in the following:

-- Student Account placed on hold, which block future enrollment, release of official transcripts, diplomas and degrees until the balance is paid in full.
-- In addition, a delinquency report may be referred to an outside collection agency and reported to the credit bureau. The student will be responsible for all collection costs, including penalties, interest, attorney's fees and court costs.

Transfer Credit Policy
A student who desires to have master degree semester credit hours earned at another accredited institution prior to enrolling in ACAOM count toward graduation requirements must apply for transfer of those semester hour credits at the time of admissions into the ACAOM program. Courses will be considered for transfer only if the coursework is equivalent to ACAOM courses in level, content and hours and is not older than five years at the time of request. Transfer of credits can only be considered for courses completed with a passing grade at the original school where the course was taken. There is a fee for transferring credits. See the section on "Tuition and Other Costs."

Students must provide supporting documentation and course descriptions from the college catalog where credit was earned when requesting evaluation of the course for credits toward graduation at ACAOM. If they want to take equivalent courses at another institution while attending ACAOM, they are required to obtain prior approval from the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Non-accredited distance learning courses at any institution are not transferable. Coursework taken on a non-credit basis is not transferable.

The 5-year limitation may be waived for certain courses for students who were advanced degree-holding, practicing health care professionals within the previous five (5) years. ACAOM reserves the right to require a competency test for any course taken beyond the five-year period.

Courses equivalent in content and hours taken at an acupuncture school are directly transferable if the school is accredited, or a candidate for accreditation, by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Coursework from non-accredited acupuncture schools may be considered for transfer credit only upon successful completion of one or more competency exams as authorized by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Credits for any clinical training including internship and observation II are not transferable. Exceptions to this case must be approved by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Foreign transcripts must be evaluated by a foreign educational credentials firm prior to transfer credit evaluation. An official credentialing evaluation document must be received directly from the credential evaluation institution. Applicants are advised to use only NACES-approved credential evaluation companies to be certain their evaluation will be accepted by licensing and credentialing organizations post-graduation.

To be granted a degree from ACAOM, a transfer student may not transfer beyond 50% of required credits for graduation. Of that 50%, no more than 25% of the required clinical training can be accepted for transfer, upon approval by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Transfer to Other Institutions
American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine offers accredited master’s and doctoral level courses. Transferring of these courses to other colleges and universities will depend on the transfer credit policy of those institutions.

Duration of the Program
The master degree is intended to be completed in 4 semesters (2 years). Students must complete the program for a minimum of 3 semesters and maximum of 6 semesters.

Graduation Requirements
A student must meet the following criteria to graduate from the degree program:

1. Satisfactorily complete all didactic instruction as written in the entering Catalog.
2. Complete all clinic observation and internship as written in the entering Catalog.
3. Satisfactorily exhibit professional conduct and professional clinical demeanor.
4. Completion of capstone project.
5. Successfully pass all required examinations.
6. Fulfill all financial obligations and return all library materials.
7. Completion of the application for graduation approval form.

Course Load
Full Time
Full time students are defined as students who are taking a minimum of 9 semester credit hours. Students may not exceed 16 credits per semester.

Part Time
Part time students are individuals who are taking less than 9 semester credit hours any semester. Part time students are still required to complete the entire curriculum within six semesters. Students who require longer than 6 semesters must receive special approval from the Dean of Academic Affairs, and they may be subject to additional graduation requirements.

Capstone Project
A Capstone Project is required of all students in the final semester. The project consists of an analysis of cases, which includes all phases of wellness management.
## MIWM Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>COURSE NAME</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AC510</td>
<td>TCM Treatment Modalities and Clinic Safety</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS511</td>
<td>Hygiene, Public Health &amp; Epidemiology</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM823</td>
<td>Integrative Nutrition &amp; Dietetics</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL520</td>
<td>Integrative Wellness Clinical Management Internship</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB521</td>
<td>Herbal Pharmacology Management</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWM510</td>
<td>Introduction to Integrative Women’s Health</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWM511</td>
<td>Introduction to Integrative Geriatrics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWM520</td>
<td>Introduction to Integrative Wellness</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWM523</td>
<td>Integrative Wellness Coaching</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWM531</td>
<td>Theories &amp; Principles for Integrative Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWM621</td>
<td>Strategic Wellness Management</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWM622</td>
<td>Integrative Wellness Capstone Project</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OM530</td>
<td>Foundation of TCM</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PD521</td>
<td>Counseling &amp; Patient Communications</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PD823</td>
<td>Clinical Research Design &amp; Statistics</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(<strong>Electives from the approved list</strong>)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Required Core Credits 28

### Required Elective Credits 8

### TOTAL 36

Students are required to follow all prerequisites which are subject to change.
Course Descriptions

Acupuncture
AC-510 - TCM Treatment Modalities and Clinic Safety
1 Credit
This course presents a variety of acupuncture modalities and devices commonly used in the clinic, including Moxibustion and Cupping. Clean needle technique and other urgent situations that may require immediate attention will also be covered. Students will learn specific protocols that need to be followed during emergency situations including emergency response for accidents, safe procedures with federal requirements and herbal and dietary supplement regulations. HIPAA and OSHA will be covered. Prerequisite: OM-730 Foundations of TCM, HB-521 Herbal Pharmacology Management

Biomedical Science
BS-711 Hygiene, Public Health & Epidemiology
1 Credit
The basic purpose and functions of public health will be discussed. Issues such as the changing patterns of health associated with socio-demographic trends, environmental health & safety, and healthcare reform within the United States healthcare delivery system will be emphasized. Methods for prevention and control of disease and injury as well as global health issues and integration of Traditional Chinese Medicine into a public health paradigm will be presented. Prerequisite: none

BS-726 Psychology (elective) - 2 Credits
This course integrates psycho-social and biomedical science findings regarding how cultural, social, emotional and mental risk and protective factors may affect physical health and propensity to and recovery from illness. Students will learn, from a review of the historical evolution of psychological and psychiatric investigations and research, how systematic scientific principles and methods evolved and contributed to our current state of knowledge about the influences of cultural, social, emotional and mental factors on our health behaviors. Students will also be given a general introduction to psychological disorders, the clinical signs and symptoms of which they will need to recognize for patient treatment or referral in their actual clinical practice. Topics relating to patient communication may be discussed. Prerequisite: none

Clinical Training
CL-520 Integrative Wellness Clinical Management Internship - 2 Credits
Students will learn practical skills of office management, pharmacology management, patient management, counseling and patient communication skills. Students will learn and practice the use of Electronic Health Records, Clinic Scheduling Systems, Professional Etiquette, Clinical Verbal skills used to address patients in person and on the phone, and how to effectively interact with other members of a clinical team. Additionally, in this course, students observe and become familiar with the processes used by the clinical intern and faculty or licensed acupuncturists as they interview patients, produce diagnoses, and treat patients with acupuncture, herbal medicine, moxibustion, Tui-Na and other forms of Oriental Medicine. Prerequisite: PDS21 Counseling & Patient Communication, HB521 Herbal Pharmacology Management, Concurrent: ACS10 Treatment Modalities & Clinic Safety

Herbology
HB-521 Herbal Pharmacology Management - 2 Credits
Students in this course will learn how to manage an herbal pharmacology. This includes ordering of supplies, safety issues, cleanliness of the pharmacology and its herbs, and preparation of certain herbs. The course will also cover the herbal categories, storage conditions, preparation, contraindications and herbal-drug interactions. Prerequisite: OM-730 Foundation of TCM

Integrated Medicine
IM-823 Integrative Nutrition & Dietetics – 2 Credits
This course introduces the basic concepts of human nutrition, including the functions of the major nutrients (carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, vitamins, minerals and fiber) and food sources of each. The principles of nutritional assessment, energy balance, weight control, and how diet can enhance health and reduce the risk of chronic disease will be emphasized. This course will also introduce Traditional Chinese Medicine nutrition/food therapy and its role in health and healing. An integrated nutrition approach to prevent and manage various conditions such as overweight/obesity, cardiovascular disease (CVD), hypertension, and diabetes mellitus will be discussed. Prerequisites: None

Integrative Wellness Management
IWM-510 Introduction to Integrative Women's Health
1 Credit
This course provides a broad overview and a general introduction of the normal and pathological issues found in Women's health. It includes discussions on physical, emotional and overall health and wellness concepts for women. Introduction to Women's health will focus on Wellness and longevity as well as common pathologies found in Women. It will integrate both Western and Traditional Chinese medicine in understanding the dynamic areas of health promotion, disease prevention and holistic approaches to Health for Women. The students will gain an understanding of Health and wellness with discussions on the topics of physical and mental well-being. In addition, this course will prepare students to work with women of all ages to assess the needs of these patients and how to provide the best care. Additionally, students will gain skills in conducting comprehensive assessments of the female patient. Prerequisite: None

IWM-511 Introduction to Integrative Geriatrics - 1 Credit
This course provides a broad overview of the integrative aspect as well as the biological, psychological, and social aspects of aging along with introductory course work emphasizing the health needs of an aging population.

The Geriatrics focuses upon the dynamic areas of health promotion, disease prevention and holistic approach to the experience of aging. Health and wellness studies broadly include issues of physical and mental well-being as well as family and friendship relations. In addition, this course prepares students to work with elders and families to assess the needs of older persons and their caregivers, develop and monitor comprehensive care plans and maintain frail persons at the lowest level of care, including managing the new concept of life care without walls. Students gain skills in conducting multiple comprehensive assessments, care planning and monitoring within a variety of environments, psychosocial issues, family dynamics, conservatism, spirituality and ethical practice for senior people. Prerequisite: None

IWM-520 Introduction to Integrative Wellness - 2 Credits
This course will be an introductory course to various wellness modalities including Chinese medicine, nutrition, wellness coaching, exercise management, and others to promote preventative care and well-being. Prerequisite: None

IWM-521 Physical Activity and Stress Management (elective) - 2 Credits
This course will discuss the theories and principles behind physical
activity and stress management. Content includes physical awareness and activities that lead to muscle tension and relaxation, respiratory and cardiovascular health, and mental stressors and health.  
Prerequisites: None

**IWM-523 Integrative Wellness Coaching - 2 Credits**  
This course will cover the principles and application of wellness coaching. Students will learn about communication skills, coaching competencies, assessments, and the business aspects of wellness. Ethics and Clinic Management related legalities of practice and the actual set-up and management of a clinic will be discussed.  
Prerequisites: None

**IWM-531 Theories and Principles for Integrative Health Promotion - 2 Credits**  
This course focuses on the philosophies, theories, and principles for effective health promotion. The course content includes analysis and evaluation of issues surrounding health promotion and reviewing the complex ethical and professional issues related to equity within health promotion.  
Prerequisite: None

**IWM-621 Strategic Wellness Management - 2 Credits**  
In this course, students will learn about health, safety, and topics related to job performance. The course will introduce risk management strategies, measuring health risk behaviors, and issues related to health care claims with patients, the profession, and the public and the state. The course will also discuss the rights of patients, social and personal relationships with patients, confidentiality, grounds for malpractice, and legal safeguards for clinical practice. This course will present the important aspects of clinical operation, including office management skills, hiring, and firing employees, clinic layouts and locations, marketing, professional ethics, liability, business plans and insurance practices. It will include CPT and ICD 9 coding and will also cover federal regulations including HIPAA and OSHA.  
Prerequisites: IWM-523 Integrative Wellness Coaching, HB-521 Herbal Pharmacology Management

**IWM-622 Integrative Wellness Capstone Project - 2 Credits**  
This is the last project before graduation. This course will put all concepts and practice together. Students will design their own integrative wellness clinic, including the development of policies, procedures, budget, services, and supplies that will be offered to patients.  
Prerequisites: IWM-523 Integrative Wellness Coaching  
Concurrent: IWM-621 Strategic Wellness Management

**Leadership**  

**LA-621 Leadership of Administration (elective) - 2 Credits**  
This course will teach students about the administrative issues related to integrative medicine. The course will cover strategies for communication with the public, staff, and clients. Students will learn to develop and disseminate communication materials to meet health literacy standards with regards to evidence-based medicine. The course will explore how to build partnerships and change policies using strategies from the leadership of change. The course will explore strengths-based leadership and innovation as applied to integrative medicine.  
Prerequisite: none

**LA-622 Leadership of Organization (elective) - 2 Credits**  
This course will introduce the U.S. health care system and specific Oriental medicine related organizations internationally. It will examine the various regulatory environments related to Oriental medicine in the United States and how it was developed. Students will learn about the roles, scope and regulatory processes and decision making considerations of these organizations.  
Prerequisite: none
PD-811 Marketing & Integrative Clinic Management (elective) – 1.5 Credits
Students learn about running an integrative clinic and office and the related aspects of setting up and then marketing the integrative clinic so as to be successful in their business. This course will give students the practical knowledge of running an Oriental medicine clinic. Students will learn about operational issues related to Oriental medicine clinic, herbal pharmacology operation, the supplies and need of these specialized facilities and overall patient care. This course also covers the basics of building a business and includes the design of the business card, the informational brochure, the clinic layout and a business plan so that the students understand the level of commitment required in starting a business. The content is based on information contained with the textbook "Points for Profit" but will also include details on HIPAA, ethics and OSHA. By using the AHRQ standards this course will help to improve student’s success by enhancing communication and assessment skills. Ethics and professional behavior, and laws of Oriental medicine practice will also be discussed. The overall course objective is to provide students with sufficient business knowledge to establish and successfully run their own clinic when they graduate. Furthermore, they will understand the work that will be required to initiate and promote their business, as well as learn to apply research and evidence based practices into their clinic and treatment protocols.
Prerequisites: None

PD-823 Clinical Research Design & Statistics – 2 Credits
In this course, students will learn how to conduct a literature search (via Medline and other relevant databases) for critical issues of their choosing; how to read and understand scientific articles; and how to critically evaluate the scientific merits and clinical relevance of the available research findings. Students will study the role of theory and hypothesis testing in research (particularly the drug development process) and come to understand the roles of hypothesis testing and biases in research. Students will learn how to apply the fundamentals of research principles and techniques to their own clinical practice. Students will conduct literature searches on relevant topics of their choosing and may be required to write their own papers for publication or prepare a research grant proposal for funding.
Prerequisites: None

Tai-Chi & Qi-Gong
TQ-711 Tai-Chi I (elective) - 1 Credit

Through lecture and practice, students will explore the origin, classification and benefits of Tai-Chi, an amazing Chinese martial art transformed into health-enhancing exercise. Students will also learn about currently available studies pertaining to Tai-Chi’s positive effects on young and old. This course presents 24 form (Yang-style) Tai-Chi, both regular and reverse. Warm-up exercises, basic requirements of mind and body, and breathing skills important to Tai-Chi practice are included. Students in this course will learn how Tai-Chi helps build Qi, helps maintain balance inside the body, and develops mental focus and physical dexterity.
Prerequisite for TQ-711: none

TQ-712 Qi-Gong I (elective) - 1 Credit
Qi-gong is effective in building Qi for personal well-being and for Qi-Gong therapy. In each of these courses, students will learn about the history and development of Qi-Gong, its relationship to the body and the fundamental techniques of both quiet and motion Qi-Gong. Students will gain an understanding of the indications, contraindications, and some of the precautions associated with Qi-Gong practice. This course presents several types of Qi-Gong: Small Heavenly Circle, which is a form of Quiet Qi-Gong; Eight Brocades, a form of Motion Qi-Gong; and Yi Jing Jing, (Bone Marrow Washing Qi-Gong), from Shao Lin Temple – another form of Motion Qi-Gong.
Prerequisite for TQ-712: none

Faculty
Samuel Leong, D.A.O.M., M.O.M., L.Ac.
John Lunstroth, J.D.
Nicole Hare-Everline, D.HSc, M.S., CHES
Maria Hernandez, Dr.P.H.
Jacinda Tucker, Ph.D.
Seyed Soltani, M.D., Ph.D.
Manouchhehr Hessabi, M.D.
* Denotes that all foreign degrees have been formally evaluated for equivalency to M.D. in the U.S.
** Faculty list is subject to change.
Master of Integrative Healthcare Leadership Degree Program (MIHL)

Students who complete the prescribed course of study at the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (ACAOM) will be awarded a Master of Integrative Healthcare Leadership degree.

The healthcare administration degree program is a 4 semester degree program with the option of completing the program in 3 semesters. The program places heavy emphasis in Chinese medical theory, wellness, and healthcare management.

The MIHL program is a 100% distance learning (Online) program. The classes can be accessed directly from the comfort of your own home.

Philosophy

The major goals of this program are as follows:
1. To educate students in both Oriental medicine and wellness services theories and practice
2. To train its students to become skilled and ethical wellness managers
3. To promote the integration of Oriental and Western medicines
4. To provide the highest quality education through outstanding faculty, facilities, and equipment

Objectives

Students who have completed the program will:
1. Understand the principles of traditional Chinese medicine.
2. Be able to provide health and wellness coaching skills with knowledge of traditional Chinese medicine.
3. Possess an understanding of leadership and organizational issues.
4. Be able to provide evidence-based summaries of the health and wellness impact of self-care behaviors as well as integrative, complementary, and conventional medicine modalities.

Learning Process

Learning begins with readings, discussions, and utilization of college resources and the library. Online faculty may employ a range of teaching strategies including powerpoint presentations, readings, audio and video recordings, teleconferences, web conferences and interactive online discussions. Continuous feedback and assessment is also an essential part of the learning process.

Prerequisite for Admissions

To be eligible for admissions, prospective students must meet the following conditions:
1. A bachelor's degree or equivalent (120 semester credit hours with at least 30 semester credit hours of general education and 30 semester hours being upper-level) from college or university that is accredited by an agency that is approved by the U.S. Secretary of Education or Council for Higher Education Accreditation.
2. An undergraduate cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or a 3.0 GPA on the last 60 semester hours. A student who has earned a master degree may be admitted on the basis of their claimed degree, an evaluation of the student’s academic credentials—including his/her transcript—done earlier by a NACES-approved credential evaluation company, or other such documentation.

Conditional Admissions

An applicant (usually with a degree from a foreign university) who has challenges in securing official transcripts of all his/her academic record in a timely fashion, but who can provide other strong evidence of a successful academic record may be considered for conditional admissions for one semester pending arrival of the required official documentation. Such cases may involve issues of an institution changing names, merging with another institution, or going out of business; records being seized by the state, destroyed or misplaced as a result of a state of war; or other unavoidable circumstances. Such students may present unofficial or informal documents for consideration pending the arrival of official records and documentation of earned degree(s). Such temporary documents may include any or all of the following: a student’s copy of a transcript showing a degree from the college/university, a copy or original of a professional license issued to practice a profession in relation to the claimed degree, an evaluation of the student’s academic credentials—including his/her transcript—done earlier by a NACES-approved credential evaluation company, or other such documentation.

Upon the satisfactory completion of the one semester of study and the necessary official documents for regular admissions still not being available, the student may, with the approval of the admissions office, continue in the second semester as a conditional student pending the arrival of official academic records to complete the student's admissions requirements. The student may not continue beyond the second semester without all required and requested official documents being received by the college.

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Students accepted under Conditional Admission are not eligible for federal financial aid until all necessary documents are submitted and they are upgraded to regular admission status.

Application Requirements

Requirements for U.S Citizens and Residents

In order to apply successfully to ACAOM, applicants must:
1. Complete the application form
2. Submit a digital photograph.
3. Submit official transcripts* directly to ACAOM from all accredited colleges previously attended.
4. Write a personal statement: a one-page, type-written essay discussing your passion and goal towards the program.
5. Secure two recommendations from current or previous employers or other responsible individuals who have known you for more than 2 years. Recommendations should come from individuals not directly related to the applicant, that can attest to the applicant’s character and potential.
6. Provide a copy of valid personal identification (passport, driver’s license, and others).
7. Enclose a non-refundable application fee of $100 payable to ACAOM by the application deadline.

8. Interviews conducted by Admissions Committee (if necessary).

9. If you plan to apply for Federal student loans (Graduate Stafford Unsubsidized and/or Graduate PLUS loans) you must submit your FAFSA to us through https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa. Our school code is 031533. Your application will not be complete for admissions processing until the FAFSA report is received.

*If any transcript is from an international institution and it cannot be determined that all academic requirements for admissions have been satisfied, then, a course-by-course credential evaluation of the academic transcript is required by a reputable foreign educational credential company such as gcevaluators.com, spantran.com, or others. It is recommended that applicants use a NACES-approved evaluation company to ensure quality and acceptance by more organizations such as state licensing bodies, etc.

Requirements for International Students

This program is 100% online. Therefore, international students cannot be issued an I-20 for this program.

Tuition & Fees

$445 per didactic or clinic credit hour.

Estimated tuition and fees for the entire education: $16,020 ($16,970 with fees)

Miscellaneous Fees (nonrefundable)

| Books & Materials (Estimate per year):       | $450-600 |
| Transfer Credits: ($1,000 Max)             | $75/course |
| Audit:                                     | $50/credit |
| Additional diploma:                        | $25 each |
| Additional transcript:                     | $5 each |
| Competency Examination:                    | $50 |
| Make-Up Examination:                       | $50 first one |
| Additional make-up Exam(s)                 | $100 each |
| Processing fee for tuition payment plan     | $50 |
| Technology fee (5 hours or more)           | $100/semester |
| Student activity fee (6 hours or more)     | $50/semester |
| Late registration or enrollment fee         | $100 |
| Late tuition payment (each time/month)     | $50 |
| New Student Setup Fee (one time)           | $350 |

All tuition and fees are subject to change. A tuition payment plan can be arranged. Federal financial aid is also available. Tuition payment(s) can be in the form of check, cash, credit/debit cards (Visa, MasterCard & Discover), or direct deposit. There is an additional transaction fee of 3% charged for paying with a credit card.

All tuition and fees should be paid by the designated due dates. Students who have no delinquent accounts with the College, and have no delinquent accounts with any previous financial obligations incurred with ACAOM, may be permitted, at the discretion of the Financial Aid Administrator to pay in installments. No student is allowed to register for a semester if a debt is not paid from previous semesters. Unpaid amounts will result in the following:

-- Student Account placed on hold, which block future enrollment, release of official transcripts, diplomas and degrees until the balance is paid in full.

-- In addition, a delinquency report may be referred to an outside collection agency and reported to the credit bureau. The student will be responsible for all collection costs, including penalties, interest, attorney's fees and court costs.

Transfer Credit Policy

A student who desires to have master degree semester credit hours earned at another accredited institution prior to enrolling in ACAOM count toward graduation requirements must apply for transfer of those semester hour credits at the time of admissions into the ACAOM program. Applicants will be considered for transfer only if the coursework is equivalent to ACAOM courses in level, content and hours and is not older than five years at the time of request. Transfer of credits can only be considered for courses completed with a passing grade at the original school where the course was taken. There is a fee for transferring credits. See the section on “Tuition and Other Costs.”

Students must provide supporting documentation and course descriptions from the college catalog where credit was earned when requesting evaluation of the course for credits toward graduation at ACAOM. If they want to take equivalent courses at another institution while attending ACAOM, they are required to obtain prior approval of such credit for transfer from the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Non-accredited distance learning courses at any institution are not transferable. Coursework taken on a non-credit basis is not transferable.

The 5-year limitation may be waived for certain courses for students who were advanced degree-holding, practicing health care professionals within the previous five (5) years. ACAOM reserves the right to require a competency test for any course taken beyond the five-year period.

Courses equivalent in content and hours taken at an acupuncture school are directly transferable if the school is accredited, or a candidate for accreditation, by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Coursework from non-accredited acupuncture schools may be considered for transfer credit only upon successful completion of one or more competency exams as authorized by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Credits for any clinical training including internship and observation II are not transferable. Exceptions to this case must be approved by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Foreign transcripts must be evaluated by a foreign educational credential firm prior to transfer credit evaluation. An official credentialing evaluation document must be received directly from the credentialing evaluation institution. Applicants are advised to use only NACES-approved credential evaluation companies to be certain their evaluation will be accepted by licensing and credentialing organizations post-graduation.

To be granted a degree from ACAOM, a transfer student may not transfer beyond 50% of required credits for graduation. Of that 50%, no more than 25% of the required clinical training can be accepted for transfer, upon approval by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Transfer to Other Institutions

American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine offers accredited Master’s and doctoral level courses. Transferring of these courses to other colleges and universities will depend on the transfer credit policy of those institutions.

Duration of the Program

The master’s degree is intended to be completed in 4 semesters but may be completed between 3 to 6 semesters. Any transfer credit accepted toward graduation must have been taken within these guidelines as further explained in the section on "Transfer of Credits From Another Institution to ACAOM.”
Graduation Requirements
A student must meet the following criteria to graduate from the ACAOM master degree program:

1. Satisfactorily complete all didactic instruction as written in the entering Catalog.
2. Completion of capstone project.
3. Satisfactorily exhibit professional conduct and professional clinical demeanor.
4. Successfully pass all required examinations.
5. Fulfill all financial obligations and return all library materials.
6. Completion of the application for graduation approval form.

Course Load
Full Time
Full time students are defined as students who are taking a minimum of 9 semester credit hours. Students may not exceed 16 credits per semester.

Part Time
Part time students are individuals who are taking less than 9 semester credit hours any semester. Part time students are still required to complete the entire curriculum within six semesters. Students who require longer than 6 semesters must receive special approval from the Dean of Academic Affairs, and they may be subject to additional graduation requirements.

Capstone Project
A Capstone Project is required of students in last semester. The project consists of an analysis of cases, which includes all phases of wellness management.
# MIHL Course Outline

## ONE YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>FIRST SEMESTER COURSES</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I-1</td>
<td>IM511</td>
<td>History of Medicine</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OM530</td>
<td>Foundation of TCM</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BS511</td>
<td>Hygiene, Public Health &amp; Epidemiology</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IWM520</td>
<td>Introduction to Integrative Wellness</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IWM531</td>
<td>Theories &amp; Principles for Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IWM521</td>
<td>Physical Activity &amp; Stress Management</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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## Semester | Course # | SECOND SEMESTER COURSES | Credits |
<table>
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<tr>
<td>I-2</td>
<td>BS526</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PD521</td>
<td>Counseling &amp; Patient Communication</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HB521</td>
<td>Herbal Pharmacology Management</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IM823</td>
<td>Integrative Nutrition &amp; Dietetics</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IWM523</td>
<td>Integrative Wellness Coaching</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IWM621</td>
<td>Strategic Wellness Management</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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## Semester | Course # | THIRD SEMESTER COURSES | Credits |
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<tr>
<td>I-3</td>
<td>AC611</td>
<td>Emergency Management &amp; Safety Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PD823</td>
<td>Clinical Research Design &amp; Statistics</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IWM622</td>
<td>Integrative Wellness Capstone Project</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PD722</td>
<td>Ethics &amp; Laws of Practice</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PD811</td>
<td>Marketing &amp; Integrative Clinic Management</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LA621</td>
<td>Leadership of Administration</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LA622</td>
<td>Leadership of Organization</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
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**TOTAL REQUIRED: 36 CREDITS**

Students are required to follow all prerequisites which are subject to change.
Course Descriptions

Acupuncture
AC-811 Emergency Management & Safety Issues - 1 Credit
This pre-clinic training course covers urgent situations that require immediate attention. Students will learn specific procedures that need to be followed during emergency situations, which include risk management in working area, emergency response for any practical accident, safe procedure with federal requirements for all patients and practitioners, and safe regulations for herbal medicine and dietary supplements. The course includes eight (8) hours of CPR and First Aid. Other required pre-clinic studies including HIPAA and OSHA will be covered.
Prerequisite: OM 530 Foundations of TCM
Concurrent: HB521 Herbal Pharmacology Management

Biomedicine
BS-711 Hygiene, Public Health & Epidemiology - 1 Credit
The basic purpose and functions of public health will be discussed. Issues such as the changing patterns of health associated with socio-demographic trends, environmental health & safety, and healthcare reform within the United States healthcare delivery system will be emphasized. Methods for prevention and control of disease and injury as well as global health issues and integration of Traditional Chinese Medicine into a public health paradigm will be presented.
Prerequisite: none

BS-726 Psychology - 2 Credits
This course integrates psycho-social and biomedical science findings regarding how cultural, social, emotional and mental risk and protective factors may affect physical health and propensity to and recovery from illness. Students will learn, from a review of the historical evolution of psychological and psychiatric investigations and research, how systematic scientific principles and methods evolved and contributed to our current state of knowledge about the influences of cultural, social, emotional and mental factors on our health behaviors. Students will also be given a general introduction to psychological disorders, the clinical signs and symptoms of which they will need to recognize for patient treatment or referral in their actual clinical practice. Topics relating to patient communication may be discussed.
Prerequisite: none

Herbolgy
HB-521 Herbal Pharmacology Management - 2 Credits
Students in this course will learn how to manage an herbal pharmacology. This includes ordering of supplies, safety issues, cleanliness of the pharmacology and its herbs, and preparation of certain herbs. The course will also cover the herbal categories, storage conditions, preparation, contraindications and herbal-drug interactions.
Prerequisite: OM-730 Foundation of TCM

Integrated Medicine
PD-710 History of Medicine - 1 Credit
This course introduces the development of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and Western medicine from ancient times to the present. Students will study the achievements of prominent doctors of TCM and Western medicine, and will learn about the classical texts of both. The development of TCM is presented in the timeline of sequential Chinese dynasties.
Prerequisite: none

IM-823 Integrative Nutrition & Dietetics – 2 Credits
This course introduces the basic concepts of human nutrition, including the functions of the major nutrients (carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, vitamins, minerals and fiber) and food sources of each. The principles of nutritional assessment, energy balance, weight control, and how diet can enhance health and reduce the risk of chronic disease will be emphasized. This course will also introduce Traditional Chinese Medicine nutrition/food therapy and its role in health and healing. An integrated nutrition approach to prevent and manage various conditions such as overweight/ obesity, cardiovascular disease (CVD), hypertension, and diabetes mellitus will be discussed.
Prerequisites: None

Integrative Wellness Management
IWM-520 Introduction to Integrative Wellness - 2 Credits
This course will be an introductory course to various wellness modalities including Chinese medicine, nutrition, wellness coaching, exercise management, and others to promote preventative care and well-being.
Prerequisite: none

IWM-531 Theories and Principles for Health Promotion 3 Credits
This course focuses on the philosophies, theories, and principles for effective health promotion. The course content includes analysis and evaluation of issues surrounding health promotion and reviewing the complex ethical and professional issues related to equity within health promotion.
Prerequisite: None

IWM-521 Physical Activity and Stress Management 2 Credits
This course will discuss the theories and principles behind physical activity and stress management. Content includes physical awareness and activities that lead to muscle tension and relaxation, respiratory and cardiovascular health, and mental stressors and health.
Prerequisite: none

IWM-523 Integrative Wellness Coaching - 2 Credits
This course will cover the principles and application of wellness coaching. Students will learn about communication skills, coaching competencies, assessments, and the business aspects of wellness. Ethics and Clinic Management related legalities of practice and the actual set-up and management of a clinic will be discussed.
Prerequisites: none

IWM-621 Strategic Wellness Management - 2 Credits
In this course, students will learn about health, safety, and topics related to job performance. The course will introduce risk management strategies, measuring health risk behaviors, and issues related to health care claims with patients, the profession, the public and the state. The course will also discuss the rights of patients, social and personal relationships with patients, confidentiality, grounds for malpractice, and legal safeguards for clinical practice. This course will present the important aspects of clinic operation, including office management skills, hiring and firing employees, clinic layouts and locations, marketing, professional ethics, liability, business plans and insurance practices. It will include CPT and ICD 9 coding and will also cover federal regulations including HIPAA and OSHA.
Prerequisites: IWM-521 Physical Activity and Stress Management, IWM-523 Integrative Wellness Coaching, HB-521 Herbal Pharmacology Management

IWM-622 Integrative Wellness Capstone Project - 2 Credits
This is the last project before graduation, which will put all concepts and practice together. Students will design their own integrative wellness clinic, including the development of policies, procedures, budget, services, and supplies that will be offered to patients.
Prerequisite: IWM-523 Integrative Wellness Coaching
Concurrent: IWM-621 Strategic Wellness Management, LA-621 Leadership of Administration, LA-622 Leadership of Organization
LA-621 Leadership of Administration - 2 Credits
This course will teach students about the administrative issues related to integrative medicine. The course will cover strategies for communication with the public, staff, and clients. Students will learn to develop and disseminate communication materials to meet health literacy standards with regards to evidence-based medicine. The course will explore how to build partnerships and change policies using strategies from the leadership of change. The course will explore strengths-based leadership and innovation as applied to integrative medicine.
Prerequisite: none

LA-622 Leadership of Organization - 2 Credits
This course will introduce the U.S. health care system and specific Oriental medicine related organizations internationally. It will examine the various regulatory environments related to Oriental medicine in the United States and how it was developed. Students will learn about the roles, scope and regulatory processes and decision making considerations of these organizations.
Prerequisite: none

Fundamentals of TCM
OM-730 Foundation of TCM - 3 credits
This course presents the theoretical system of Chinese medicine. Theories of Yin-Yang and the Five Elements, the concepts of acupuncture, moxibustion, classification and function of meridians and collaterals and introduction of Chinese Herbology are discussed. Topics covered include Yin-Yang balance, the Generation and Controlling Cycle, and the Over-Controlling and Counter-Controlling Cycle of Five Elements. Focus is placed on the influence and application of the Yin-Yang philosophy and theory, both of which serve as foundation for the therapeutic principles and methods used to explain and analyze human physiology, pathology and diagnosis in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). Differences between Western medicine and TCM will be pointed out through comparison of their theories and perspectives on the physiological functions of internal organs, on causes and pathogenesis of diseases, and on diagnosis and modalities of treatment. Assessments will be offered of the strong and weak points of each of these two types of medicine.
Prerequisite: none

Professional Development

PD-720 Counseling & Patient Communication – 2 Credits
This course covers issues pertaining to patient-centered counseling and communication. Topics include communication skills for various situations (e.g. patient-provider communication; provider-referral communication; provider-caretaker communication; provider-market relations) and counseling techniques for use with patients and their significant others for various stages of illness (acute, chronic, end-of-life). Emphasis is placed on the communication process and the impact of culture, ethnicity and spirituality on health-seeking behaviors. Students will be afforded an opportunity to witness and discuss their own verbal and non-verbal behaviors as these relate to their interaction with others.
Prerequisite: none
Faculty
Samuel Leong, D.A.O.M., M.O.M., L.Ac.
John Lunstroth, J.D.
Nicole Hare-Everline, D.HSc, M.S., CHES
Maria Hernandez, Dr.P.H.
Jacinda Tucker, Ph.D.
Seyed Soltani, M.D., Ph.D.

* Denotes that all foreign degrees have been formally evaluated for equivalency to M.D. in the U.S.
** Faculty list is subject to change.

PD-722 Ethics and Laws of Practices – 1.5 Credits
This section of the class will cover the various legal and ethical norms governing the practice of acupuncture, including the Texas statute, OSHA and HIPAA. We will consider some variations among states in the regulation of acupuncturists, and we will consider some of the more common legal issues related to the kind of business a practitioner can find themselves in. The student will also be exposed to the more common ethical issues, and techniques for ethical analysis.
Prerequisites: none

PD-811 Marketing & Integrative Clinic Management – 1.5 Credits
Students learn about running an integrative clinic and office and the related aspects of setting up and then marketing the integrative clinic so as to be successful in their business. This course will give students the practical knowledge of running an Oriental medicine clinic. Students will learn about operational issues related to Oriental medicine clinic, herbal pharmacology operation, the supplies and need of these specialized facilities and overall patient care. This course also covers the basics of building a business and includes the design of the business card, the informational brochure, the clinic layout and a business plan so that the students understand the level of commitment required in starting a business. The content is based on information contained with the textbook "Points for Profit" but will also include details on HIPAA, ethics and OSHA. By using the AHRQ standards this course will help to improve student’s success by enhancing communication and assessment skills. Ethics and professional behavior, and laws of Oriental medicine practice will also be discussed. The overall course objective is to provide students with sufficient business knowledge to establish and successfully run their own clinic when they graduate. Furthermore, they will understand the work that will be required to initiate and promote their business, as well as learn to apply research and evidence based practices into their clinic and treatment protocols.
Prerequisites: none

PD-823 Clinical Research Design & Statistics – 2 Credits
In this course, students will learn how to conduct a literature search (via Medline and other relevant databases) for critical issues of their choosing; how to read and understand scientific articles; and how to critically evaluate the scientific merits and clinical relevance of the available research findings. Students will study the role of theory and hypothesis testing in research (particularly the drug development process) and come to understand the roles of hypothesis testing and biases in research. Students will learn how to apply the fundamentals of research principles and techniques to their own clinical practice. Students will conduct literature searches on relevant topics of their choosing and may be required to write their own papers for publication or prepare a research grant proposal for funding.
Prerequisites: none
Institutional Policies

Institutional policies are policies that are applied to all programs within the institution. In addition to adhering to the policies of each individual academic program, individuals are also required to follow institutional policies listed in this Catalog and the Student Handbook.

Academic Program

The curriculum is under continuous improvement, with constant feedback from graduates, healthcare professionals, faculty, and students. The Curriculum Review Committee will review all items referred to it and forward suggestions for full faculty approval to ensure that the institution is providing a quality education.

Definition of Unit of Credit

All credits recorded on the official permanent transcripts of ACAOM students are recorded as semester hours. Class time equivalents are identified as:

1 semester hour of Didactic credit (lecture) = 15 clock hours.
1 semester hour of Didactic credit (lab) = 20 clock hours.
1 semester hour of Clinical Training credit = 30 clock hours.

Each hour of didactic instruction is expected to have 2 hours of preparation time by the student outside of class. Each hour of clinical training is expected to have 0.5 hours of preparation time by the student outside of class. A credit hour is 50 minutes of instruction per week.

Enrollment Policy

All student accounts must be paid in full before the end of each semester. Students with an unpaid balance will not be allowed to attend classes for the next semester.

Course Prerequisites

Some advanced and clinical courses have prerequisite requirements, which must be fulfilled before enrolling. A prerequisite course requirement is satisfied only when a grade of "C" or better has been recorded for the course by the registrar on the student permanent transcript. Exemptions can be given only with the approval of the instructor and the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Examination Policy

Examination Schedule

ACAOM follows a specific final examination schedule as noted on the semester calendar. The midterm and final examinations will be listed on the individual course syllabus. All students are required to take final examinations and midterm examinations when scheduled. Instructors are given wider discretion for the scheduling of quizzes, which may be given at any time.

If a student fails to take the midterm or final examinations, he or she may receive a failing grade. Permission for a make-up examination is within the sole discretion of the instructor, who must sign a Make-Up Exam Form to approve a make-up. Taking examinations both earlier and later than the regular scheduled date is considered a make-up examination. Make-up examinations apply to midterm and final examinations only. This policy does not apply to any other examinations. Make-up quizzes will be handled by the instructor, and the administration will not facilitate quizzes for the student.

Make-up exams must be completed within two weeks of the original scheduled date, unless the student is incapacitated, under which condition, a medical excuse may be required. There will be a charge for each make-up exam. The first make up exam for any course carries a $50.00 fee, each additional makeup exam for that same course will be assessed a $100.00 fee. If a missed exam is not made up within two weeks, or an extension given in writing, a grade of "F" will be assigned for that test.

Grading Policy

The instructor has the discretion to change the grading model presented below. The instructor also has the discretion to substitute other forms of student assessment for the examinations such as research papers, reports, or other projects.

Criteria and Scale

Grades each semester may be determined by the following criteria or some other criteria as adopted by the faculty member and printed in the course syllabus. (EXAMPLES)

Model one

15% from quizzes
35% from midterm examination
50% from the final examination

Model two

10% from papers, presentations, projects
10% from quizzes
30% from midterm examination
50% from the final examination

ACAOM has adopted the following scale for determining Final Grades:

90 - 100 = A
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
0 - 59 = F

Quality points are assigned to the final course grade recorded on the student transcript on the basis of a 4 point maximum for each semester credit hour as noted below:

A Excellent = 4.0
B Good = 3.0
C Average = 2.0
D Poor = 1.0
F Failure = 0.0

Also noted below are other academic activity indicators which may appear on the transcript with the designated meaning of each:

P Pass
I Incomplete
W Withdraw
AU Audit
IP In Progress
TC Transfer Credit by Competency Exam

(*Data base code, not used to indicate a grade.)

Incomplete

An incomplete is NOT automatically given if the student misses the final examination. An "Incomplete" or "I" is given at the discretion of the instructor when a student has not completed all of the requirements for the course. An incomplete is rarely given, and is contingent upon verifiable proof of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the student, which prevented the student from completing the coursework in a timely manner. The student must submit a "Make-up Exam Form." Make-up exams must be completed within two weeks of the original scheduled date, unless the student is incapacitated, under which condition, a medical excuse may be required. If a student needs more than two weeks to complete the make-up exam, a petition for an extension must be submitted. If a missed exam is not made up within two weeks, or an extension given in writing, a grade of "F" will be assigned for that test. The time period allowed to complete the coursework is limited to no longer than the end of the following semester. If the coursework is not completed by the end of the following semester, a grade of "F" will be assigned for that course.

Academic Standard

Satisfactory Progress

A student must complete each course with a grade of at least a "C" or better. Students who receive a D or F will be required to retake the course the next semester the course is offered. Both the original grade and any subsequent attempt will be recorded on the transcript with hours attempted counted among total hours in determining a student's GPA. Master's students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better and doctoral students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale in order to maintain satisfactory progress and be eligible for
graduation. Doctoral students must maintain a CUM GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale to be eligible for graduation.

Satisfactory Progress—Financial Aid Recipients

For financial aid recipients, the satisfactory progress requirements include both qualitative and quantitative components, which are monitored by the Financial Aid Office. See Financial Aid Office for publication listed: "Satisfactory Academic Progress Requirements for Financial Aid Recipients."

Academic Probation for Unsatisfactory Progress

A student whose cumulative academic grade point average falls below the minimum requirement for satisfactory progress (2.5 for masters and 3.0 for doctoral students) will be placed on academic probation for the following semester. A student placed on academic probation will be counseled by the Dean of Academic Affairs prior to the beginning of the next semester. The terms of probation will be indicated on the student’s permanent record, and the student will receive a letter from the Academic Dean stating the terms of the probation.

Grounds for Termination

If a student fails to achieve satisfactory progress at the completion of the first semester in which he or she has been placed on probation, his or her enrollment will be terminated. However, a student on academic probation who achieves a 2.5 (masters students) or 3.0 (doctoral students) GPA or better during the first semester in which he or she has been placed on probation, but has not received the required grades during that semester to achieve overall satisfactory progress for the program, may have the probationary period extended for one additional semester.

Re-Entering the Program

A student whose enrollment is terminated for unsatisfactory progress may re-enter the program, if approved by Vice President of Academic Affairs, after a minimum of one semester has elapsed. Such student shall file a request for reinstatement setting forth a plan of action under which the student feels he/she can succeed as a student. Such student will be placed on probation for the semester in which he or she re-enters. The re-entering student who fails to maintain satisfactory progress at the end of this probationary period will be terminated from the program.

Attendance Policy

ACAOM expects regular class attendance by all students. More than two absences for a course in any semester are considered excessive. Excessive absences may result in lowering of the student’s grade.

Instructors, at their discretion, may work with a student who has excessive absences caused by special circumstances such as illness, injury, family tragedy, etc. In such cases, with the approval of the Dean of Academic Affairs, the instructor and the student must agree on an alternative learning plan for the missed work. This plan may include additional assignments, research, written reports, and/or tutoring. The student may be charged for make-up tutorials.

The instructor and the Dean of Academic Affairs in consultation have full authority to drop a student for excessive absences.

Tardiness

All students are expected to arrive on time for all classes and to remain for the entire class period. An occasional tardiness, or early departure from class, however, will occur. Excessive student tardiness can be considered as equivalent to an absence, and consequently the instructor has the right to drop the student from the course.

Schedule Changes During First Week Add & Drop Period

Adding and dropping of courses to improve one’s schedule may continue from the day classes start (a Wednesday) until the end of the day all classes meet for the first time (the following Tuesday). Schedule changes (either to add or drop a class) should be submitted to the registrar by closing time on Tuesday.

Refer to the section entitled: "Tuition Refund Policy."

Withdrawals

A student may withdraw from a course at any time prior to taking the final examination on its scheduled date. Upon withdrawing from a course, a grade of “W” will be recorded on the student’s transcript. Only one withdrawal from the same course by a student is permitted. The second attempt must be completed and a final course grade recorded on the student’s transcript.

Automatic Termination Due to Non-participation

Leave of absence for a reasonable purpose from the program is allowed, but may not exceed three consecutive semesters (one calendar year). If the student fails to return from leave after the third consecutive semester, the student will automatically be withdrawn from the program. The student will then be required to reapply for admissions in order to continue the program. For those students receiving Federal Student Aid, taking leave of absence for more than one semester per year will result in be terminated from the financial aid program due to low academic progress, and will be contacted by the lender for repayment of the student loans once their loan deferment period ends.

ACAOM's Honor Code of Ethical and Professional Conduct

ACAOM seeks to provide all students with an environment conducive to personal growth, academic achievement, individual responsibility, and respect for the rights and privileges of others. ACAOM takes very seriously any misconduct or unprofessional behavior of its students. Therefore, the ACAOM administration, the Board of Governors, the faculty, and the student body have adopted this Honor Code, which incorporates expectations for personal and professional conduct of all members of the college community.

The purpose of this Honor Code is to promote ethical and professional behavior among the ACAOM community. The success of this Honor Code is dependent on each student's commitment to abide by the Honor Code and his or her intolerance for violations of the Honor Code by fellow students.

ACAOM cannot list every behavior that can be considered a violation of the Honor Code. Therefore, the Code seeks to describe generally what constitutes improper or unprofessional behavior. Honor Code violations generally include, but are not limited to, the following behavior or conduct:

1. Disruptive conduct on campus or at an ACAOM Clinic—Disruptive conduct on campus includes, but is not limited to, on-campus disruptive conduct that substantially or repeatedly interferes with a faculty member’s ability to teach or a student’s ability to learn; on-campus conduct that is threatening; on-campus conduct that incites others to breach the peace on campus; or on-campus violation of state or federal laws, including possession of firearms, explosives, and other prohibited offensive weapons.
2. Belligerence or insubordination to a faculty member, administrator, or other staff member.
3. Violation of ACAOM’s Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Policy.
4. Cheating, plagiarism, forgery of documents, records, or identification. Cheating is defined as follows:
   a. Giving or receiving help from another student during an examination including tests, quizzes, and other forms of work done for evaluation purposes.
   b. Using books, notes, or any other sources of information without the permission of the instructor during the examination.
   c. Misrepresenting the facts in order to obtain exceptions to fulfillment or timing of required course work or examinations.
   d. Unauthorized reproduction and distribution of examinations.
5. Professional dress is expected while on campus and at on-campus clinics. Additional dress code rules apply for the Clinical Training component of the program. (See Clinic Handbook.)
6. Theft, vandalism, or property damage.
7. Violation of ACAOM’s policy prohibiting smoking, illegal drugs, and alcoholic beverages on the main campus or in any off-campus clinics. Violation of ACAOM’s Prohibited Weapons Policy.
8. Treating or attempting to treat a fellow student or other person, except when authorized to do so in an ACAOM clinic setting under the supervision of ACAOM clinical staff.
9. Allowing another student to treat you except when the other student has been authorized to do so in an ACAOM clinic setting while under supervision of ACAOM clinical staff.
10. Failure to responsibly select, use, and discard all acupuncture needles and related materials according to clinic and federal regulations.
11. Violation of federal laws regulating the duplication of copyrighted materials.
12. Violations of the Student Handbook, the Clinical Handbook, or the ACAOM catalog.

ACAOM has the right to take precautionary or preventative measures to protect its members based on accusations or convictions that the institution deems to be a threat or potential threat. ACAOM may place a student charged with violating the above Honor Code on probation, suspension, or expulsion. A student receiving such disciplinary action for violating the Honor Code shall have the right to due process and be given prompt notice of the charges, the conditions of probation, and an opportunity for a hearing within ten (10) school days before a tribunal of peers and ACAOM faculty chaired by the Vice President of Operations. The accused student shall have the right to counsel, the right to call witnesses, and to cross examine any who provide evidence. Restrictions may be imposed upon a student during any suspension/probation period. Violation of any condition of the interim probation or suspension shall be grounds for expulsion.

Cheating will be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs who will decide the appropriate actions to be taken which may include suspension, probation, or expulsion. The Vice President’s decision is final unless appealed by the student within 48 hours after receiving notice of the decision. The President, through the Office of Compliance, will then make the final decision.

If a student is charged with a violation of any local, state, or federal law and the student’s conduct involves a violation of the Honor Code, ACAOM will review the matter and decide upon disciplinary action independently of any governmental, administrative, or civil proceedings.

**Sexual Harassment Policy**

**General**
The institution is committed to remaining free of objectionable and disrespectful conduct and communication of a sexual nature, especially when such conduct is imposed by one person on another and adversely affects a staff member’s employment relationship or working environment. Sexual harassment regarding students is likewise covered by this policy.

**Definition**
Unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when:

-- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual’s employment or class grade,
-- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for employment decisions affecting such an individual, or
-- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual’s work performance or creating an intimidating hostile or offensive environment.

**Policy**
It shall be a violation of institutional policy for anyone who is authorized to recommend or take personal actions affecting a staff member or a student to:

-- Make sexual advances or request sexual favors when submission to or rejection of such conduct is the basis for either implicitly or explicitly imposing or granting terms and conditions of employment and/or success in the school program that either favorably or adversely affect the individual’s welfare,
-- Grant, recommend, or refuse to take any personal action because of sexual favors, or as a reprisal against a staff member or a student who has rejected or reported sexual advances.
-- Disregard and fail to investigate allegations of sexual harassment, whether reported by the staff member who is the subject of the alleged harassment, a witness, or a student and to fail to take immediate corrective action in the event misconduct has occurred.
-- It shall also be a violation of this policy for any staff/faculty member to abuse another or to abuse a student through disrespectful conduct or communication of a sexual nature.

Whenever such misconduct is alleged to have occurred, the aggrieved party should immediately inform the Vice President of Operations in writing by completing a written account of the incident(s). The Vice President of Operations will immediately investigate the alleged violation and take appropriate corrective action when it is established misconduct occurred. If the Vice President of Operations is not available to address the complaint, the president may assign the Vice President of Academic Affairs or Office of Compliance to investigate and take corrective action.

A staff member, faculty member, or student alleging either sexual harassment or failure by the Vice President of Operations to take immediate action on the individual’s complaint of being sexually harassed may file a formal grievance. Filing a grievance or otherwise reporting sexual harassment will not cause any reflection on the individual’s status as a staff member or student, nor will it affect any future employment, compensation, or work assignments of faculty and staff members, and/or the future academic success of a student.

The right to confidentiality, both to the complainant and of the accused, will be respected insofar as it does not interfere with the institution’s legal obligation or ability to investigate allegations of
misconduct when they are brought to its attention, or to take corrective action when it is found that misconduct has occurred.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities**
The purpose of this section is to outline important rights and responsibilities of students. In general, students should have the maximum freedom allowable under the law, in accordance with the College’s responsibility for the students’ well-being.

**Students have the RIGHTS to:**
- An appropriate and well-balanced program.
- Study under qualified instructors in an atmosphere free from bias, prejudice, and disruption.
- Appropriate advising for academic problems.
- Appropriate counseling for personal problems.
- An academic grade that reflects their academic achievement.
- Information on policies and rules of ACAOM.
- The opportunity to make-up class work within a specific length of time in case of all absences except truancy.
- Protection by legal provisions that prohibit the release of personal and academic records, which may not be released unless the student has completed and delivered a release of information card (Texas Open Records Law and Federal Privacy Act of 1974) to the registrar, expressly authorizing a person to receive said student’s records.
- Religious freedom and freedom of speech.
- A student association under the direction of the ACAOM administration.
- Fair treatment and due process that does not violate their legal rights with regard to discipline in all matters.

**Students have the RESPONSIBILITIES to:**
- Strive for academic success by participating to the utmost of their ability, including being prepared for each class with appropriate materials and assignments.
- Contribute to the environment in which one demonstrates respect towards others, behaves in a responsible manner, and is properly attired and groomed.
- Seek academic advising if necessary.
- Seek personal counseling if necessary.
- Maintain reasonable standards of academic performance commensurate with their abilities.
- Improve their performance upon notice of unsatisfactory progress.
- Take advantage of their educational opportunities by attending all the scheduled classes and by being on time.
- Request the make-up assignments from their instructors within a specified length of time.
- Give the College any information that may be useful in making appropriate educational or emergency decisions, including current address/telephone information.
- Respect the First Amendment rights of others.
- Be alert to the needs of the school and the concerns of the student body and to work toward responding to those needs and concerns to the best of their abilities.
- Conduct themselves according to the student conduct set forth in this catalog and Student Handbook.

**Petitions and Grievances**

**Petitions**
A petition is a request for the school administration to consider exceptions to stated policies. A student wishing to file an appeal to any stated policy should utilize the petition form available in the Registrar’s Office. The completed appeal document should be filed with the Vice President of Operations or the Vice President of Academic Affairs. The Vice Presidents may defer the decision to the leadership committee.

**Grievances**
Providing a grievance process is for the purpose of providing a systematic and formal process to address issues of concern to members of the College community. The initial step in all grievance procedures should be an informal discussion of the issue(s) of concern between the student with a concern or grief and the person who is believed to have the capacity to provide attention and relief to the matter. Such an informal discussion often resolves all concerns, as many times the issue is a result of the lack of information or a misunderstanding of the facts regarding the issue. If this informal discussion leads to a successful resolution to the issue of concern to the aggrieved, no further action is necessary.

When the informal discussion does not resolve the issue of concern, step two should be initiated by the aggrieved. The concern should be recorded in writing and submitted to the proper individual able to address the issue, which is usually the person with whom the informal discussion was held. This written step assures that there is clarity on all issues of concern and all parties have a common point of reference. The person receiving the grievance shall have ten (10) school days to respond in writing to the written complaint (grievance). If the aggrieved is satisfied with the response, the process is completed. If the aggrieved is not satisfied with the response, he/she may appeal the matter to the appropriate Vice President within five (5) school days. The appropriate Vice President shall review the grievance and the responses and write his/her response and present it to the aggrieved within ten (10) school days. If the response is satisfactory, the process is completed. If, in the mind of the aggrieved, the issue has not been resolved satisfactorily, he/she may appeal to the President of the College within 5 school days. The President shall have ten (10) school days to respond in writing and his decision shall be final.

If not satisfied with the school’s resolution of an issue or a grievance, the student may direct his or her grievance to Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033-4097
or call: (404) 679-4500

Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
8941 Aztec Dr., Suite 2
Eden Prairie, MN 55347
(952) 212-2434

If not satisfied with SACS’s resolution of an issue or a grievance, the student may direct his or her grievance to Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Box 12788, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
or call: (512) 427-6225

**Grievances Involving Allegations of Sexual Harassment**
Filing a grievance or otherwise reporting sexual harassment will not reflect on the individual’s status as a student, nor will it affect any future academic success of the student. The right to confidentiality, both of the complainant and of the accused, will be respected insofar as it does not interfere with the institution’s legal obligation or ability to investigate allegations of misconduct when they are brought to its attention, or take corrective action when it is found that the misconduct has occurred.
WEN HUANG, M.D.,(China)*, Ph.D.
Dr. Huang received her medical degree from Harbin Medical University in China and her Ph.D in Medicine from the Queensland University in Brisbane, Australia. She first served as an assistant professor, lecturer and attending physician at the First Teaching Hospital of Harbin Medical University. In 1987, she received a national scholarship for overseas clinical training. As a registered clinical practitioner and medical officer, she worked in the Hallstrom Institute of Cardiology at the Royal Alfred Hospital in Sydney and at the Prince Charles Hospital in Brisbane, Australia, from 1989 to 1994. In 1995, she worked at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. As a principle and co-principal investigator, she has been actively involved in the development, preparation, and administration of human and animal protocols. As a clinician, professor and lab supervisor for the past 25 years, she has been involved in training medical students and clinical residents. She has numerous publications in national and international journals on the topics of pain, nerve injury, spinal cord injury, deep brain stimulation in Parkinson’s disease, cocaine addiction, cocaine vaccination, and epigenetic research on drug addiction. She has been awarded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China for an international study of autonomic system redistribution in the cardiac death of the patient after myocardial infarction. Dr. Huang joined the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine in 1995. She has been serving as the Dean of Academic Affairs since 2000 and as director of the Pain Management Program from 2004 to 2010. Dr. Huang has more than 25 years of working experience in teaching, administration, research and clinical practice in the medical field. She strongly promotes the study of Western medicine from both a basic biomedical sciences and a clinical application perspective. Also, she is a strong believer of the integration of traditional Chinese and Western medicine. Dr. Huang is a member of the American Society for Neuroscience and the American Academy of Pain Management.

BAISING ZHONG, Ph.D., L.Ac.
Dr. Zhong received his medicine degree from Luzhou medical College in 1983, a Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine specializing in pediatrics in 1990 and a Ph.D. degree in internal medicine in 1997 at Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Sichuan, China. His training includes working extensively with herbal medicine in pediatrics for over 30 years and in internal medicine at the Teaching Hospital of Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Dr. Zhong has produced a number of papers and publications in pediatrics and internal medicine and has done several research studies of the use of herbs and acupuncture, including the study of the treatment of digestive disorders, nephritic syndrome, cancer of the lung, and diabetes. He is recognized as a Diplomat of Pain Management by the American Academy of Pain Management.

DANIEL JIAO, DAOM, L.Ac.
Daniel Jiao graduated from Beijing University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in China, and he holds a Doctorate in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and Master of Science degree in T.C.M. from the American College of T.C.M. in USA. Daniel was served on the Board of Directors of the National Commission for the Certification of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM ). He was this Board’s chairman for 3 years, commissioner for 9 years. He has been in private practice since 1984 and was named “Best Acupuncturist” in San Francisco Bay Area by Focus Magazine. He was a consultant for the California State Acupuncture Board and site-visit team member for the State Accreditation Committee. He has also served as an advisor of international legislation for Oriental Medicine. Presently, Daniel is the Director of Doctoral Medicine and a Professor at the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine, Hi is specialized in TCM gynecology and Pain management. His research includes TCM treatment for myomatia and uterine fibroids.

CHARLES CHEN, D.A.O.M., L.Ac.
Mr. Chen received his B.S. degree in Physical Therapy from Kaohsiung Medical University in Taiwan, his master’s degree from the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine, and Doctor of Oriental Medicine from Five Branches University, majoring in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Previously, he worked as Chief Physical Therapist at Rong-Sheng Clinic in Taiwan and Senior Physical Therapist at the Bureau of National Health Insurance in Taipei, Taiwan. Mr. Chen is a Licensed Acupuncturist in the state of Texas.

NICOLE HARE-EVERLINE (D.Hsc, M.S., CHES)
Nicolé specializes in population health strategies and wellness methods, within the context of local-level employee wellness programs for the fourth largest city, Houston. She received her D.Hsc from Nova Southeastern University located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in 2007. She has worked in the governmental, private, and non-profit sectors establishing population health strategies for multi-disciplinary teams. She has presented at national, state, and local conference on population health strategies in addition to publishing various studies. She is board member of the Houston Business Coalition on Health and a member of the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE); National Wellness Institute (NWI); and Employee Assistance Professionals Association.

Nathalie earned her Doctor degree in Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine from the American College of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in Houston, Texas. Her previous training as an MD from Mexico, and Master in Public Health from the University of Pittsburgh gives her a unique perspective on health, especially when it comes to prevention and self-care. She is board certified by the NCCAOM and is licensed to practice by the Texas Medical Board. She also holds certifications in neuroacupuncture, the NADA protocol, electro-acupuncture, and cosmetic acupuncture. Nathalie is the owner of Heights Acupuncture and Wellness Clinic.

MARÍA A. HERNÁNDEZ-VALERO, MA, Dr.PH
Dr. Hernández-Valero retired from the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center where she was as faculty member in the department of Epidemiology and in the Department of Health Disparities Research, Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences. She was also an Associate member of the Center for Research on Minority Health at the same institution. Her research career has been devoted to the conduct of health disparities research focusing on the minority population of Mexican-American women and children who are at risk of developing chronic disease due to either a genetic predisposition or environmental factors (chemical exposures, obesity with a focus on the (1) effects of intermediate genetic susceptibility biomarkers and health risks associated with environmental exposures (pesticides and phthalates) in women and children of Mexican origin, and (2) the genetic, social and environmental determinants of obesity and gastric cancer risk in Mexican-American children. Her research resulted in several cancer prevention awards, in addition to the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship. She has published articles in the areas of nutrition and cancer, obesity, physical activity, environmental exposures, genetic susceptibility and health disparities. Currently Dr. Hernández-Valero teaches in-class and online courses at the University of Houston-Central in the area of environmental health and disease prevention.

MANOUCHEHR HESSABI, M.D. (Iran)*, M.P.H.
Dr. Hessabi received his M.D. degree from Islamic Azad University in Iran and his Master of Public Health degree from Tehran University of Medical Sciences. He spent five years working in the
field of biostatistics and epidemiology research design in the Center of Clinical and Translational Sciences in the University of Texas Health Science Center. He worked in the Department of Rehabilitation in Iran and also in Sports Medicine.

HUSAM ISSA, M.D. (Syria)
Dr. Issa graduated from the Damascus University with a Doctor of Medicine degree. He received the Syrian board certification in orthopedic surgery from Damascus University, specialized and practiced in general trauma.

LIN JIA, M.D. (China)*, Ph.D., L.Ac.
Dr. Jia graduated from Heilongjiang University of TCM and received his M.D. degree at Harbin in 1983. He received his Masters of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine from the Institute of Acupuncture in Beijing, China, in 1986. He also received his Ph.D. in the field of molecular genetics at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, France, in 1996. Dr. Jia was a research assistant professor and attending doctor in the Acupuncture Institute of China Academy of Chinese Medicine in Beijing from 1986 to 1992. He was the head of the “neuro-endocrinological group” for pain study then. He is an expert with extensive experience in cases involving neurological problems, such as stroke, facial paralysis, facial pain, headache, and sciatica as well as all kinds of pain management. He is also a master of Tui-Na, particularly children’s Tui-Na. At present, he practices in his private clinic and also conducts medical research projects with Baylor College of Medicine on treating osteoarthritis with acupuncture. Dr. Jia has practiced acupuncture, Tui-Na and herbs for more than 20 years and has published more than 16 papers and books. He has been a licensed acupuncturist in Texas since 1997. He is a member of the TAAOM and a member of the World Association of Acupuncture.

SAMUEL LEONG, D.A.O.M., M.O.M., L.Ac.
Dr. Leong is a Licensed Acupuncturist certified by the Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners and is designated as a Diplomate in Oriental Medicine by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine. His training in acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine is from the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine, earning the degree of Master in Oriental Medicine and the advanced level Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine degree. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Nutrition from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. He received additional training in Nutrition and Dietetics at the NY Presbyterian Hospital, Well-Cornell Center in New York City. He currently serves as a full-time faculty member at ACAOM.

JOHN LUNSTROTH, J.D.
Mr. Lunstroth has a Master of Laws (LLM) from the Health Law & Policy Institute, University of Houston Law Center, and a Master of Public Health (MPH) from the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. He regularly publishes in the areas of health policy, regulation of complementary and alternative medicine, public health ethics, the ethics of human experimentation, and human rights. He teaches law and ethics at the Health Law & Policy Institute of the University of Houston Law Center and he teaches in the Medicine & Society Program at the University of Houston Honors College. He practiced law for 20 years.

SUCHETA SHAH, M.D. (India)*, M.S.O.M., L.Ac.
Dr. Sucheta Shah graduated with degrees in homeopathic medicine and surgery from the University of Mumbai, India. After practicing homeopathy in Mumbai, Dr. Shah received her Master of Science in Oriental Medicine at the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine. She is a Diplomat of the National Certification Commission of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in acupuncture and herbology. Her research interests include a multi-pronged treatment approach combining homeopathy and oriental medicine. She is a regular speaker at the School of Continuing Studies, Rice University; presenter of Complementary and Alternative Medicine courses at the University of Texas Medical School, Houston; and instructor at the Texas Society of Homeopathy annual conferences.

SEYED S. SOLTANI, M.D. (Iran)*, Ph.D.
Dr. Soltani received his Doctor of Medicine degree from the School of Medicine of Tehran University of Medical Sciences in 1996 and his Ph.D. degree in clinical traditional medicine in 2012 from the School of Traditional Medicine of Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences. Dr. Soltani has been practicing both Western medicine and complementary and alternative medicine, such as herbal medicine & traditional medicine & homeopathy, in Iran since 1996. He is very interested in and a believer of integrative medicine. Prior to teaching at ACAOM, Dr. Soltani was an instructor in biology, anatomy, physiology, Pharmacology, genetics, pathology and histology at the Piroozan University Examination Institute in Iran. He also was a lecturer and instructor of herbal medicine and traditional medicine in Brilliant Talents Growth Center of Tehran University of Medical Sciences (Traditional Medicine Research Association) and many other academic institutes and medical universities in Iran. Dr. Soltani was involved with various clinical research projects and was a medical expert and a clinical research coordinator for Barij Essence Pharmaceutical (herbal) company in Iran.

Dr. Sparkman received his Master of Science in Oriental Medicine from the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine and is a licensed acupuncturist in Texas. In 1985 Gregory started studying the energetics of the human body and its breakdown. In 1992 he began the intricate study and practice of martial Qi Gong through the traditional system of Ruyku Kempo Tomari Te,and continues the studies of the internal arts of Xingyi, Bagua, and Taiji. In 1996 he began the study and practice of Spiritual Qgong and its basis in Judaism and Christianity. In 2001 he began the study of Acupuncture, Herbolgy, Tui Na, and Qi Gong in the Scope of Traditional Chinese Medicine. In 2004 Gregory began the study and practice of medical Qigong with emphasis in the area of Oncology. In 2014 he presented work on the efficacy of acupuncture in the treatment of pain at the World Federation of Acupuncture/Moxibustion Society. He received his DAOM in 2018 at ACAOM with a specialty in women’s health care.

JACINDA TUCKER, Ph.D.
Dr. Jacinda Tucker has worked in program evaluation and applied research for over 10 years. Her research has focused on public health interventions, educational programs, and mental health outcomes. She has developed research that utilizes both qualitative and quantitative methods, managed large data collection processes, and reported information back to nonprofit boards. Dr. Tucker completed a clinical psychology Ph.D. focusing on analytic psychology. After completing her doctorate in 2013, Dr. Tucker has started teaching at the graduate level focusing on evidenced based practices, ethics, and gender issues in psychology.

TONG WANG, Ph.D., L.Ac.
Dr. Tong Wang received her medicine degree in 1994, her M.S. degree in 2001 and a PhD. degree in 2004 from Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in China. She specializes in acupuncture and moxibustion. As a researcher, Dr. Wang was the recipient of three important rewards in science and technology. The first prize was for progressive science and techniques from the Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China. The second prize was for progressive science and techniques from the City of Tianjin and the third prize for science and techniques from the Chinese Association of Integrative Medicine. She also published 17 scientific research papers (two are in English) in the journals of Physiology & Behavior and Neuroscience Letters. In
addition, she has published several books on topics pertaining to acupuncture and moxibustion. As a doctor, Dr. Wang began teaching international students in acupuncture, Tui-na and internal medicine at the First Teaching Hospital of Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Bao-Kang Hospital in 1998. She specializes in pain management for osteoarthropathy (cervical and lumbar spondylosis and knee joint problems), facial paralysis, sequelae of wind stroke, etc. Her class, the Diagnosis of Traditional Chinese Medicine, was appraised as part of the national fine curriculum in China in 2009.

**HASEN XUE, M.D.(China)*, D.A.O.M., M.A.O.M., L.Ac.**

Dr. Hasen Xue received his medical degree from Harbin Medical University in China. He is currently a Research Associate in Pediatric Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Department of Surgery. Dr. Xue’s background includes serving as a Chief Surgeon from 1982 to 1991 at the Harbin Red Cross Children's Hospital, a teaching hospital affiliated with Harbin Medical University. Dr. Xue's knowledge of pediatric surgery is extensive. He is also highly experienced as a researcher, surgeon-in-charge, and as an instructor, having had more than 20 years of experience training medical students, interns and residents. Dr. Xue has both written and contributed numerous publications pertaining to childhood cancer, infectious disease, pulmonary disease and traumatic injury. He is a member of the Society of Critical Care Medicine, the American Association for Cancer Research and the Surgical Infection Society. Dr. Xue is also a licensed acupuncturist in the state of Texas. He received his Master of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine degree from the American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine in Houston.

**CHANGQING YANG, Ph.D., L.Ac.**

Dr. Yang received his medical degree from Chinese Medical University of Heilongjiang. He also received his Master’s degree in TCM Diagnosis from Chinese Medical University of Heilongjiang and Ph.D. in Psychiatry and Neuroscience from Kobe University in Japan. He spent over 30 years in the field of Chinese medicine with publications in both biomedical science and served as adjunct faculty in Yosan University of TCM, Emperor's College of TCM, and South Baylo University. He served as a Commissioner at the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

**YAPING ZHANG, Ph.D., L.Ac.**

Dr. Zhang received her medical degree in 1983, an M.S. degree in 1990, and Ph.D. in medicine in 2000 from Heilongjiang University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in China. Her training includes working in western medicine at Shanghai Medical University, the Harbin Medical University in China, and the Hamburg Acupuncture Clinic in Germany. She served as the Medical Director and Vice Dean of Academic Affairs at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the teaching hospital of Heilongjiang University of TCM. Dr. Zhang joined this college in 2001 as a member of the faculty. She has worked for more than 25 years in the field of Traditional Chinese Medicine, including teaching, administration, research and clinical practice, and she has produced more than 30 papers and publications on gynecology and obstetrics throughout her career. She has also participated in acupuncture and herbal medicine research involving the treatment of climacteric syndrome, infertility, endometriosis, chronic pelvic inflammation, and premature ovarian failure.

* Denotes that all foreign degrees have been formally evaluated for equivalency to M.D. in the U.S.

**FACULTY LISTING MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**