

Course Descriptions: Certificate in Chinese Herbal Medicine (CCHM) Program

HERBAL MEDICINE

HM911 Materia Medica & Classical Formulas 1 [8cr/120hrs] This is part one of a two-part course providing a comprehensive study of Chinese Herbal Medicine. Topics include history, theory, and the classifications and medical properties of Chinese herbs. Students also learn the basic classical herbal prescriptions of Chinese Medicine. Topics include the history, pattern discrimination, actions, and indications of major formulas.

HM912 Incompatibilities, Contraindications, and Interactions [1cr/15hrs] The course explores the safe use of Chinese herbs, including how to combine herbs with western medications and how to make appropriate substitutions for specific health conditions. This course will cover how different processing methods and preparations affect herb energetics and introduce students to the 19 Chinese herb antagonists and 18 incompatibles discussed in classic literature. The course also includes herb identification and how to assess herb quality.

HM913 Essential Oils [2cr/30hrs] This course introduces the basic uses and properties of essential oils and their place in Chinese Medicine. Topics include Essential Oils Materia Medica, application and safety of essential oils in the treatment of various commonly seen conditions, formula creation, and the use of essential oils with the Luo, Eight Extraordinary, and Divergent meridian systems.

HM914 Chinese Food Therapy [2cr/30hrs] This course introduces the basic principles of food therapy as they relate to Chinese medicine practice. Topics include the materia medica of foods and their categorization with regard to temperature, taste and function as well as the implementation of dietary advice for various disease patterns. There is a materials fee for this course.

HM921 Materia Medica & Classical Formulas 2 [8cr/120hrs] This is part two of a two-part course providing a comprehensive study of Chinese Herbal Medicine. Topics include history, theory, and the classifications and medical properties of Chinese herbs. Students also learn the basic classical herbal prescriptions of Chinese Medicine. Topics include the history, pattern discrimination, actions and indications of major formulas.

HM922 Classical Channels and Herbs [1cr/15hrs] This course will cover the internal and external use of Chinese herbal medicine in treating the Sinew, Luo, Divergent and Eight Extra channels. Discussions will include historical perspectives and clinical application of herbal medicine to address commonly seen conditions.

HM923 Herbal Preparations and Medicine Making [3cr/45hrs] This course provides an introduction to the knowledge and skills necessary to create medicinal preparations from raw herbs. Topics include herb processing (pao zhi), tinctures, pills and other internal medicines, liniments, salves and other topical preparations. Students practice preparing the most commonly used medicinal formats in the herbal dispensary including raw herbs, granules, and tinctures. There is a materials fee for this course.

HM931 Patent Medicines [2cr/30hrs] This course is a study of patented Chinese herbal medicines. Students learn the actions, indications, dosage, and contraindications of patent medicines and granules. Topics include proper dosage, manufacturers, and dispensary operations.

HM932 Herbal Comprehensive Review [3cr/45hrs] Students take this course in their final semester of study to prepare for the NCCAOM certification exams. It serves as a review of the Materia Medica, classical prescriptions, and patent medicines and provides students with an opportunity to fine tune their Chinese herbology knowledge. They re-examine how to articulate basic herbal theory for single herbs and prescriptions. Students review the fundamental properties of herbs in terms of nature, taste, channels entered, and toxicity. They review pattern differentiation and ingredients of classical prescriptions. Students explain the proper uses, dosages, cautions, contraindications, and toxicity of both single herbs and herbal formulas.

BIOMEDICINE

WM910 Western Diagnostics and Exams [2cr/30hrs] This course offers an overview of physical examination of the patient and utilization of western diagnostic lab tests. Students will learn to perform competent physical examinations. They will differentiate between normal from abnormal findings and determine when to make referrals to western care providers. Students will learn to interpret the results of commonly used western laboratory tests and determine their clinical relevance.

WM911 Introduction to Pharmacology [2cr/30hrs] This course will introduce students to the basics of drug pharmacology and metabolism. This course will provide an in-depth analysis of the biochemical and physiological effects of classes of commonly used pharmaceuticals on the body. It will explore how these classes of drugs are absorbed, distributed, metabolized, and eliminated from the body. The focus is on the use of these common classes of pharmaceuticals and their cautions and contraindications. In addition, this course will provide information on potential interaction between herbal medications, supplements, and common classes of pharmaceuticals.

CLINICAL TRAINING

IN931 Herbal Clinical Internship/Clinical Case Review [7cr/210hrs] In Clinical Internship, interns are providing patient care in a supervised theater-style clinical setting. Emphasis is placed on the practice of clinical skills, including diagnosis and treatment strategies. Interns begin by prescribing unmodified classical formulas and patent medicines and later transition to modifying formulas and creating their own prescriptions. Students learn to formulate herbal prescriptions including appropriate dosage and preparation methods. This course includes Clinical Case Review.