



Medical Professionals

YOU HAVE A STRONG FOUNDATION. BUILD ON IT!

As a Western Medical professional, you come equipped with an excellent foundation for the study of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM).

You have the advantage of having completed our basic sciences co—requisites: Physics, Biology, Microbiology, and Chemistry. You have also completed Anatomy & Physiology and courses such as Medical Terminology, Pathophysiology or Laboratory Tests. You already know how to work with patients in a medical setting. Your skills and experience will shave thousands of dollars off your tuition costs at the Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine College, Berkeley. It will also enable you to complete the program more quickly.

Nurses Enrolled to Become Licensed Acupuncturists and Traditional Chinese Medicine Therapists



“I believe that with my background & the amazing tools one learns in Oriental Medicine, I can be a more versatile professional & better prepared to help. others in the healing process I look forward to seeing & treating my patients as a whole, no longer a set of vital signs, symptoms & body parts.”

Laura Firme, RN



“My experiences as both an RN and a patient have shown me the limitations of the Western medicine perspective and have given me a strong desire to further my knowledge. I believe that enhancing my current knowledge with skills from another healing discipline will make me a more balanced and effective practitioner.”

Carlos Haycock, RN

Why Study Acupuncture?

Medical professionals who study acupuncture at AIMC Berkeley say they are motivated to learn the Traditional Chinese Medicine tool kit for a variety of reasons. With an acupuncture license, they can look forward to working with greater autonomy or having ability to offer their patients more integrative care.

Medical professionals desire using complementary treatments for their patients with chronic conditions and pain. They would rather dispense nature based medicines in the TCM pharmacopeia than pills from pharmacological firms. They are intrigued to learn a system of medicine that integrates mind, body and spirit. They want a career that is less taxing on them emotionally and physically.

Plus the public perception of the medicine is rising in the US. Increasing numbers of hospitals are hiring acupuncturists. Now insurance companies are required, since 2015, to cover acupuncture



Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine College

under the affordable Care Act. Even before insurance covered acupuncture, patients were voting with their feet for acupuncture. Acupuncture was one of the fastest growing segments of health care despite the out-of-pocket expense. Recently, The World Health Institute and the National Health Institutes have recognized acupuncture as effective in treating a broad range of conditions from diabetes and allergies to pain management and more. World Health Organization recognizes acupuncture as an effective treatment for 43 diseases and more than 100 indications. (<http://www.evidencebasedacupuncture.org/who-official-position>). For a complete list, please see WHO website.

Most often our nurse/acupuncture students say they chose this path as a result of their own healing with acupuncture. They recovered from conditions common to nurses such as stress, autoimmune disease, foot problems, pain and more. This personal experience makes them want to share the benefits they derived from TCM and it fuels their passion for its study and practice.

WESTERN MEDICINE PARTNERSHIPS

- * UCSF Benioff Mission Bay Hospital in San Francisco
- * LifeLong Medical Care West Berkeley Family Practice
- * Homeless Prenatal Program (HPP) in San Francisco
- * UC Berkeley Sports Medicine Clinic

