ALHAMBRA
Medical University
School of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine



Mission

The mission of Alhambra Medical University is:

To provide the highest quality education available in acupuncture and Oriental medicine in a progressive learning environment.

To provide the community with a highly competent and readily available source for complementary and alternative healthcare.

To foster and enhance mutual understanding and the ability to communicate with other healthcare professionals.

To assist acupuncture and Oriental medicine professionals to achieve their appropriate place within mainstream healthcare.

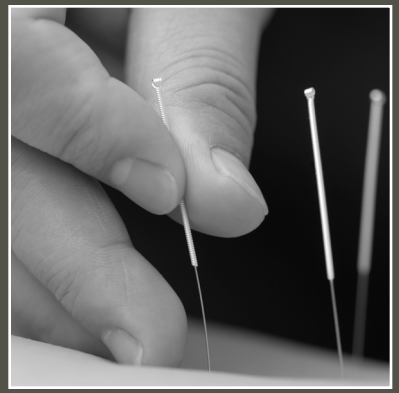
Alhambra Medical University

Alhambra Medical University (AMU), located in the San Gabriel Valley of Southern California, is closely associated with six hospitals in the area.

The Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (MSAOM) program started its very first class in spring of 2005. It has grown substantially since and has received approvals with confidence from all the appropriate state agencies — especially the California Acupuncture Board in early 2007. This is attributed to the strong leadership with clear vision and a committed faculty and staff.

AMU's programs are grounded in a practical approach to the training of holistic and integrative healthcare providers. Our goal is to educate and train future healthcare providers so they can go on to make valuable contributions to the U.S. healthcare system. This is especially important now for many reasons, including helping to serve our aging and continually growing population. AMU is committed to preparing our students to attain the knowledge and skills necessary to practice and conduct research and be leaders in the field.

AMU is preparing to enter into research with major universities in California, and alliances with a host of other organizations. We strongly believe that we must all work together for the betterment of our community, our world, and ourselves.



What Is Acupuncture And How Does It Work?

Acupuncture is a method of encouraging the body to promote natural healing and to improve functioning. This is done by inserting hair-thin sterilized disposable needles and applying heat or electrical stimulation at very precise acupuncture points. The classical Chinese explanation of how acupuncture works is that the hair-thin-needles can influence the energy channels (meridians) which run in regular patterns through the body, nourishing the tissues.

The acupuncture needles unblock obstructions and promote the regular flow of energy (Qi) through these channels. Acupuncture treatments can therefore harmonize the body's internal organs to correct imbalances in their digestion, absorption, and energy production activities, and in the circulation of their energy through the meridians. One modern scientific explanation of how acupuncture works is that needling the specific trigger points stimulates the peripheral and central nervous system to release chemicals which may change the experience of pain, improve energy, or influence the body's internal regulating system. Therefore, acupuncture enhances the body's natural healing abilities and promotes physical and emotional well- being.

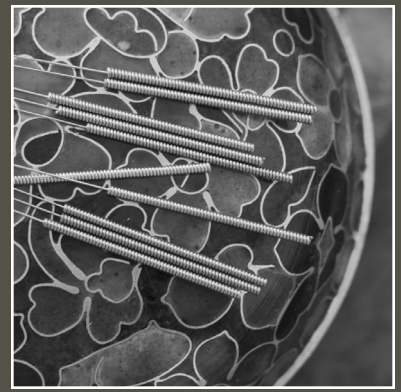
Become a Primary Care Practitioner

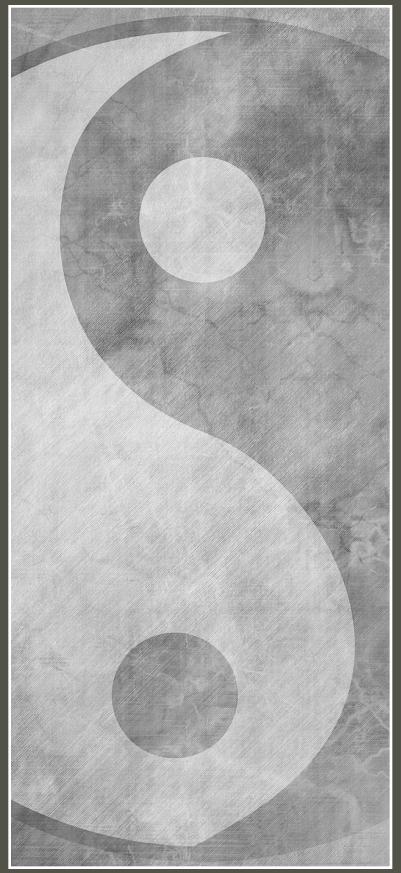
Acupuncture first became known in the U.S. in the 1970's. 1993 estimates by the Food and Drug Administration indicate that Americans made 12 million visits to acupuncture practitioners which sums up to $500,000 spent on treatments. A 2002 NIH survey found that about 8.2 million American adults have used acupuncture, and that 2.1 million had used it in the previous year.

Acupuncture can be a truly rewarding career. Modern science has proven the effectiveness of many treatments that have been practiced in other countries for centuries; more and more insurance companies are covering alternative treatments. Acupuncturists can expect to make $45,000 to start out with and double that after a few years' experience. Acupuncturists work out of an office, either in a practice related solely to acupuncture, or in a practice with other healthcare medicine providers and wellness related services.

Acupuncture is particular effective at relieving or treating chronic muscle pain, stress and other common symptoms. Career specialties include: Allergy/Immunology, Asian Bodywork Therapy, Dermatology, Dietary Therapy, Geriatrics, Gynecology/Infertility, Neurology, Orthopedic, Pain Management, General Wellness and more.







Master of Science in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

Master of Science in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (MSAOM) degree program at Alhambra Medical University is a four academic year program (minimum of 12 quarters). AMU has developed a teaching approach integrating Western science and Oriental medicine where students acquire skills rather than learn subjects.

Open to those who satisfy the requirements for admission, students in the program are rigorously trained in Acupuncture, Herbology, Oriental Medical Theory, Western Medicine and Sciences, Tai Ji, Qi Gong, Tui Na, and Practice Management & Ethics.

Master of Science in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine degree is awarded upon completion of 279 units (3270 hours) which includes 2310 hours of didactic and 960 hours of clinical training. In addition, students must pass an integrated competency examination before entering the clinical phase of their education as well as level advancement examinations as they progress through their clinical training. A comprehensive exam prior to graduation and an Academic Exit Interview are also required for graduation.

AMU has full approval from California Acupuncture Board . Our curriculum is designed to meet the didactic and clinical requirements of California Acupuncture Board and to qualify our graduates to sit for California State Acupuncture Licensing Exam.

Program of Study

1st Year

During the FIRST year of study, students learn the basic theories of both western science and oriental medicine. The western sciences include anatomy and physiology, biology, chemistry, biochemistry, physics, psychology as well as microbiology and immunology. In the oriental medicine section, students are taught the fundamental theories of oriental medicine; meridian theory; acupuncture points location, functions and indications; Chinese herbal medicine which consists of over 400 Chinese herbs, and TCM diagnosis.

2nd Year

In their SECOND year of study, students learn TCM diagnosis, TCM internal medicine, clinical consulting skills, acupuncture physiology, acupuncture techniques, Chinese herbology and herbal formulas. These courses help students to learn disease patterns associated with medical conditions according to TCM. Students spend the year learning treatment techniques in courses on clinical skills. They also learn to intake patients by collecting information and organizing it into effective diagnosis and treatment strategies. Tai Ji and Qi Gong classes are also introduced to the students. By the end of the second year, students should have completed all required courses (72 units) in order to enter into the clinic as LEVEL I - Intern observers, where they learn the daily routines from a real clinic setting. Once in the clinic, interns are strictly supervised by our experienced faculty supervisors.

3rd Year

During the THIRD year at Alhambra Medical University, more advanced courses are incorporated into their study. These courses include but are not limited to the following topics: TCM internal medicine, herbal formulas, acupuncture techniques, pathology, laboratory and imaging, and western clinical medicine. In the clinical aspect, during this period, students may advance into LEVEL II- Assisted practice or LEVEL III- Solo practice if they can prove their knowledge and skills by passing the clinical level exams. Written and practical exams are mandatory for each clinical level. The clinical case study courses discuss numerous real clinical cases and challenge students' knowledge. Through this, students are able to expand their view in both Western science and Oriental medicine.

4th Year

In the FOURTH year of study, after students have mastered their knowledge in both bioscience and oriental medicine, integration of both areas can finally be established. With enough vocabulary in oriental medicine and a solid background in western medicine, students are now ready to study and understand the 'secrets' of the classics of Traditional Chinese Medicine - Jin Gui Yao Lue and Wen Bing. The integration of Eastern and Western medicine allows students to look at problems from both horizons. Students who are close to completing the 2310 hours of didactic and 960 hours of clinical training may sit for the Graduation Exam.

Admission Requirements

Alhambra Medical University seeks out interested students from all academic backgrounds to enter the dynamic field of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. The basic admission requirements are as follows:

1. The satisfactory completion of 60 semester/90 quarter units (equivalent to approximately two academic years) of education at a baccalaureate level with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.25. This course work must be completed at an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U. S. Department of Education or, in the case of foreign candidates, recognized by the appropriate agency in that country.
2. A completed and signed application form along with the non-refundable application fee. (U.S. citizen/residents: $100.00; international student: $150.00)
3. Provide Official Transcript(s) from college(s) and/or university(ies) attended. If the transcripts were from a country where English is not the primary language, they must be translated into English and must be sent to a reputable foreign credentials evaluation agency to assist with evaluating equivalent levels of educational achievement in the U.S.
4. Two recommendation letters.
5. A personal essay describing yourself and your interest in Oriental Medicine.
6. Two recent 2″x2″ color headshot photos.
7. Interviewed by a member of Admissions Committee.



International Students

For international applicants, in addition to the requirements of 1-7, the following documents must also be submitted:

1. $150.00 non-refundable application fee for extra processing and mailing fee.
2. Financial statement of at least $18,000 to verify the availability of education and living expenses for one year.
3. Copy of Passport. Passport must be good until at least 6 months after the date of entry into the US for the purposes of education at our institution.
4. Applicants currently studying in the United States on F-1 visa must submit a photocopy of I-94 form, I-20 form, visa and passport first page. A Transfer Release Form is required to be completed and sent to AMU by the school where the applicant is transferring from.

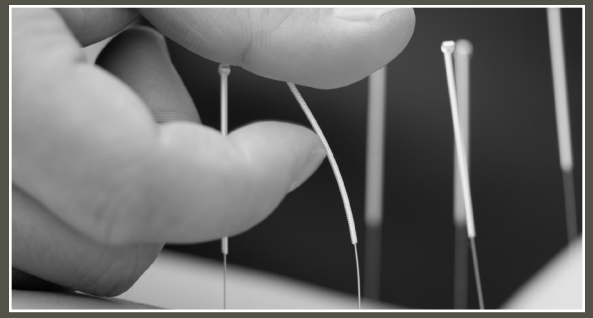














University Clinic

AMU University Clinic is an outpatient, teaching, fee-for-service community clinic where interns are performing acupuncture treatment on patients. Professional treats by licensed practitioners/supervisors are available upon request. Inters are allowed to treat patients under strict supervision.

University Teaching Clinic - Treatments by Interns.

After completion of the basic courses, students must pass the comprehensive exam in order to enter the clinic. The clinical training consists a total of 960 hours and is divided into three levels:

Level I	(200 hours)	Observation
Level II	(320 hours)	Assisting practice under supervision
Level III	(440 hours)	Solo practice under supervision

All interns are under direct supervision by licensed acupuncturists during their shifts. All treatments must be approved by their supervisors.

University Teaching Clinic - Treatments by supervisors.

All supervisors are California licensed acupuncturists, they have undergone series of training and have many years' experiences as oriental practitioner.



University Night Clinic - Treatments by licensed acupuncturists.

Licensed graduates of Alhambra Medical University have the opportunity to practice at AMU night clinic where treatments are rendered at a professional cost. After graduating from University, alumni who passed California Acupuncture Board exam can apply the night clinic. AMU's night clinic provides alumni a placed to start building their own practice.



Alhambra Medical University

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