# Programme Specification

Course Record Information			
Name and level of final & intermediate Awards	Chinese Medicine: Acupuncture		
	MSci Chinese Medicine: Acupuncture with Foundation		
	BSc (Hons) Chinese Medicine: Acupuncture		
	BSc (Hons) Chinese Medicne: Acupuncture with Foundation		
	Intermediate awards:		
	BSc (Hons) Natural Therapeutics		
	BSc Natural Therapeutics		
	Diploma of HE Natural Therapeutics		
	Certificate of HE Natural Therapeutics		
Awarding Body	University of Westminster		
Location of Delivery	School of Life Sciences		
Mode of Study	Full or part time (day)		
UW Course Code	BSc - U09FUTCM (FT), D09PUTCM (PT)		
	MSci - TBA		
JACS Code	BSc - B343		
	MSci - TBA		
UCAS Code	BSc – B256, B341f (with foundation)		
	MSci - TBA		
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	Health Studies (2008)		
Professional Body Accreditation	The BSc (Hons) course is accredited by the British Acupuncture Accreditation Board. This means that students meeting the requirements of the BSc (Hons) are recommended to the British Acupuncture Council (BAcC) as suitable members provided there is no reason to doubt the graduate's fitness as a member.		
Date of last review	N/A		

Date of Programme Specification	May 2010

# Aims of the Course

#### **Ethos**

The medical principles developed in China 2,000 years ago remain integral components of the healthcare systems of China, Japan, the Koreas and Vietnam and are practiced today on a global scale. These principles together with a wealth of practice and research that has and is currently taking place world wide, provide the basis of this professional entry course in Chinese Medicine: Acupuncture. Together with EAST*medicine* (East Asian Sciences and Traditions in Medicine), our innovative interdisciplinary research centre, we focus on the understanding and practice of East Asian medicines as living traditions which are complex and evolving. As practitioners, academics and researchers, our teachers combine a wealth of experience gained over the last 30 years.

#### Aims

This course is designed to:

- provide practitioner education to the professional entry standards and values of the British Acupuncture Council and to meet the requirements for accreditation of the British Acupuncture Accreditation Board;
- educate scholarly practitioner researchers of Chinese Medicine acupuncture who, through their skills, critical thinking and mindfulness, can contribute to patient care, current health care systems and debates on science and tradition;

In addition to its specific aims, the BSc (Hons) & Chinese Medicine: Acupuncture share common aims with the other courses of the complementary medicine (CM) scheme. (*See generic programme spec for common and generic items.*)

### **Learning Outcomes**

### **Knowledge and Understanding**

### Level 4

On successful completion of level 4, a student will be able to:

- 1) describe and discuss the key concepts and principles of Chinese medicine with reference to their historical context;
- 2) explain the fundamental aspects of the anatomy and physiology of the human body, especially in relation to channel and point locations, with emphasis on indicators for and against treatment;
- 3) describe and explain a number of theories of reflective practice in relation to their role in

personal development.

- 4) explain clinical governance in relation to the systems and processes that create safe effective clinical practice, both as a sole practitioner and in multidisciplinary health-care settings;
- 5) describe and discuss methods of inquiry for evaluating basic concepts and principles of a range of approaches to health and well-being.

#### Level 5

In addition to the above, on successful completion of level 5, a student will be able to:

- 6) analyse and interpret signs and symptoms linking classical and modern theory of CM with the skills of case taking and treatment planning;
- 7) explain the biomedical understanding of illness, disease and dysfunction, with emphasis on indicators for and against treatment;
- 8) recognise and interpret reflective practice processes, specifically in relation to the development of the therapeutic relationship;
- 9) evaluate research processes as they relate to CM approaches to health & well-being, especially those relevant to Chinese medicine: acupuncture.

#### Level 6

In addition to the above, on successful completion of level 6, a student will be able to:

- 10) critically evaluate the presenting patterns and unique features of specific CM diseases;
- 11) analyse a complex case history recognising and describing uncertainty and limits of knowledge within a patient-centred context;
- 12) explain the complexity of the biomedical 'signs and symptoms' of illness, disease and dysfunction, with emphasis on indicators for and against treatment;
- 13) critically analyse how individual and group reflective practice processes inform sound clinical decision-making and contribute to life long learning;
- 14) carry out a piece of independent research showing awareness of research methodology and application.

#### Level 7

In addition to the above, on successful completion of level 7, a student will be able to:

- 1) critically evaluate classical and modern theory to reveal the context of Chinese and east Asian medicines;
- 2) explain complex signs and symptoms of illness and dysfunction in relation to treatment planning within an integrated framework;
- 3) apply skills of critical exploration, evaluation and analysis to the propositional, professional

and personal knowledge acquired or self-generated through clinical practice;

- 4) analyse, synthesise and engage in debate of contemporary issues in a collaborative interprofessional setting other healthcare professionals and the wider scientific community;
- 5) apply skills of peer supervision and mentoring to critically analyse how reflexivity informs clinical decision making and CPD.

## **Specific Skills**

### Level 4

On successful completion of level 4, a student will be able to:

- 1) demonstrate competency in the basic clinical skills of Chinese medicine: acupuncture, with emphasis on issues of accuracy, health and safety;
- 2) identify key anatomical features on the human body using anatomical language;
- 3) apply reflective cycles to personal learning;
- 4) effectively participate as part of a care-team, maintaining routine clinical processes;
- 5) evaluate a range of approaches to health & well-being, communicating the results accurately and reliably in the required style, with structured and coherent arguments.

#### Level 5

In addition to the above, on successful completion of level 5, a student will be able to:

- 1) demonstrate competency in appropriate clinical skills, with emphasis on ethical working;
- 2) interpret the pathological features of disease, relating them to particular clinical conditions;
- 3) use reflective processes to appraise the therapeutic relationship;
- 4) effectively manage and be accountable for specific aspects of the clinical process;
- 5) critically appraise literature, and propose solutions to problems arising from the analysis;
- 6) audit an aspect of their own clinical experience.

#### Level 6

In addition to the above, on successful completion of level 6, a student will be able to:

- 1) demonstrate competency in entry level professional clinical skills as defined by the British Acupuncture Council, in the practice of evidence informed Chinese medicine: acupuncture;
- 2) correctly apply clinical assessments, while synthesising their knowledge of health sciences, effectively communicating findings with health professionals;
- 3) evaluate the clinical encounter over time, using the reflective process to monitor and actively enhance the therapy;

- 4) effectively manage the care-team and be accountable for the clinical encounter;
- 5) contribute to the knowledge and research base of CM, especially to Chinese medicine: acupuncture.

#### Level 7

In addition to the above, on successful completion of level 7, a student will be able to:

- 1) explore and explain their clinical reasoning (cognitive and tacit) in the development of treatments for individual patients or specific health conditions over time;
- 2) demonstrate and evaluate developed awareness of the interactions that take place in the practitioner-patient relationship by recognising and reframing the sensory information on which it is based:
- 3) review and challenge both modern and traditional concepts and practices in the light of the most recent scientific research, clinical theory and practice application;
- 4) engage effectively in group and individual mentoring and supervision and advance their practitioner knowledge and understanding, utilizing reflexivity through action learning to develop higher level reasoning;
- 5) act autonomously in framing and implementing new knowledge at a professional level.

#### **Transferable Skills**

#### Level 4

On successful completion of level 4, a student will be able to:

- 1) present information and considered opinion in a range of formats;
- 2) manage self-directed learning integrating personal reflection and peer and tutor feedback;
- 3) communicate and work co-operatively, constructively and effectively with others;
- 4) demonstrate self-awareness in relation to factors that influence communication styles;
- 5) work responsibly in sensitive environments with consideration for the concerns and safety of others.

### Level 5

In addition to the above, on successful completion of level 5, a student will be able to:

- 1) appraise the complexities of working with appropriate professional boundaries and within an ethical framework;
- 2) communicate sensitively and effectively to establish rapport;
- 3) selectively utilise resources to inform learning;
- 4) synthesise information from different sources;
- 5) critically reflect on own learning and learning needs to develop strategies for personal and professional development.

### Level 6

In addition to the above, on successful completion of level 6, a student will be able to:

- 1) act independently in planning, undertaking and evaluating a task;
- 2) work in an ethical and client-centred framework with clients and colleagues;
- 3) communicate in a variety of formats and in relation to the requirements of a range of settings;
- 4) appraise areas for self-development within the context of continuing professional development planning;
- 5) promote ideas with critical self-awareness;
- 6) identify processes to set up, manage and promote a small business.

#### Level 7

In addition to the above, on successful completion of level 6, a student will be able to:

- 1) act with initiative and personal responsibility as a facilitator and mentor within a peer group;
- 2) show self evaluation skills and the ability to reflect on self and others' participation;
- 3) manage complex and diverse sources of information effectively;
- 4) act autonomously in planning, implementing and evaluating tasks in complicated and unpredictable contexts;
- 5) communicate competently to specialist and non-specialist audiences;
- 6) demonstrate problem solving abilities involving the application of knowledge and/or via information seeking;
- 7) demonstrate originality in their application of knowledge which is at or informed by the discipline or area of professional practice.

### Course Structure

This section shows the core, course specific and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per level.

#### Credit Level 4

Code Title	Status Value	
FCMM400	Anatomy & Physiology Core 30	
FCMT421	Therapeutic Relationship Core 15	
FCMA401	Chinese Medicine Concepts & Context Course 30	
FCMA402	Chinese Medicine Channels, Points & Techniques Course	e 30
FCMA493	Chinese Medicine Clinical Practice 1* Course 15	

Award of Certificate of Higher Education available

### **Credit Level 5**

Code Title	Status Value	
FCMM500	Pathophysiology Core 30	
FCMT522	Developing the Therapeutic Relationship Core 15	
FCMR532	Research Methods in CM Core 15	
FCMA504	Chinese Medicine Principles, Strategies & Treatment Course 30	
FCMA505	Chinese Medicine Points & Clinical Skills Course 15	
FCMA596	Chinese Medicine Clinical Practice 2* Course 15	
Award of Diploma of Higher Education available		

Award of Diploma of Higher Education available

### **Credit Level 6**

Code Title	Status Value
FCMM600	Differential Diagnosis Core 15
FCMT623	Refining the Therapeutic Relationship Core 15
FCMR633	Dissertation Core 15
FCMT634	Starting Your Practice Core 15
FCMA607	Chinese Medicine Patients, Illness & Disease Course 30
FCMA698	Chinese Medicine Clinical Practice 3* Course 30

# Award of BSc (Hons) available

### **Credit Level 7**

Code	Title	Status	Value
FCMR734	Researching Contemporary Issues in CM	Core	40
FCMM790	Clinical Reasoning	Core	40
FCMA709	Chinese Medicine: A Living Tradition	Course	40
Award of MSci available			

# Progression

To progress to Credit Level 5 full-time study, a student must pass at least 90 credits at the end of Credit Level 4; to progress to Credit Level 6 full-time study, a student must pass at least 165 credits, including 75 credits at Credit Level 5. To progress to Credit Level 7 a student will be required to have obtained an average mark of at least 50% in the best 90 credits at Level Five. Additionally at Level 7 students will be

<sup>\*</sup> Long year status (runs for 3 semesters)

expected to undertake the equivalent of one day a week in private practice.

To qualify for the award of BSc (Hons) Chinese Medicine: Acupuncture, a student must have:

- a) Obtained at least 360 credits including:
- a minimum of 120 Credits at Level 4 or higher, of which no more than 15 shall be condoned; and
- a minimum of 120 Credits at Level 5 or higher, of which no more than 15 shall be condoned; and
- a minimum of 120 credits at Level 6 or higher, of which no more than credits shall be condoned.
- b) attempted modules with a maximum value of 330 credits at Levels 5 and 6
- c) passed the following modules:
  - Anatomy & Physiology (FCMM400)
  - Chinese Medicine Concepts & Context (FCMA401)
  - Chinese Medicine Channels, Points & Techniques (FCMA402)
  - Pathophysiology (FCMM500)
  - Chinese Medicine Principles, Strategies & Treatment (FCMA504)
  - Chinese Medicine Points & Clinical Skills (FCMA505)
  - Chinese Medicine Clinical Practice 2 (FCMA596)
  - Refining the Therapeutic Relationship (FCMT623)
  - Differential Diagnosis (FCMM600)
  - Chinese Medicine Patients, Illness & Disease (FCMA607)
  - Chinese Medicine Clinical Practice 3 (FCMA698)
  - Dissertation (FCMR633)
- d) complied with the Code of Professional Practice;
- e) satisfied all the clinical requirements of the course.

The class of the Honours degree awarded is decided by two criteria: the average of the best 105 credit marks at Level 6 being in the range of the class to be awarded and the average of the next best 105 credit marks at Levels 5 & 6 being no lower than one class below this class range.

To qualify for the award of MSci Chinese Medicine: Acupuncture, in addition to the above, a student must have:

- a) Obtained at least 480 credits including:
- b) a minimum of 120 credits at Level 7.
- c) attempted modules with a maximum value of 510 credits at Levels 5, 6 and 7
- d) complied with the Code of Professional Practice;
- e) satisfied all the clinical requirements of the course.

The University may award:

- a) an MSci with Merit where marks average at least 60% across Credit Levels 6 and 7.
- b) an MSci with Distinction where marks average at least 70% across Credit Levels 6 & 7.

Key Reference Points for the Course Specific to Chinese Medicine Acupuncture

#### **External**

### The British Acupuncture Council Guidelines for Acupuncture Education (April 2000).

This document outlines the educational programme required by the British Acupuncture Council.

### The British Acupuncture Accreditation Board (BAAB) procedures for accreditation.

These procedures set out the requirements for course accreditation by the BAAB. The BSc (Hons) Chinese Medicine: Acupuncture is accredited by the BAAB, and graduates are usually recommended to the British Acupuncture Council (BAC) as suitable members.

### The British Acupuncture Council Standards for the Practice of Acupuncture (Jan 2006)

This sets out the standards expected by the profession, of a new graduate.