

# Welcome to Five Branches University

Your interest in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) comes at an advantageous time; as TCM continues to grow, so does the need for qualified practitioners.

Traditional Chinese Medicine is the main healthcare modality for more than 20% of the world's population, and is the fastest-growing primary healthcare in the U.S. Statistics indicate this consistent growth pattern will continue, as Chinese medicine is increasingly sought by Americans who have experienced its healing benefits. Significantly, the U.S. National Institute of Health has recognized acupuncture as a valid, effective method of healing. With hospitals such as Kaiser adding acupuncture to their integrative medicine departments, and Obamacare including acupuncture coverage in many states in the U.S., expansive growth in the field of TCM is inevitable.

TCM and Western medicine differ profoundly, yet for more than 70 years they have been offered side-by-side in Chinese hospitals and universities. In the last five years, integrative medicine has made great strides in the United States: Western medical schools are offering courses in complementary and alternative medicine, a recent survey indicates more than 50% of M.D.'s today support their patients seeking alternative therapies, and more recently, Five Branches and the Comprehensive Cancer Center at the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center in Berkeley, California have started to work together to offer TCM to their patients.

When you study TCM you are choosing to become immersed in a 5000-year-old healing tradition passed down for generations in China. You will learn the great TCM classics and their clinical applications to become an expert acupuncturist and Chinese herbalist. The study of this precious body of knowledge provides a deep understanding of the energy body and the ancient and profound principles of TCM diagnosis and treatment.

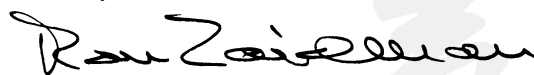
Our Western medical curriculum provides you with the knowledge and skills to perform as an effective primary healthcare practitioner working in harmony with the wider medical profession. The Institute of Medicine (IOM), the leading think tank for defining healthcare for the 21st century, has made patient-centered care and multi-disciplinary medicine their top two priorities. Five Branches' programs embody both of these important goals.

We believe that Traditional Chinese Medicine will play a growing and central role in future healthcare and medical systems. Our goal is to serve, and we are devoted to the transmission of this profound body of knowledge to the next generation of sincere and dedicated students and future practitioners.

We invite you to visit our beautiful campuses in California: in Santa Cruz on the Monterey Bay, and in San Jose on Santana Row, to further explore TCM, its ancient wisdom and understandings, and what the field of integrative medicine can offer you. If a career in Traditional Chinese Medicine is indeed your calling, know that you will be amply rewarded with a meaningful and satisfying career that will benefit you beyond your expectations and allow you to experience the fulfillment of serving others: your friends, family and patients.

Thank you for your interest in Five Branches University, Graduate School of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Sincerely,



Ron Zaidman *President & CEO*



**RON ZAIDMAN**  
PRESIDENT & CEO

# Points of Excellence

For over 30 years, Five Branches University, Graduate School of Traditional Chinese Medicine, has set the standards for excellence in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) education and healthcare.

## *Respected University*

Recognized as one of the nation's top TCM schools, Five Branches University provides the highest level of professional education and healthcare in Traditional Chinese Medicine and integrative medicine in the U.S. and internationally.

## *Two California Campuses*

You can choose from our two beautiful campuses in Santa Cruz and San Jose, California or attend classes at both to enjoy breathtaking coastal views or unique cultural city experiences. Both campuses offer plenty of sunshine and a diverse and progressive environment in which to live.

## *Health and Medical Centers*

The Five Branches University Health Centers located in Santa Cruz and San Jose, California provide the best of TCM healthcare. Treating over 160 patients each day, our health centers are the ideal place for students to gain experience in a clinical environment and for TCM clinicians and doctors to provide exceptional healthcare to their patients. Our staff includes specialists in neurology, internal medicine, gynecology, pediatrics, oncology, dermatology, immune deficiency, ophthalmology, pain management, gastroenterology, rheumatology, and cardiology.

## *Master's, Doctoral and Certificate Programs*

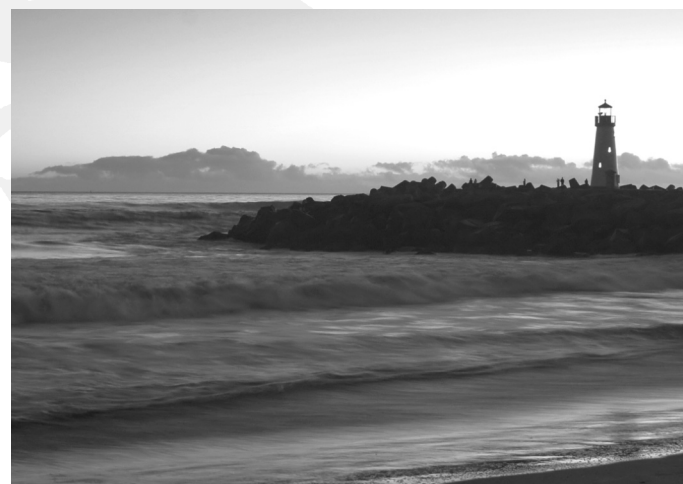
Our nationally accredited Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (MTCM) and Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM) programs provide a strong foundation in TCM diagnosis, acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine, the latest TCM research, extensive clinical training, and a comprehensive integrative medicine education. Our Asian Massage and Bodywork certification program offers students the opportunity to receive both California and national massage certification.

## *Experienced Faculty and Clinical Experts*

Learn from the most highly accomplished faculty in TCM education. Many of our doctors and teachers have decades of experience teaching and practicing TCM in renowned hospitals and medical schools in China and the U.S.

## *Integrative Medicine at its Best*

Throughout the MTCM program, you will learn the ancient and profound principles of TCM diagnosis and treatment, acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine, along with the best of Western medicine. As a DAOM student you will strengthen your TCM knowledge and skills by learning advanced levels of traditional Chinese and Western medicine diagnosis, medical specializations, cross-referrals and the effective practice of interdisciplinary medicine.



## *Extensive Herbology Training*

Five Branches University is respected among TCM colleges for its outstanding herbology department. Among our instructors is Dr. Jeffrey Pang, the descendant of a famous Chinese herbalist. Our herb pharmacy contains more than 400 raw herbs, catalogued and stored in traditional wooden drawers, and over 350 patent formulas.

## *Specialty Certificate Options*

As an MTCM student, you can receive specialty certification in Sports Medicine, Medical Qigong, Five Element Acupuncture and Tuina Massage to enhance and distinguish your TCM practice.

The DAOM program offers TCM practitioners the ability to further specialize in their practice. Advanced training by leading TCM specialists, medical doctors and educators is available in women's health, neuromuscular medicine, and family medicine.

## *Study in China, Taiwan and Korea*

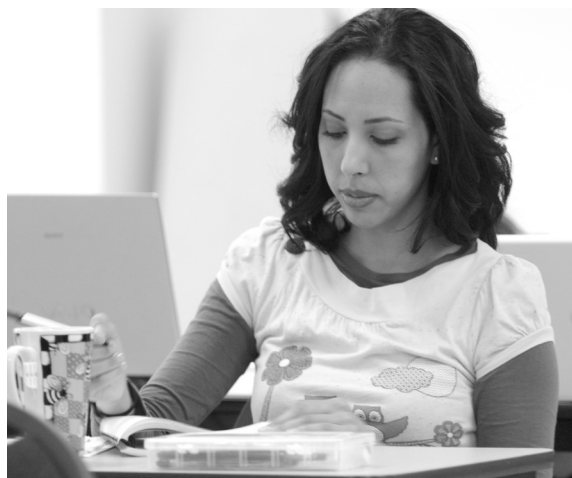
Our Study Abroad program is one of the best ways to experience the authentic practice of TCM integrated with modern western medicine. Travel to Asia to learn TCM from highly knowledgeable doctors and teachers and to receive extensive clinical training in a hospital setting, including earning a Ph.D. at our sister schools in Hangzhou, Tianjin and Shenyang, China.

## *Continuing Education*

Our commitment to excellence in education continues beyond graduation with our continuing education programs. Bringing expert teachers and lecturers together, we offer a wide variety of high quality courses in advanced Traditional Chinese Medicine and provide certification in Asian Massage and Bodywork, and Medical Qigong.

## *Financial Aid Programs*

Five Branches University is an accredited institution of higher education approved to participate in federal financial aid programs for the MTCM, MAc, and DAOM programs. Our financial aid programs can assist you in meeting the financial costs of your education, including both tuition and living expenses.



## *Career Opportunities*

Our professional partnerships with Stanford University, the Comprehensive Cancer Center at the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, Kaiser-Permanente, Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, and Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, offer you outstanding educational and career opportunities around the world. Careers in the field of TCM are growing and include: establishing a private practice, joining a group practice, working in an integrative medical center, and job opportunities in education, publishing, or research.

Whatever your career of choice, our career development department will guide and support you in pursuing your optimal career path, providing you with the business knowledge, skills and level of confidence required to become a successful Traditional Chinese Medicine practitioner.

## *Graduate Success*

Our MTCM graduates consistently achieve the highest passing scores on both the California acupuncture licensing exam and the national certification exams. Upon graduation, you will be qualified to enroll in our Doctorate and Ph.D. program, to apply for a top-paying position at a medical institution or to establish a successful TCM practice anywhere in the world.

Five Branches has turned out extraordinarily accomplished alumni who are leaders in every facet of TCM: practitioners, teachers, authors, international lecturers, consultants, and researchers. Access to these alumni offer you excellent networking opportunities for professional advancement.

We hope you will join us at Five Branches University for a truly distinctive educational experience and to discover the rewarding career path of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

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*All things arise from Dao.  
They are nourished by virtue.  
They are formed from matter.  
They are shaped by environment.*

—DAODEJING 51

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The Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (MTCM)/Master of Acupuncture (MAc) catalog was published on May 11, 2015, is effective through December 31, 2015, and is subject to change without notice.

Any changes and/or edits are reflected and published in a catalog addendum. The MTCM/MAc catalog is a publication of Five Branches University, Graduate School of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Santa Cruz and San Jose, California.



Above: **Five Branches students enjoying Santana Row**



Right: **Joanna Zhao teaching**

**Danling Zhang taking a patient's pulse**

