FIVE BRANCHES UNIVERSITY
Graduate School of Traditional Chinese Medicine

Acupuncture
Herbology
Dietetics
Massage
Energetics

CATALOG 2013–2014

Excellence in Education and Healthcare Since 1984
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 and safe medicine.

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 health-care 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
For over 28 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 MTMC 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 are descendants of famous Chinese herbalists, such as Dr. Jun Kam Pang. 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, Medical Qigong and Mind-Body medicine.

**Financial Aid Programs**

Five Branches University is an accredited institution of higher education approved to participate in federal financial aid programs for both the MTCM 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*
Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Program
Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine Theory
Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine Acupuncture
Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine Herbology
Department of Traditional Chinese Clinical Medicine
Department of Western Medicine
Department of TCM Clinical Training
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Two Campuses

Five Branches University opened its first campus and health center in Santa Cruz, California in 1984, offering Traditional Chinese Medicine education and healthcare to the residents of this thriving, coastal Northern California town. In 2005, our main objective for opening the San Jose campus, located in the heart of Silicon Valley, was twofold: to provide the best of Traditional Chinese Medicine education and healthcare to this growing high-tech area; and to have a campus located in close vicinity to important university medical programs and hospitals such as Stanford Medical School and Kaiser Hospital.

Eleven Programs

Five Branches University offers eleven programs related to Traditional Chinese and Integrative Medicine at its two California campuses:

Santa Cruz Campus
- Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (English)
- Asian Bodywork and Qigong Certification Programs (English)
- Asian Bodywork and Qigong Certification Programs (Chinese)

San Jose Campus
- Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (English)
- Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Chinese)
- Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Korean)
- Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (English)
- Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (Chinese)
- Asian Bodywork and Qigong Certification Programs (English)
- Asian Bodywork and Qigong Certification Programs (Chinese)
- Mind-Body Medicine Certification Programs

This catalog describes the Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (MTCM) program. The doctorate and certificate programs are described in separate publications.

Mission and Purpose

Five Branches University, Graduate School of Traditional Chinese Medicine, aims to set the standards for excellence in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) education and healthcare. Five Branches University is dedicated to:
- Provide the highest level of professional education in Traditional Chinese Medicine and integrative medicine in the U.S. and internationally.
- Develop highly-skilled TCM clinical practitioners, educators and researchers.
- Advance the practice of TCM as an independent medical modality through clinical practice, education and research.
- Encourage professional collaboration among TCM practitioners, faculty, patients, and other medical providers to transform the worldview of healthcare; to recognize TCM as a significant component of world medicine.
- Support an international and diverse cultural community by offering our programs in three languages, and providing students the opportunity to study abroad.
• Foster a professional environment for faculty, staff and students to promote academic excellence as well as personal growth and development.
• Provide exceptional TCM and integrative medicine patient care to the community through the Five Branches University health centers.
• Educate the general public about the significant benefits of TCM healthcare through continuing education programs and community lectures.

**Vision and Values**

Over the next 20 years, Five Branches University will evolve into an international university, teaching high-level TCM education in English, Chinese, and Korean and offering TCM healthcare in an integrative medicine environment throughout the U.S. and worldwide.

TCM philosophy views medicine as a compassionate response to human suffering. We will embrace this philosophy by encouraging supportive and humanistic academic and healthcare environments. Our faculty members will be chosen based not only on academic excellence but also on the passion they emanate while teaching and mentoring students. Our students will be chosen for academic competence as well as their compassion and commitment to serve others.

Four trends will influence our vision over the next 20 years:

An increasing number of patients will continue to seek highly qualified TCM practitioners as primary healthcare providers. TCM schools will continue to improve their programs to provide highly skilled TCM clinical practitioners to meet this growing demand.

TCM universities in China and medical experts in the U.S. will continue to collaborate and share their expertise in TCM and Western medicine, a vital component for the advanced development of TCM doctoral programs and research.

Scientists, researchers and medical institutions will continue to research the depth and efficacy of TCM, resulting in greater acceptance of Chinese medicine among medical professionals and medical schools in the U.S.

A greater demand for integrative healthcare will evolve as healthcare professionals join together to address the population's full health needs by educating one another about their work and collaborating to provide effective treatment, prevent disease and promote optimal well-being for patients.

**Center for International Medicine and Education**

After eighteen years of educational and medical relations with China, Five Branches University formally established its Center for International Medicine and Education. With a mission to promote cultural and professional exchange, the Center brings experts and students from the U.S. and China together to participate in international conferences and programs in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), integrative medicine, medical administration, and language.

The Center’s most continuous activity is its Study Abroad program which offers Five Branches students
and TCM practitioners the opportunity to travel to Asia to receive specialized TCM and integrative medicine training in an affiliated hospital and out-patient center at one of our five sister schools in China, Taiwan or Korea: Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, Liaoning University of TCM, Tianjin University of TCM, China Medical University, and Daejeon University. After training in the hospital, many participants make time to travel throughout China and Asia.

In April 2004, the Center for International Medicine and Education, in partnership with Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, hosted their first international conference, *Treating Difficult Cases with Integrated Medicine*. Six representatives from Five Branches University, including eminent doctors of both Western and Traditional Chinese Medicine, traveled to Hangzhou, China to present three research papers on TCM and integrative medicine.

The Center invited leading doctors from Stanford University and the University of California, San Francisco to attend the conference, along with other medical professionals from Europe and China.

Also in 2004, the Center, along with the Director of the Center for Education in Family and Community Medicine at Stanford University, organized a series of seminars on modern hospital administration. The seminars were presented to leaders of hospitals in Foshan, Chongqing and Shantou, China.

In Fall of 2008, Five Branches inaugurated two specialized medical centers: a Diabetes Center with Dr. Gan Ma of the Zhejiang Chinese Medical University Diabetes Center, and a Head Acupuncture Institute with Dr. Shunfa Jiao, the developer of Head Acupuncture in China.

From 2008 through 2012, the Center invited several renowned practitioners from China to teach in the Doctoral program and practice at the Five Branches health centers. Also in 2012, Five Branches, in partnership with Dr. Shi Xuemin, inaugurated the new Stroke and Rehabilitation Center at both of our campuses in Santa Cruz and San Jose, California.
A Growing Profession

Consumers are fueling the growth of alternative medicine. According to a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association released in December 2008, approximately 42% of Americans are spending more than 34 billion dollars on complementary and alternative therapies each year. The author of the study, Dr. David Eisenberg, Director of the Center for Alternative Medicine and Research at Beth Israel, and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, claims that, “One out of every two individuals between the ages of 30–55 use alternative therapies.” What this growing base of consumers seem to prefer is the safe, noninvasive nature of alternative therapies, the affordable cost of treatments, and the emphasis on preventing illness while maintaining optimal health.

Traditional Chinese Medicine has been the primary healthcare system for over 25 percent of the world’s population for decades, yet today it is the fastest growing form of alternative healthcare in the United States. In 2003, the World Health Organization (WHO) published findings stating that acupuncture can be effectively used to treat over 43 conditions. The prestigious Mayo Clinic uses acupuncture for a number of ailments, including pain management, drug addiction and anxiety relief. Insurance providers are taking note, providing improved coverage for alternative therapies, including chiropractic, massage and acupuncture.

According to the American Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, growth in the acupuncture profession has increased dramatically, providing graduates with a multitude of career opportunities around the world. TCM practitioners can choose to establish a private or group practice, work in an integrative medical center or hospital, or become involved in TCM education, publishing or research.

Currently, there are over 12,000 students enrolled in over 50 Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) colleges with more than 22,500 licensed acupuncturists now practicing throughout the United States. This is a growing profession!

The Five Branches of Traditional Chinese Medicine

Five Branches University derives its name from the five branches of Traditional Chinese Medicine that maintain and restore an individual’s harmony with nature: Acupuncture, Herbology, Massage (Tuina), Qigong (energetics and exercise), and Chinese Dietary Medicine.

I. Acupuncture uses very fine needles to regulate Qi (Yang) and Blood (Yin), produced by the internal organs, which flow in the regular channels and extra meridians that course throughout the body. According to TCM theory, all human physical disorders or diseases are related to the dysfunction of Qi and Blood. By inserting acupuncture needles in correct points, we tonify Qi and Blood deficiencies or invigorate their stagnation, resulting in improved mental and physical health.

II. Herbology is the preparation and use of plants and minerals as prescription medicine. Chinese herbology is found in many forms, including powder, pills, teas, and creams. These herbs treat disorders and diseases through internal or external absorption. Since Chinese herbs have different tastes, properties, natures and functions—and because they enter various channels—the herbs affect the flow of Qi and Blood, as well as the body’s balance of Yin and Yang.

III. Tuina Massage refers to the use of traditional Chinese massage to treat injuries of tendons and muscles, and organ disorders. Tuina applies pressure on the points, as well as applying specific movements along the meridians, to regulate and harmonize the flow of Qi and Blood.

IV. Energetics are exercises that heal through rhythmic breathing and body movements. Energetics includes internal healing arts, such as the Five-Animal Exercise developed by Hua Tuo, meditation, Medical Qigong, and various styles of Taijiquan, an internal martial art practiced worldwide.

V. Chinese Dietary Medicine is a highly effective method of self-treatment handed down in China over thousands of years. Like all agricultural societies, China understands the vital connection between food and health. Thus, TCM doctors prescribe energetically balanced diets to treat disharmonies in the Qi, Blood, and organ functions, using the energetic profile of foods.

TCM and Western medicine are both essential to the evolution of a future world medicine. At Five Branches, we believe TCM education provides a profound view of the human relationship to nature—a philosophical view at the heart of all great human civilizations. We wish to perpetuate this inherent TCM wisdom.
History of Five Branches

Five Branches University was founded on an auspicious day: February 4, 1984, on Chinese New Year in the Year of the Mouse, at the beginning of a 60-year cycle. We had one classroom, a clinic with three treatment rooms, five teachers, 18 dedicated students, one patient a day, and one typewriter. Today we have two campuses, 14 classrooms, 38 treatment rooms, 200 teachers, 450 dedicated students, 1500 alumni, and we see 160 patients a day. We have grown.

From the beginning, it was our intention to invite Traditional Chinese Medicine practitioners to the West, to teach and transmit their precious knowledge of Chinese medicine and to share their subtle yet powerful ways of practicing medicine. The history of Five Branches began when several of these extraordinary yet humble practitioners of TCM accepted our invitation.

The essence of our success has been the quality and dedication of our faculty/practitioners. Jeffrey Pang, L.Ac., Joanna Zhao, L.Ac., and Lucy Hu, L.Ac., have been with us for over 28 years. Today, our faculty number over 200 distinguished members.

The most meaningful events of our history, however, are the memories of the hug and warm smile a patient gives one of our faculty members when they meet outside the clinic, the practitioner who shares how Chinese medicine saved their patient’s life, and the heartfelt gratitude expressed by a graduate at their graduation for the gifts received from faculty during their time of study and training at Five Branches.

It is our comprehensive academic programs, the quality of teaching in both the classroom and clinic and the deep and sincere dedication of faculty, staff and students that have contributed significantly to the transmission of this incredible medicine into our communities and throughout the West.

History Highlights

1984–1988
Five Branches Institute is founded on February 4, 1984
Five Branches enrolls its first class of 18 students
Approved as degree-granting school by California Council of Education
Five Branches builds a modern seven-room clinic

1989–1993
The Five Element Acupuncture program is established
Five Branches students travel to China for the annual Study in China program
The Medical Qigong program is established

1994–1998
Five Branches Institute receives national accreditation
Five Branches expands the library, clinic and classrooms
Externship clinic program with community clinics is established

1999–2003
The Sports Medicine program is established
Five Branches expands clinic to 22 treatment rooms
Five Branches and Zhejiang College of TCM to develop joint Doctoral/Ph.D. program

2004–2008
Five Branches co-hosts the first International Conference on Integrated Medicine with Zhejiang Chinese Medical University in China
Five Branches establishes the San Jose campus, offering the TCM Master’s Degree
Stanford doctors and staff explore cooperative education with Five Branches
The Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine program is established
The Chinese TCM Master’s Degree program is established at the San Jose campus

2009–2012
Five Branches celebrates its 25 year anniversary
Korean Master’s in Oriental Medicine program is established
Five Branches students travel to Taiwan for the annual Study Abroad program
Five Branches receives the maximum of 7 years institutional and Master’s degree program re-accreditation
The DAOM program receives full accreditation
The Stroke and Rehabilitation Center is inaugurated
The Mind-Body Department is established
**Accreditation & Approvals**

**Institutional Accreditation**

Five Branches University is institutionally accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM), which is the recognized accrediting agency for freestanding institutions and colleges of acupuncture or Oriental medicine that offer such programs.

**Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM) Program Accreditation**

The Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine degree program of Five Branches University is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM), which is the recognized accrediting agency for programs preparing acupuncture and Oriental medicine practitioners.

**Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (MTCM) Program Accreditation**

The Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine degree program of Five Branches University is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM), which is the recognized accrediting agency for programs preparing acupuncture and Oriental medicine practitioners.

ACAOM is located at 14502 Greenview Drive, Suite 300B, Laurel, MD 20708; telephone (301) 313-0855; fax (301) 313-0912; website www.acaom.org.

**National and State Approvals**

Five Branches University is recognized, approved by, or is a member of the following national and state associations:

- National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM)
- Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (CCAOM)
- Title IV Federal Student Financial Aid Program, U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security approval for foreign students
- Veterans Education, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- California State Acupuncture Board, California State Department of Consumer Affairs
- Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, California State Department of Consumer Affairs, www.bppe.ca.gov.

**Board of Directors**

**Board Chair:** Angela Tu, L.Ac.
TCM Practitioner, Walnut Creek, California
President, National Federation of Traditional Chinese Medicine Organizations, USA
Ex-commissioner of: Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine; California Acupuncture Board; National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

**Secretary:** John K. Liu
Counsel, Lowenstein Sandler LLP, Palo Alto, California

**Treasurer:** Lar Short
Director, Grace Essence Mandala, Taos, New Mexico

**Ron Zaidman, M.B.A., M.T.C.M., Doctoral Fellow**
President and CEO, Co-founder of Five Branches University

**Joanna Zhao, L.Ac., Doctoral Fellow**
Vice-President Academic and Clinic Affairs, Co-founder of Five Branches University

**Steven Vaccaro**
Entrepreneur, Toronto, Canada

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Photo: Joanna Zhao and Ron Zaidman, co-founders of Five Branches University
Santa Cruz

Whose face doesn’t light up when you mention Santa Cruz, California? At the top of the Monterey Bay crescent, Santa Cruz shines like an emerald between warm beaches and cool redwood forests. With a population that barely tops 54,000, Santa Cruz belies her small town size with big personality and endless possibilities for recreation and entertainment. Home to the University of California (UCSC) and Cabrillo College, Santa Cruz has a vibrant youth culture that keeps the community unique and up to date while still retaining a warm neighborhood feel.

Outdoors

If you love fresh sea air, surf and the great outdoors, you have come to the right place. Blessed with mild weather and a gorgeous coastline, Santa Cruz has lured surfers, boaters, hikers and bikers for decades. Bursting at the seams with parks, beaches and open spaces, Santa Cruz County is one of the most beautiful places to find yourself outside.

Food and Local Agriculture

One of the five branches of Chinese medicine is nutrition, and Santa Cruz makes it easy for you to find fresh, wholesome, local food at many restaurants, cafes and health food markets. Nearby farms are represented at several farmers’ markets located throughout the city, featuring fresh organic fruits and vegetables, locally caught seafood, artisan cheeses, fresh flowers and more.

Arts and Entertainment

The creative denizens of Santa Cruz have made sure your experience here is steeped in art of every persuasion. Museums, art galleries, theater and dance troupes will keep your cultural calendar overflowing with options. Look forward to music every night of the week, thanks to a thriving local music scene. Downtown hosts a lively shopping district with bookstores, boutiques, restaurants and movie theaters catering to locals and visitors alike. The historic Santa Cruz beach boardwalk, home of the world famous Big Dipper roller coaster, is a seaside amusement park that has been a family destination for over 100 years.
San Jose

In the heart of Silicon Valley, the mecca of high tech, San Jose is the largest city in Northern California. Attracted by mild Mediterranean weather and high wages, people from around the world have made their home in San Jose, creating the most ethnically diverse city in the nation. Add a low crime rate and a spacious, wide open feeling and you have one of the most livable, family-friendly locations in the west. The San Jose International Airport makes travel easy and proximity to San Francisco, Santa Cruz, and the wine country provide day trip destination getaways.

Arts and Culture

Thanks to a special city ordinance, public art is on the rise in San Jose and many pieces can be seen throughout the city in parks and downtown areas. The celebration of art and culture continues with many community events, performance companies, galleries and museums, including the renowned contemporary San Jose Museum of Art. One of the busiest venues in the world, the HP Pavilion hosts major musical acts, sporting events and conferences. The cosmopolitan Santana Row district combines shopping, dining, living and relaxing all in a beautiful tree-lined atmosphere.

Outdoors and Athletics

With 300 days of sunshine per year, you can imagine San Joseans take good advantage of their parks and open spaces. Many walking and biking trails within the city limits provide glimpses of nature during your green commute. Local sport fans are proud of their NHL hockey team the San Jose Sharks, as well as the major soccer league team the San Jose Earthquakes. These pro games are events you won’t want to miss.

Food and Local Agriculture

Once known more for apricots, plums and grapes than silicon, the fertile Santa Clara valley supplies a rich harvest of produce that can be seen on display at many area farmers’ markets. As one of the oldest wine producing regions in California, Santa Clara valley has many wineries offering tours and tastings daily. Replete with international cuisine and fine restaurants, the quality and variety of dining experiences in San Jose are something to savor.
The university provides a wide array of services to make your experience at Five Branches both rewarding and successful. Our student services include:

- Academic Advising
- Registration
- Mentor Program
- Health Services
- Library
- Communications
- Student Council
- Online Bookstore
- Externships
- Student Employment
- Career Development
- Alumni Association

**Academic Advising**
The university administration offers academic advising to assist you in the planning and completion of your degree requirements. From first semester through graduation and beyond, the administrative team will support you to complete your Master’s degree, to become a nationally certified and licensed TCM practitioner, in your advanced studies as a Doctoral or PhD student, and as an alumnus of Five Branches University.

**Registration**
The registrar’s office ensures that determining your class schedule and registering for classes flows smoothly. During registration you may enroll in specialized elective courses, review the dates for our annual Study Abroad program, and receive updates regarding changes in programs, campus facilities and support services.

**Mentor Program**
The administration and student council coordinate a mentoring program for students who need additional guidance to complete their course work, and for students who enjoy teaching as a way of learning.

**Health Services**
The Five Branches Health Centers are a flourishing environment for both student education and quality healthcare. As a prospective student, you may receive a free acupuncture treatment during your tour of the campus. Enrolled students receive healthcare services at the clinic with significant discounts.

**Library**
The Santa Cruz and San Jose library collections contain a broad selection of over 6,000 books and 40 journals on Traditional Chinese Medicine, Western medicine, and related topics. The collection includes texts and journals in Chinese and Korean. The library has a modern web-based site detailing its holdings, offering extensive guidelines for research, and a wide variety of medical software and TCM study and testing programs. The library provides wireless internet, copy and laser print services, and a professional librarian and staff to assist you. Library hours include evenings and weekends.

**Communications**
The University maintains internet and data platforms to facilitate effective administration, student and alumni interaction. Communications include direct email, the university’s web and blog sites, and the Five Branches email and forum platform.
**Student Council**
The Student Council plays many roles, from sending representatives to the National AAAOM meetings, to inviting eminent TCM lecturers to speak on campus. The Council, made up of representatives from each class, meets regularly with the administration, faculty and the board, playing a vital role in enhancing the further development and growth of the university and its students.

**Online Bookstore**
Order new or used books required for your upcoming courses online or by phone through MBS Direct Textbooks. At the end of the term, MBS Direct will buy back your textbooks for up to 40% of the retail price.

**Externships**
Community externships offer you the valuable opportunity to network with experienced practitioners and gain clinical experience in a broad range of settings. Externship opportunities include working with senior citizens, veterans of war, mental health patients, those struggling with substance abuse, and treating individuals in a community clinic setting. The annual Study Abroad program is a coveted international externship, allowing you to travel to Asia to gain clinical experience at leading hospitals in China, Taiwan, and Korea.

**Student Employment**
Students who qualify for need-based financial aid are eligible to earn money through the Federal Work Study program. Eligibility is awarded on the basis of financial need and is earned money that does not have to be repaid.

**Career Development**
The university offers on-going courses in practice management and marketing to assist you in your development as a successful TCM practitioner. You can refine your presentation skills by giving TCM lectures at universities, participating in annual health fairs, and speaking at public events. Five Branches supports the alumni association and promotes the exchange of ideas to foster professional development. Graduates are invited to share their expertise with students during on-campus lectures. Professional vacancies in the field of acupuncture and TCM are posted regularly on the Five Branches website, www.fivenranches.edu, under Career Opportunities.

**Alumni Association**
The nascent Alumni Association connects graduates to each other and to the university, on both social and professional levels. Continuing education courses and social events invite graduates to return to the university and meet with faculty, other alumni, and students. Graduates play an important role in the definition of our successful doctoral program and continue to play valuable roles in the profession.

"My education at Five Branches University provided me with a solid TCM foundation that I rely on in my practice. I was taught to be creative and flexible and to collaborate for success. It never fails me to mimic my teachers’ approach and treatment styles. I credit my growth as a practitioner to the high level of skill and analytical thinking that was provided by my clinical, theory and Qigong teachers.

Marcia Male Wilson  
Acupuncture & Healing Arts Center  
Wilson, Wyoming"
On Campus

The Santa Cruz Campus
Located along California’s scenic Central Coast, renowned for its beautiful beaches and redwood forests, Santa Cruz has the cosmopolitan appeal of a college town combined with the ambiance of a small coastal California city. Our Santa Cruz campus is located in a beautiful residential community one block from the beach on the Monterey Bay and close to the Santa Cruz Yacht Harbor. At the heart of the campus is the Five Branches health center which has provided exceptional healthcare to patients for over 28 years.

The San Jose Campus
In the heart of Silicon Valley, our San Jose campus is part of a contemporary, high-tech metropolis, home to major players in the world of technology including Google, eBay, Twitter and Facebook. The San Jose campus resides in a modern high-rise office building, a short commute from San Francisco and the beaches of Monterey Bay, and within walking distance of the prestigious Santana Row. A welcoming courtyard leads you to the entrance of both the health center and the University, where our English, Chinese and Korean Master’s programs and our prestigious Doctoral program reside.

Here is a list of amenities our campuses have to offer:

Health Center
Patients await their treatments in a beautifully designed reception area, while practitioners treat over 160 patients each day in our busy health centers. With a combined 38 treatment rooms, herbal pharmacies containing over 500 medicinal products, and expert patient care and clinical instruction, our health centers are the ideal place to gain experience in a clinical environment and to learn how to provide exceptional healthcare to your patients.

Herb Room
The herb room is a fragrant experience. Walls lined with wooden drawers full of Chinese herbs emanate earthy aromas, as practitioners prepare herbal remedies for their patients in the traditional way. In the herb room you will meet with practitioners to learn first-hand how to use herbal medicines to effectively treat your patients.

Classrooms
Spacious classrooms and small class sizes provide the optimal environment for dynamic discussion and meaningful teacher-student interaction. Classrooms may be used for continuing education seminars, workshops, and special presentations in fields related to Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Student Lounge
A place to rest, nourish yourself and socialize, the student lounge is fitted with comfortable seating, tables for study, a kitchen to prepare meals, wireless internet, and a bulletin board to check out current campus events.

Library
For students working on patient cases or preparing for exams, the library is a quiet haven for research and study. Our libraries are the information conduits of our campuses, providing an expansive collection of books, journals, research materials and study programs—in print and online—to support and enhance your TCM education.
Administrative Offices
The open, friendly and accessible administrative team considers students their top priority. Whether you need assistance to plan your class schedule, secure financial aid or to voice your concerns, our administrative staff is available to assist you.

Conference Rooms
Students, faculty and staff may reserve the conference rooms for confidential consultations and meetings.

Parking
Both of our campuses have free, ample parking to accommodate the needs of students that commute.

Local Favorites
At the Santa Cruz campus, one block from the beach, lunch breaks on the ocean are a favorite pastime. Enjoy one of the many restaurants within walking distance, pick up food at a local natural food store and have a picnic on the beach, or venture over to the neighborhood park, a great place to sit and enjoy the sunshine.

The San Jose campus has a bountiful supply of restaurant choices. Located within walking distance, Santana Row offers food from around the globe. Designed after the gracious shopping experiences in Europe, Santana Row offers students outdoor cafes, tree-lined walks, the latest fashions, and great people-watching.

Transportation
Transporting yourself to the Santa Cruz campus is easy with two designated free parking areas, numerous bike racks, and a bus stop directly in front of the student lounge. To obtain information on the bus routes in the Santa Cruz area, go to http://www.scmtd.com.

The San Jose campus is conveniently located at the major freeway intersection of Highway 280 and Highway 880, making your commute to and from school a breeze. To obtain information on public transportation in the San Jose area, go to www.511.org.

Housing
Students in need of housing should arrive in Santa Cruz or San Jose six weeks before the beginning of the semester. The distance between the two campuses is 35 miles. While it is possible to commute, students may wish to find housing closer to their home campus. The Five Branches website, www.fivebranches.edu, provides a list of resources to aid you in your housing search.
Just as the 

Qi, or vital life energy, animates our bodies, it is the Five Branches faculty that breathes life into the curriculum.

The Five Branches faculty has been carefully selected from the many experienced Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) teachers and Western medicine teachers in the United States and China. Many of our faculty are descended from a lineage of TCM masters in China and have over 40 years experience practicing and teaching TCM. Many have trained in China’s most prestigious TCM universities and hospitals, such as Shanghai University of TCM, Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, Guangzhou Sun Yat Sen Medical University, Liaoning University of TCM, Fujian University of TCM, and Zhejiang Chinese Medical University. Our faculty includes seasoned medical doctors who teach academic and clinical Western Medicine courses. All of our instructors are fluent in English and are experienced and successful, teacher-practitioners. The Chinese and Korean Master’s program faculty are fluent in their respective languages.

As a student of Five Branches you will learn from highly skilled and experienced teachers who bring a strong foundation of both Chinese and Western medicine into the classroom. You will have the opportunity to absorb their wisdom through direct teaching, and to observe the intangible qualities of compassion and caring in their interactions with patients. You will experience faculty who are passionate about Chinese medicine, interested in achieving academic excellence, and who are eager to assist you with your personal growth and success as a TCM practitioner.

The Five Branches faculty is a dedicated community of practitioners, teachers, international lecturers and published authors whose exceptional qualities are reflected in the skill and confidence of Five Branches graduates and in the school’s 28 year history of academic and clinical excellence.
The Five Branches University Department Chairs are highly knowledgeable and experienced practitioners and teachers who work together to develop and maintain a comprehensive Master’s degree program based on the authentic principles of TCM and the fundamentals of Western Medicine.

**Jeffrey Pang**  
L.Ac., M.D. (China)  
Senior Professor  
Faculty Since 1984

Department Chair, TCM Theory  
Department Chair, TCM Herbsology  
M.D., Sun Yat Sen University of Medical Sciences, China  
Contract Acupuncturist, Kaiser Hospital, Santa Teresa Pain Management Center  

Professor Pang teaches in the Departments of TCM Theory, TCM Herbsology, TCM Clinical Medicine and TCM Clinical Training and is a faculty member of the Five Branches DAOM program.

**Lucy Hu**  
L.Ac., Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM), M.D. (China)  
Senior Professor  
Faculty Since 1989

Department Chair, Pediatrics  
M.D., Shenyang University, China  
Instructor, Dalian Medical College  
Graduate, Acupuncture Medical Institute, Hong Kong  

Professor Hu teaches in the Departments of TCM Clinical Medicine and TCM Clinical Training and is a faculty member of the Five Branches DAOM program.

**Joanna Zhao**  
L.Ac., Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM), M.D. (China), DAOM Fellow  
Senior Professor  
Faculty Since 1984

Academic Dean  
Clinic Director  
Department Chair, TCM Clinical Medicine  
Department Chair, TCM Clinical Training  
B.S., Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China  
DAOM Fellow, Five Branches University  

Professor Zhao teaches in the Departments of TCM Acupuncture and TCM Herbsology and is a faculty member of the Five Branches DAOM program.

**Alan S. Wong**  
M.D.  
Senior Professor  
Faculty Since 2000

Department Chair, Western Medicine  
M.D., Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York  
Residency, Stanford University/Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, Santa Clara, California  
Principle physician, Lockheed Missiles and Space Corporation  
Medical Acupuncture Training, UCLA  

Dr. Wong teaches in the Department of Western Medicine and is a faculty member of the Five Branches DAOM program.
Gary Dolowich
M.D., L.Ac., BAc. (UK), Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM)
■ Professor
Faculty Since 1997

Department Co-Chair, Five Element Specialty
M.D., University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
B.Ac. (UK), College of Traditional Chinese Acupuncture, England
B.A., Psychology, Brooklyn College, New York
Faculty, Academy for Five Element Acupuncture, Florida
Co-author; Ancient Roots, Many Branches: Energetics of Healing Across Cultures and Through Time
Author; Archetypal Acupuncture: Healing with the Five Elements

Dr. Dolowich teaches in the Departments of TCM Theory and TCM Clinical Training and is a faculty member of the Five Branches DAOM program.

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R.N., L.Ac., M.Ac., Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM)
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Faculty Since 1997

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R.N., College of the Redwoods, Eureka, California
M.Ac., Santa Barbara College of Oriental Medicine, California

Professor Huse teaches in the Departments of TCM Theory and TCM Clinical Training.

Sally Lewis
L.Ac., Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM), DAOM
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Faculty Since 2000

Director of Clinic Quality Control
MTCM, DAOM, Five Branches University
B.A., Anthropology, Lake Forest College, Illinois

Dr. Lewis teaches in the Department of TCM Clinical Training.

Julie Wenying Zhu
L.Ac., M.D. (China)
■ Professor
Faculty Since 2005

Department Chair, TCM Acupuncture
M.D., Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Pharmacology, China

Professor Zhu teaches in the Departments of TCM Acupuncture and TCM Clinical Training.

Christine Klein
L.Ac., DAOM
■ Professor
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Department Chair, Complementary Studies
MTCM, DAOM, Five Branches University
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M.S.  
■ Professor  
Faculty Since 2002  
Complementary Studies

M.S., Management and Administration, Pepperdine University  
Editor, Acupuncture Today  
Consultant, California State Board of Acupuncture  
Co-author, Points for Profit, The Essential Guide to Practice Success for Acupuncturists

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TCM Herbology

MKOM, Dongshin University, South Korea  
BKOM, Wongkang University, South Korea

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Kevin Zhu teaching in San Jose classroom
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MTCM, Five Branches University
B.A., Journalism, Wesleyan University
Advanced Training, Foundation for Shamanic Studies and Institute for Transpersonal Psychology

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Western Medicine studies, First Medical School, Czech Republic
MAcOM, Oregon College of Oriental Medicine

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   Faculty Since 2008
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M.S., Public Health, San Jose State

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B.A., Commercial Art, University of Nevada

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MTCM, Five Branches University
Advanced clinical internships in Hangzhou, Shanghai, Chengdu, Beijing, China

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  Review and Assessment

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Ph.D., Oriental Medicine Research Advancement, American Global University, California  
OMD, MTCM, South Baylo University, California  
M.S., TCM Academy of Chinese Culture and Health Sciences, California  
M.S., Electrical Engineering, Santa Clara University, California  
M.S., Physics, University of Texas, Dallas

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  TCM Acupuncture

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Chris Ells  
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  TCM Clinical Training  
  Complementary Studies  

MTCM, DAOM, Five Branches University  
Lecturer in Western Europe and the U.S. on Yin Tuina and treatment of Parkinson’s

Francesca Ferrari  
practicing Qigong
The instructors at Five Branches taught me to listen to patients and to practice hands-on medicine, something I had forgotten how to do. Moreover, they were the most approachable, selfless, kind-hearted and dedicated people I will probably ever come across. Chinese medicine has given me exactly what Western medicine did not—an awareness of the whole patient: body, mind and spirit—and its importance in maintaining health and curing disease.

Chris Rasmussen, M.D., Alumnus
Philip Garrison  
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TCM Herbology

DAOM Candidate, Pacific College of Oriental Medicine, California  
Advanced Medical Qigong Training, International Institute of Medical Qigong, California  
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Qualified Medical Evaluator, State of California  
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Joanna Zhao
teaching a class in the 1980s
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MSOM, Dongguk Royal University, California  
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MSOM, Samra University, California  
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CMT, De Anza Community College, California
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Advanced Medical Qigong training, Henan University of TCM, China

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- Faculty Since 2007
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MTCM, Five Branches University

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- Professor
- Faculty Since 2009
- Western Medicine

M.D., Peking University School of Medicine, China
Ph.D., Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston

**Nancy Lowe**
- L.Ac., Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM), DAOM
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MTCM, DAOM, Five Branches University

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M.S., The Academy of Chinese Medicine and Cultural Sciences
Intern, Shu Guan Hospital, Shanghai, China
Faculty, Emperor’s College of Traditional Oriental Medicine, Santa Monica, California
B.S., Business, San Francisco State University, California

**Yong Li**
- M.D. (China), M.P.H., Ph.D.
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M.D., Shanxi Medical University, Peoples Republic, China
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**Tala Lindaro**
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- TCM Theory
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Five Element training, Traditional Acupuncture Institute, Columbia, Maryland
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MTCM, Five Branches University
Undergraduate degree, Ohio State University
Law degree, Capital University, Ohio
Raqib Lynn-Katz  
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  Fulfillment:  
  Five Branches University  
  Instructor, K’an Herbs  

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  M.A., Anthropology, Northern Arizona University  

Jill Marino  
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  Certificate, Acupressure, Berkeley Acupressure Institute, California  
  B.F.A., Southern Oregon University, Oregon  

Sifu Jaime E. Marquez  
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  Complementary Studies  
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  DAOM Fellow, Five Branches University  
  MTCM, Five Branches University  
  CTPT, California Certified Traditional Physical Therapist  
  President, San Francisco City College Martial Arts Program  
  Member, Santa Cruz Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Commission  

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  TCM Clinical Training  
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  B.S. Kinesiology, San Jose State University, California  

Stephanie He and student in clinical training
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QME, State of California
DNBAO, National Board of Acupuncture Orthopedics

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M.D., China Medical University, Taiwan

Byung-Gook Park
M.D. (South Korea), Ph.D
■ Professor
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Western Medicine
M.D., Choong Ang University, School of Medicine, Seoul, Korea
Diplomate of American Academy of Family Practice
Residency, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, Pennsylvania
Ph.D., Gastroenterology, Choong Ang University, School of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

Heerei Park
R.N., L.Ac., DAOM
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TCM Clinical Training
Western Medicine
Director, Korean Program
MTCM, DAOM, Five Branches University
Nursing, Cabrillo College, California
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Wayne Peng
■ Professor
Faculty Since 2009
Complementary Studies
12th general successor of Zhao Bao Tai Chi lineage, 36 years
Chairman, USA Tai Chi Culture Association
Chairman, Tai Chi Association of International Wushu San Shou Dao
2010, World Taijiquan Promoting Ambassador
2008, Contemporary Chinese Kung Fu Master Award
Kate Perkins
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TCM Theory
TCM Clinical Training

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TCM Theory
Western Medicine

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■ Instructor
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TCM Clinical Training

Laury Rappaport
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MTCM, Five Branches University
B.A., Creative Writing, San Francisco State University, California
Five Element training, Khosrow Khalighi, San Francisco, California

Ph.D., Oriental Medicine, American Global University
M.D., Harbin Medical University, China
Published 110 medical research papers in China and U.S.
Published seven medical books in China

M.B.A., University of Michigan
B.Mus.A., University of Michigan

MTCM, Five Branches University
Medical Qigong training, International Institute of Medical Qigong, California

Ph.D., Union Institute and University, Ohio
M.Ed., Lesley University, Massachusetts
MFT, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
Board Certified Registered Art Therapist (ATR-BC)
Registered Expressive Arts Therapist (REAT)
Author: Focusing-Oriented Art Therapy: Accessing the Body’s Wisdom and Creative Intelligence

MTCM, Five Branches University
CPCC, Coaches Training Institute
M.B.A., University of Michigan

Darren Huckle and students in the herb room
Fa Jun
Christopher Real

CMT

Instructor
Faculty Since 2009

Complementary Studies

Medical Qigong Training, International Institute of Medical Qigong, California
Associate Instructor Certificate, Universal Healing Tao, Massachusetts
Qigong and Tai Chi Instructor Certificate, Lohan School of Shaolin, Nevada
Asian Massage and Bodywork Certificate, Boston Shiatsu School and Charles River Shiatsu School, Massachusetts

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TCM Acupuncture

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Faculty Since 1997

TCM Theory
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Faculty, American School of Botanical Medicine, Santa Cruz, California
Member, Board of Trustees, American Herbal Products Association

Trevor Roberti

Ph.D.

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Western Medicine

Ph.D., Physical Chemistry (Molecular Physics), University of California, Santa Cruz
B.S., Chemistry, California State Long Beach

George Samuel

L.Ac.

Assistant Professor
Faculty Since 2007

TCM Clinical Medicine

MTCM, Five Branches University
B.A., Environmental Studies and Economics, University of California, Santa Cruz

Eleonor Seiff-Mendelson

L.Ac., B.Pt. (Israel), DAOM

Assistant Professor
Faculty Since 2004

TCM Acupuncture

MTCM, DAOM, Five Branches University
Admissions Director, Five Branches University
B.Pt., Tel Aviv University, Shiba Hospital, Israel
Carma Shen  
L.Ac., Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM), DAOM Fellow  
- Instructor  
  Faculty Since 2012  
  TCM Acupuncture  
  TCM Clinical Medicine  
DAOM Fellow, Five Branches University  
MBA, University of Toledo, Ohio  
Bachelor, Beijing University of TCM, China

Chris Shin  
D.C., L.Ac., QME, IME  
- Instructor  
  Faculty Since 2009  
  TCM Clinical Medicine  
D.C., Palmer College of Chiropractic West, California  
MSTCM, Academy of Chinese Culture and Health Sciences, California  
Qualified Medical Evaluator, State of California  
Independent Medical Examiner, Insurance Company Auditor

Susanna Xiaofen Shen  
L.Ac., M.D. (China), DAOM Fellow  
- Professor  
  Faculty Since 1995  
  TCM Herbology  
  TCM Clinical Training  
DAOM Fellow, Five Branches University  
M.D., Fujian University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China  
Faculty, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, California

Hye Kyung Kay Shin  
L.Ac., Dipl.OM. (NCCAOM),  
- Instructor  
  Faculty Since 2011  
  TCM Theory  
MTCM, Five Branches University  
B.A., Math Education, Sung Kyun Kwan University, South Korea

Sally Sheriff  
L.Ac., DAOM Fellow  
- Assistant Professor  
  Faculty Since 2008  
  TCM Clinical Medicine  
  TCM Clinical Training  
MTCM, DAOM Fellow, Five Branches University  
B.A., Magna Cum Laude, Chinese Language and Culture, San Francisco State University, California

Lucy Hu teaching clinical theater in San Jose
Po-Lin Shyu
L.Ac., Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM), M.D. (China)
■ Professor
Facility Since 2004
TCM Acupuncture
TCM Clinical Training

M.S., Academy of Chinese Cultural and Health Science
Intern, Shu Guan Hospital, Shanghai, China
Pre-physical Therapy degree, San Francisco State University, California

Anthony Su
Ph.D., M.D. (China)
■ Professor
Facility Since 2002
Western Medicine
M.D., Fourth Military Medical University, Xi’an, China
Ph.D., Royal Postgraduate Medical School, University of London, England

Judith Tognetti
L.Ac., DAOM
■ Instructor
Facility Since 2010
TCM Clinical Medicine
TCM Clinical Training

MTCM, DAOM, Five Branches University

Charles Rudolph Singer
R.N., L.Ac., M.Ac., DNBAO
■ Professor
Facility Since 1989
TCM Theory

Masters in Acupuncture, Traditional Acupuncture Institute (TAI Sophia), Laurel, Maryland
Rehabilitation Nursing, Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Hospital, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Critical Care Specialty Studies, Cabrillo College, Monterey Community College
Critical Care RN (ICU), Dominican Hospital, Santa Cruz
Board Certified, Orthopedic Acupuncture
Member, Monterey Bay Pain Clinic

Phu Tran
L.Ac., D.C.
■ Associate Professor
Facility Since 2006
TCM Acupuncture
TCM Clinical Training

Doctor of Chiropractic, Life West Chiropractic College, California
MTCM, Five Branches University

Shawn Smolinski
L.Ac.
■ Instructor
Facility Since 2012
TCM Acupuncture
TCM Clinical Training

MTCM, Five Branches University
Graduate, Six Harmonies Tuina Apprenticeship Program

Jacquelyn Van Deusen-Byrd
L.Ac., Dipl. O.M. (NCCAOM)
■ Instructor
Facility Since 2011
TCM Herbology

MTCM, Five Branches University
Anthony Von der Muhll
L.Ac., DNBAO
- Assistant Professor
  Faculty Since 2003
- TCM Acupuncture
- TCM Clinical Training

Douglas Yi Wang
L.Ac., Dipl.Ac. (NCCAOM), M.D. (China), DAOM Fellow
- Professor
  Faculty Since 2004
- TCM Herbsology
- TCM Clinical Medicine
- TCM Clinical Training
- DAOM Program

M.D., Qinghai University Medical School, China
DAOM Fellow, Five Branches University
MSTCM, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, California
Neuro-Psychiatrist, International Psychiatrist Training Center, China
Assistant Dean of Academic Studies, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, California

Therese Walsh-Van Keuren
L.Ac., Ph.D.
- Instructor
  Faculty Since 2009
- TCM Clinical Training

Jay Wang
L.Ac., M.D. (China)
- Professor
  Faculty Since 2001
- TCM Herbsology
- TCM Clinical Medicine
- TCM Clinical Training

M.D., Huiyang Traditional Chinese Medicine School, China
Bachelor of Medical Science, Guangzhou Medical College, China
Advanced training, TCM Cardiology, Guangdong College of Medicine and Pharmacy, China
Graduate, Clinical Pharmacy, University of Pacific, California
MTCM, South Baylo University, California

Janice Walton-Hadlock
L.Ac., DAOM
- Professor
  Faculty Since 1999
- TCM Clinical Training

Jaime Marquez
Teaching Taijiquan

MTCM, DAOM, Five Branches University
B.A. Biology, University of California, Santa Cruz
Founder, Parkinson’s Recovery Project
Author, Trouble Afoot, Medications of Parkinson’s or Once upon a Pill, Tracking the Dragon, Yin Tui Na: Techniques for Treating Dissociated Injuries
**Etta Wong**  
L.Ac.  
- Instructor  
- Faculty Since 2010  
- TCM Acupuncture  
- Review and Assessment  

MTCM, Five Branches University  
B.S., BioChemistry, University of California, Davis

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**Stephen Woodley**  
L.Ac.  
- Professor  
- Faculty Since 2006  
- TCM Herbology  
- TCM Clinical Medicine  
- TCM Clinical Training  

M.S., Academy of Chinese Culture and Health Sciences, California

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**Peter H.Y. Yang**  
M.A., B.A.  
- Professor  
- Faculty Since 2002  
- TCM Theory  

M.A., Sociology, Beijing Foreign Studies University, China  
American Social Studies, University of Kansas  
B.A., Beijing Foreign Languages Institute, China  
Professor of English and Chinese, Beijing Foreign Languages Institute, China  
Professor, University of Kansas, Chinese Language, Chinese Cultural Traditions, Eastern Civilization  
Adjunct Professor, Myotherapy Institute, Chinese Breathing Exercises, Acupressure

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**Danling Zhang**  
L.Ac., M.D. (China), DAOM  
- Professor  
- Faculty Since 2002  
- TCM Acupuncture  
- TCM Clinical Training  

M.D., Liaoning University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China  
DAOM, Five Branches University  
Physician, Instructor, Liaoning University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China  
Two year residency, Dandong Women’s and Children’s Hospital, China

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**Kevin Yan Zhong Zhu**  
L.Ac., M.D. (China), DAOM Fellow  
- Professor  
- Faculty Since 2001  
- TCM Acupuncture  
- TCM Clinical Medicine  
- TCM Clinical Training  

M.D., Beijing University of Chinese Medicine and Pharmacology, China  
DAOM Fellow, Five Branches University  
Physician-in-Charge, Beijing First Teaching Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine  
Chief Secretary, National Academic Symposium  
Developer, Acupuncture and Herb Treatment Software, Qinghua University, China  
Faculty, Texas College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, California
I am constantly amazed at the knowledge and experience of my professors. They've healed thousands of people, and yet they are so humble. For them, this medicine seems to be a joy and a life calling, rather than a job.

Cat Dowd, Student
Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine Program

The Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (MTCM) program is a four-year graduate professional degree program comprising 3208 hours in length and a total of 170.5 units. The program, taught on a semester basis, is presented in English at our Santa Cruz campus, and in English, Chinese and Korean at our San Jose campus. The English and Chinese Master’s are available in daytime programs while the Korean Master’s program is offered in the evenings and on Saturdays. You can obtain a Master’s degree in four years or enroll in classes during the summer term to accelerate the program and finish your degree early. Enrollment on a part-time basis is available based on consideration and approval by the Academic Dean and Admissions Director.

Program Overview

Taught by highly accomplished faculty in TCM education, the curriculum is offered through eight academic and clinical departments, providing comprehensive instruction and practical clinical experience in the “five branches” of traditional Chinese medicine (Acupuncture, Herbology, Tuina Massage, Energetics and Chinese Dietary Medicine). The program emphasizes extensive clinical training, integrative Western medicine, and the latest TCM research.

TCM Theory

The TCM Theory curriculum provides you with a thorough knowledge of the language and theories of TCM’s unique, yet universal, approach to understanding health and the treatment of disease. Drawing from both classical and modern texts, the curriculum creates a solid framework for the application of clinical methods, including acupuncture and herbology.

TCM Acupuncture

The TCM Acupuncture curriculum is divided into didactic and lab sections, emphasizing both the theoretical and practical aspects of acupuncture. TCM Acupuncture courses provide you with a thorough knowledge of traditional and modern meridian theory, including point location, functions, indications and treatment planning. The curriculum includes comprehensive training in moxibustion, cupping, Guasha, and electrical stimulation. Clinical labs concentrate on accuracy, needling methods, technique and precautions.

Intern practicing acupuncture in the Five Branches clinic
Our Western medicine department is enhanced by our educational and clinical relationship with Stanford University and the doctoral residency program we have with Stanford and O’Connor hospitals. These professional relationships not only benefit you as a student but also contribute to a better understanding and acceptance of TCM in the West.

**TCM Clinical Training**

In-depth clinical training comprises approximately one-third of the Master’s curriculum, preparing you to practice the theoretical knowledge you gained in the classroom. Throughout the program, starting in your first semester, you will observe a faculty-practitioner diagnosing and treating patients. In your last year, you will diagnose and treat patients with acupuncture, Chinese herbs and other methods of the five branches, under the direct supervision of a faculty member. The Five Branches medical centers in Santa Cruz and San Jose assist over 160 patients a day, allowing you to work with highly skilled faculty in a busy clinical environment and to gain hands-on experience with patients. By the end of clinical training, you will have performed at least 350 patient treatments, a basic requirement for graduation.

**TCM Herbology**

Chinese herbology is the world’s most sophisticated medical herbal system. The TCM Herbology curriculum includes extensive training in the identification, categorization and clinical use of the traditional Chinese herbal pharmacopoeia. Six semesters of in-depth herbology study provide you with a solid working knowledge of more than 500 individual herbs and 350 classical and modern formulas. Advanced courses instruct you how to modify and enhance classical formulas in response to specific variants in a patient’s diagnosed condition. All herb courses are taught using the Pinyin names of herbs.

**TCM Clinical Medicine**

The courses in TCM Theory, Acupuncture and Herbology teach you the basic principles of Chinese medicine pattern differentiation and treatment, including the study of common functions and indications of herbs, formulas and acupuncture points. However, this knowledge alone is not enough to fully diagnose and treat disease. The TCM Clinical Medicine curriculum expands on this knowledge, providing you with advanced skills in diagnosing and treating disease in the specialized fields of TCM internal medicine, external medicine, gynecology, pediatrics, traumatology, and orthopedics. Training includes detailed instruction of herbal and acupuncture treatment plans for both common and complex diseases. These courses lay the foundation for your clinical practice.

**Western Medicine**

Modern practitioners of TCM must have a fundamental understanding of Western medicine to effectively communicate with medical doctors and other healthcare professionals. Western Medicine studies are an integral part of the curriculum providing knowledge of Western diagnosis and pharmaceuticals, necessary to make appropriate referrals and to provide the best care possible for your patients. Introduced to the basic methods of Western diagnosis, you will learn the fundamental vocabulary used in diagnostic analysis and the clinical methods used in Western medical approaches to disease. With this knowledge, you can become an active part of today’s dynamic healthcare network.
Complementary Studies

Complementary studies enrich and round out your professional TCM training. The Complementary Studies curriculum includes Energetics courses, introducing you to the ancient Chinese practices of Qigong and Taijiquan, and Career Development courses to prepare you to practice TCM professionally, ethically, and successfully.

Review and Assessment

At the end of each semester you will have the opportunity to review the materials you have learned and to receive assessment of your progress. This evaluation assists you in developing good study and test-taking skills, ensuring full comprehension of courses, and the ability to pass the national certification and the California licensing exams.

Specialty Certification

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.

Electives and Externships

Up to 25% of your clinical training hours may be completed through an externship. The diverse externships we offer allow you to become exposed to different patient populations, treat a wide variety of conditions, and explore new fields of specialization. Multiple off-campus externships are offered by TCM practitioners in private practice throughout the Bay Area, and are also available in a community clinic setting—treating senior citizens, veterans of war, mental health patients, and those struggling with substance abuse. You may also choose to study abroad to experience the authentic practice of TCM integrated with modern Western medicine. Our relationship with five universities in China, Korea and Taiwan provide you with the opportunity to learn TCM from highly knowledgeable doctors and clinical experts, to receive training in a hospital setting, and to explore the beauty and diversity of Asia.

MTCM Educational Objectives

The educational objectives of the MTCM program provide guidelines for the development of the curriculum, assessment of the program’s quality and success, and the measurement of the achievements of our graduates. Upon completion of the program our graduates will be:

• Highly skilled TCM clinical practitioners who assist in the prevention and treatment of disease and effectively diagnose, prescribe and provide medical treatment within the parameters of Traditional Chinese Medicine and integrative medicine
• Primary healthcare providers with thorough knowledge and skills of the five branches of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Acupuncture, Herbology, Tuina Massage, Energetics, Chinese Dietary Medicine) and the integrative components of Western medicine
• Competent in the assessment of patients and qualified to recognize medical conditions which require referrals of patients to other healthcare providers
• Qualified healthcare providers who understands the importance of adhering to universal and professional medical ethics, and the social responsibilities of providing primary healthcare to the public
• Capable of achieving high passing scores on the national board certification and the California acupuncture state licensing exams required to become a licensed acupuncturist (L.Ac.)
• Successful in establishing and managing a private practice or working as an integral part of a professional team of healthcare providers
## Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine Program Overview

**170.5 Units**

- **3208 Hours**
- **Program D**

### Departments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Semester 3</th>
<th>Semester 4</th>
<th>Semester 5</th>
<th>Semester 6</th>
<th>Semester 7</th>
<th>Semester 8</th>
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<td>TCM Theory</td>
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### Academic Units

- **18u**
- **19u**
- **20u**
- **18u**
- **18.75u**
- **18.5u**
- **16.25u**
- **12u**

### Clinic Hours

- **336**
- **352**
- **480**
- **432**
- **444**
- **440**
- **404**
- **336**

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* *applies to students entering semester level 2 at the start of Fall 2008 and all new entering students from Fall 2008 forward.*

**Course required for program, but not taught at Five Branches University and must be transferred in. If not taken prior to initial enrollment, may be taken concurrently at another institution. Must be completed by the end of the term in which the course is required in order to progress to the next semester.

***CCAOM Clean Needle Technique (8 hours) and American Red Cross or American Heart Association 8-hour CPR/First Aid for Adult/Child/Infant must be transferred in and completed by the end of semester 3 in order to progress to semester 4.***

****Must have completed all semester 2 courses, passed the MRA200 exam with a minimum score of 80%, and have a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or better prior to taking elective.

*****Course recommended to be taken during winter intersession and/or summer session.
Master of Acupuncture Program

The Master of Acupuncture (MAc) program is specifically designed for the following individuals:
• Students who wish to practice outside California
• Students interested in developing a practice emphasizing acupuncture, including MDs and other licensed Western medical practitioners authorized to use acupuncture needles in the state of California.

The program includes both academic and clinical training, with a focus on practicing acupuncture in an integrative medical environment.

If you plan to practice in California, and are not an MD or licensed Western medical practitioner, you will need to complete the MTCM program which includes both acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine studies.

Community Acupuncture Clinic

The MAc program is designed for students who wish to develop a practice emphasizing acupuncture and especially for those interested in implementing the fast-growing community clinic model. The program includes instruction on how to establish and manage a community acupuncture clinic.

Program Overview

The Master of Acupuncture program is a three-year professional degree program consisting of 2208 hours and a total of 117.25 units. Students who have a Western science or Western medicine education can complete the program in two years. The curriculum is taught on a semester basis with clinical training and other designated courses continuing during the summer term.

Taught by highly accomplished faculty in TCM education, the curriculum is offered through the following seven academic and clinical departments:
• TCM Theory
• TCM Acupuncture
• TCM Clinical Medicine
• TCM Clinical Training
• Western Medicine
• Complementary Studies
• Review and Assessment

For detailed course descriptions refer to the MTCM Program section of the catalog and the applicable Master of Acupuncture Program Overview.

The MAc program meets the accreditation requirements of the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM). Upon completion of the program you can become certified by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine as a Diplomate in Acupuncture, Dipl. Ac. (NCCAOM).
# Master of Acupuncture Program Overview

## 2208 Hours  117.25 Units

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENTS</th>
<th>SEMESTER 1</th>
<th>SEMESTER 2</th>
<th>SEMESTER 3</th>
<th>SEMESTER 4</th>
<th>SEMESTER 5</th>
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<td>TCM Diagnosis/Lab 5u/80hr</td>
<td>Classics: Nei Jing 2u/32hr</td>
<td>TCM Case Studies I 2u/32hr</td>
<td>TCM Case Studies II 2u/32hr</td>
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<td>TCM History &amp; Philosophy 1u/16hr</td>
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<td>Meridians &amp; Acupuncture Points II/Lab 3u/48hr</td>
<td>Acupuncture Techniques 2u/32hr</td>
<td>Extra Points &amp; Micro Systems/Lab 3u/48hr</td>
<td>Acupuncture Therapeutics II 2u/32hr</td>
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<td>TCM History &amp; Philosophy 1u/16hr</td>
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<td>Clean Needle Technique**</td>
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<td>TCM Tuina Massage I 3u/48hr</td>
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<td>Medical Physiology 3u/48hr</td>
<td>Introduction to Physics* 2u/32hr</td>
<td>Pathophysiology II 3u/48hr</td>
<td>Western Physical Exam/Lab 3.5u/56hr</td>
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<td>Chemistry* 3u/48hr</td>
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<td>Diet, Nutrition &amp; Vitamins 2u/32hr</td>
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<td>Medical Modalities 1u/16hr</td>
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<td>Psychology &amp; Counseling 2u/32hr</td>
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<td><strong>Career Development</strong> 4u/64hr</td>
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<td><strong>Review &amp; Assessment</strong> 5u/80hr</td>
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<td><strong>Academic Units</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Clinical Training</strong> 21.75u/352hr</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Course required for program, but not taught at Five Branches University and must be transferred in. If not taken prior to initial enrollment, may be taken concurrently at another institution. Must be completed by the end of the term in which the course is required in order to progress to the next semester.

**CCAOM Clean Needle Technique (8 hours) and American Red Cross or American Heart Association 8-hour CPR/First Aid for Adult/Child/Infant must be transferred in and completed to be eligible for Internship Rounds.

***Course recommended to be taken during summer term.
Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Program

The Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM) program is designed for licensed acupuncturists who are interested in developing advanced TCM knowledge and skills, achieving a medical specialization, and gaining valuable experience in research and teaching.

As a DAOM student you will:
• Expand and refine your knowledge and expertise in TCM patient care
• Gain the clinical treatment skills needed to work in an integrative medical setting
• Build professional relationships with TCM clinicians and other healthcare providers
• Develop yourself as a leader in the field of TCM as a practitioner, teacher or researcher

The DAOM program is offered at the San Jose campus in both English and Chinese. The program is 1280 hours in length, comprising 614 didactic and 666 clinical hours. DAOM courses are offered once per month during four-day weekend intensives with a flexible clinical training schedule, allowing you to earn a doctorate degree in as little as 24 months while maintaining your private practice. The program features:

A Modern Integrative Medical Curriculum

Our modern integrative medical curriculum bridges the gap between TCM and biomedicine approaches, promoting cross-referrals and inter-disciplinary medicine. The program covers both the TCM and Western medicine perspective of a core TCM practice and each medical subspecialty.

Clinical Training with TCM and Western Medicine Experts

Receive extensive clinical training from renowned senior TCM practitioners and biomedicine experts from China, the U.S., and Europe in the following clinic environments: the Five Branches health centers, local community clinics and hospitals, major hospitals affiliated with our sister colleges in China.

Medical Specialization

The DAOM curriculum emphasizes advanced clinical TCM with broad exposure to family medicine, (the core of a L.Ac.’s practice), and the option to specialize in Women's Health and Endocrinology, Neuromuscular Medicine and Pain Management, and Auricular Medicine.

Meets California and National CEU Requirements

Almost all DAOM courses offered throughout the year fulfill both California and national CEU requirements.

Research and Capstone Project

Learn how to assess evidence-based medicine, review new trends in TCM research and enhance your TCM scientific thinking skills. The capstone, an extensive research project in the final phase of the program, will allow you to demonstrate mastery in formal presentation, clinical evaluation and practice, and research capability. The capstone project, focused on your chosen field of specialization, will require quantitative and qualitative analyses as well as inductive and deductive research methods.

Earn a Ph.D. in China

Upon completion of the program, you will be awarded a Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine degree by Five Branches University. With an additional year of study, partially in China, you may earn a Ph.D. degree awarded by one of our sister colleges: Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Liaoning University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, and Fujian University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. The Ph.D. degree is acknowledged by foreign credentials review agencies as equivalent to a Ph.D. in the U.S.

Please Note: The course descriptions provided in this catalog pertain to the MTCM and MAc programs. For a list of DAOM courses, please consult the Five Branches DAOM catalog.
The Traditional Chinese Medicine Theory curriculum provides you with a thorough knowledge of the language and theories of TCM’s unique, yet universal, approach to understanding health and the treatment of disease. Drawing from both classical and modern texts, the curriculum creates a solid framework for the application of clinical methods, including acupuncture and herbology.

TCM Foundations
■ MCT 100    4 Units/64 Hours
This course introduces the classical principles of Yin and Yang and the Five Elements, which were universal laws in ancient China. TCM theory applies these broad principles to the realm of human physiology and pathology in a complex and powerful system for understanding the intricate balance of health. The major TCM theories systematically covered include: Qi, Blood, Body Fluids, Shen, Essence, Zangfu Organs, Six Pernicious Influences, Four Levels, Six Stages and Eight Parameters. Etiology, pathogenesis, and TCM treatment principles of disease and disease prevention will be covered in detail. This course is the foundation for all other TCM coursework.
  
Prerequisite: None
  
TCM History & Philosophy
■ MCT 110    1 Units/16 Hours
This course presents a brief historical overview of the origin, development and changes in regard to Chinese medicine theories and practices. Students will gain an understanding, without being medically or clinically specific, of the larger and broader spectrum of TCM from antiquity to present.
  
Prerequisite: None

Chinese Language for TCM
■ MCT 130    1 Unit/16 Hours
This course is a general introduction to the spoken and written modern Chinese language (Putonghua or Mandarin). Emphasis will be placed on pronunciation (tones and Pinyin system), essential TCM-related vocabulary and basic syntactical structures.
  
Prerequisite: None

TCM Diagnosis/Lab
■ MCT 200/MCT 201    5 Units/80 Hours
This course begins with thorough instruction in the four diagnostic methods: inspection, inquiring, auscultation/olfaction and palpation. These methods are the backbone of TCM diagnosis and are used to collect and organize patients’ signs and symptoms. Among them, complexion, pulse, and tongue diagnosis are unique methods in TCM. The course continues with in-depth instruction on methods of pattern identification, one of the most important characteristics of TCM. The lab focuses on assisting students in acquiring skill, accuracy and confidence in performing a patient history and physical exam using TCM assessment methods.
  
Prerequisite: MCT 100, TCM Foundations
  
Course requisite: Completion during second semester

Classics: Nei Jing
■ MCT 301    2 Units/32 Hours
This is the first course in a series of three that reviews important classical literature on Chinese medicine. In this course, the essential concepts of the Nei Jing (The Cannon of Internal Medicine) will be presented from translations of the original articles. Nei Jing is attributed to the legendary Huang Di (Yellow Emperor) and serves as the source for TCM diagnosis and acupuncture theory, covering Yin/Yang, Five Elements, Zang organs and their manifestations, and channels and their networks. The theories of pathogens and pathomechanisms, clinical diseases and symptoms, diagnostic methods, therapeutic principles and methods, and the theory of health preservation will be reviewed. The teacher and student work together to understand the true meaning of this ancient Chinese medical text.
  
Prerequisite: MCT 100, TCM Foundations; MCT 200/MCT 201, TCM Diagnosis/Lab
TCM Case Studies I
■ MCT 401 2 Units/32 Hours

TCM Case Studies I is designed to assist with the transition from academic knowledge to its application in clinical practice, reinforcing the basics of case analysis by teaching students how to systematically analyze case reports using fundamental TCM theory and diagnosis. Students learn how to analyze a chief complaint by looking at accompanying signs and symptoms and results from four examinations. Students gain increased skill in differentiating among similar patterns of disease. The focus of this course is on developing diagnostic ability, from which treatment plans are established. The case reports are selected from the clinic or established TCM texts for presentation and class discussion. Students will learn the proper format for written and oral case presentations.

Co-requisite: Concurrent enrollment in one of the following: MHB 410, TCM Formulas I; MHB 520, TCM Formulas II; MHB 610, TCM Formulas III

Classics: Shang Han Lun
■ MCT 501 2 Units/32 Hours

This is the second course in a series of three courses that reviews important classical literature on Chinese medicine. The medical classic *Shang Han Lun*, was a text compiled in the late Han dynasty approximately 2000 years ago, which discussed conditions induced by cold. *Shang Han Lun* utilizes the six-channel pattern identification of diseases and relies almost exclusively on herbal formulas for treatments.

Prerequisite: Completion of one of the following: MHB 410, TCM Formulas I; MHB 520, TCM Formulas II; MHB 610, TCM Formulas III

Classics: Jin Gui
■ MCT 601 2 Units/32 Hours

This is the third course in the series which reviews important classical literature on Chinese medicine. *Jin Gui Yao Lue (The Essential Prescriptions of the Golden Chamber)* was written by Zhang Zhong Jing approximately 1700 years ago. Students will learn the main theoretical concepts and herbal prescriptions of the major diseases in the book as they apply to clinical use.

Prerequisite: Completion of one of the following: MHB 410, TCM Formulas I; MHB 520, TCM Formulas II; MHB 610, TCM Formulas III

TCM Case Studies II
■ MCT 801 2 Units/32 Hours

In this course, students gain advanced skill in TCM pattern discrimination, using TCM theory, diagnoses and detailed treatment planning, including acupuncture and herbal treatment prescriptions. Western diagnostic tests are included in case analysis. The emphasis of the course is on critical thinking and diagnostic ability with complex cases, ensuring students reach a correct diagnosis and understand its supporting logic, including the ability to distinguish among similar TCM patterns of disharmony. This is a comprehensive course which utilizes the knowledge and skills attained throughout the four-year curriculum, and prepares students for advanced clinical practice, and the CALE and NCCAOM examinations. The course utilizes case studies from the clinic and from standard TCM textbooks. Students will be required to present a case to the class for discussion and evaluation.

Prerequisite: Completion of one of the following: MHB 410, TCM Formulas I; MHB 520, TCM Formulas II; MHB 610, TCM Formulas III
Electives

The following is a partial list of electives offered in the Department of TCM Theory. Electives are offered based on faculty availability and student interest. For a complete listing of electives please refer to the Five Branches University website.

Advanced Nei Jing
■ MEL 502 2 Units/32 Hours
This course covers the original text and commentary for Huang Di Nei Jing, providing clarification of the theories of Yin and Yang, the Five Elements, and their application to diagnosis. Acupuncture treatment protocols according to Huang Di Nei Jing’s theory will be discussed, as well as the exploration of the Five Yun and Six Qi.

Prerequisite: MCT 301, Classics: Nei Jing

Five Element
Five Element electives may be taken in the Department of TCM Theory, while also completing the requirements for the Five Element certificate program. For detailed information about the Five Element courses and certificate please refer to the Specialty Certificate Options section of the catalog.

Five Element Theory I
MEL 315, 2 units, 32 Hours

Five Element Theory II
MEL 420, 2 units, 32 Hours

Five Element Spirit of the Points I–III
MEL 431–433, 6 units, 96 Hours

Five Element Deepening Into the Officials
MEL 440, 2 units, 32 Hours

Five Element Point Location
MEL 445, 1 unit, 16 Hours

Five Element Archetypal Acupuncture
MEL 450, 2 units, 32 Hours

As an educator, I enjoy helping the TCM system grow and become popular in the U.S., preserving this traditional treasure of human beings, and developing a new and better medical system in the U.S. and world.

Jeffrey Pang, Professor, Department Chair
The Traditional Chinese Medicine Acupuncture curriculum is divided into didactic and lab sections, emphasizing both the theoretical and practical aspects of acupuncture. TCM Acupuncture courses provide you with a thorough knowledge of traditional and modern meridian theory, including point location, functions, indications and treatment planning. The curriculum includes thorough training in moxibustion, cupping, Guasha, and electrical stimulation. Clinical labs concentrate on accuracy, needling methods, technique and precautions.

**Introduction to Channel Theory**

**MAC 110**  1 Unit/16 Hours

Chinese medicine theory includes two major systems: Zang-Fu theory and channel theory. The focus is on the 12 regular channels taught in three-paired circulation cycles (Taiyang and Yangming, Shaoyang and Taiyin, and Shaoyin and Jueyin), plus the Du and Ren channels. Each channel will be covered from the aspect of primary passage, luo connecting channel, divergent channel, and muscular channel. Pathology will be emphasized so students learn to recognize the pathological patterns of individual channels, choosing the appropriate channel to treat the pathology.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Meridians and Acupuncture Points I & II/ Lab**

**MAC 220/MAC 230; MAC 320/MAC 330**  6 Units/96 Hours

This two-semester course sequence presents the acupuncture points of the twelve main meridians, plus the Du and Ren channels. Each meridian and acupuncture point is covered in detail, including functions, indications, location, distribution and clinical applications. The lab focuses on accurate point location and needling techniques. Contraindications and precautions of specific points are emphasized throughout the course.

**Prerequisite:** None

**TCM Tuina Massage I**

**MAC 350**  3 Units/48 Hours

Massage and manipulation, or Tuina, comprise one of the traditional five branches of TCM. Although the TCM program emphasizes the clinical methods of acupuncture and herbology, this course introduces students to various traditional Chinese therapeutic massage systems, including Tuina. Emphasis is on using specific clinical evaluations to formulate therapeutic massage treatments, which may become a part of clinical practice.

**Prerequisite:** MWM 103, Human Anatomy

Students marking acupuncture points on each other
CNT: Clean Needle Technique
- CNT 0.5 Units/8 Hours
This course is a review of material previously introduced in the Beginning Clinical Theater and Meridians and Acupuncture I courses. Students will learn the appropriate procedures of sterilization and sanitation as they apply to the practice of acupuncture. Proper clean needle technique and disposal of needles are covered. Completion of this course is required for entry into Clinical Intern Rounds. Students are required to take a written and practical examination; passing both examinations satisfies the requirements of the Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (CCAOM) and enables the student to receive their CNT certificate, which is required for the licensing examinations.

Prerequisite: Completion of one of the following: MAC 220/MAC 230, Meridians and Acupuncture Points I/Lab; MAC 320/MAC 330, Meridians and Acupuncture Points II/Lab

Acupuncture Techniques
- MAC 420 2 Units/32 Hours
This course covers the full range of an acupuncture treatment from basic preparation, clean field, sterilization and safety, to complex needling techniques. The different types of needle and clinical applications are discussed in the classroom and practiced in the lab, including electrical stimulation, cupping, moxibustion, and Guasha. Students will learn to insert needles painlessly, bring qi to the points, use different types of needles to treat corresponding illnesses, be proficient in ancillary techniques, such as cupping, moxibustion, electrical acupuncture and Guasha, and understand the mechanism of acupuncture treatment.

Prerequisites: MAC 220/MAC 230, Meridians and Acupuncture Points I/Lab; MAC 320/MAC 330, Meridians and Acupuncture Points II/Lab

Extra Points and Microsystems/Lab
- MAC 510/MAC 520 3 (1.5 and 1.5) Units/48 Hours
This course presents the extra meridians and their associated acupuncture points. Ear and scalp acupuncture and over 40 extra points are covered in detail along with their clinical applications. The lab focuses on accurate point location and special ear and scalp needle techniques.

Prerequisites: MAC 220/MAC 230, Meridians and Acupuncture Points I/Lab; MAC 320/MAC 330, Meridians and Acupuncture Points II/Lab

Acupuncture Therapeutics I & II
- MAC 601/MAC 701 5 Units/80 Hours
This course reviews treatment principles and methods according to channel theory, with a focus on acupuncture point selection for internal medicine conditions. The focus of this course is the in-depth study of the texts: Chinese Acupuncture and Moxibustion (CAM), and Acupuncture: A Comprehensive Text (Shanghai). The course complements the TCM Internal Medicine courses and provides students with a comprehensive view of how to apply different TCM theories for diagnosis, and how to select the most appropriate treatment methods for the same conditions.

Prerequisites: MAC 220/MAC 230, Meridians and Acupuncture Points I/Lab; MAC 320/MAC 330, Meridians and Acupuncture Points II/Lab; MCM 510, Internal Medicine I or MCM 730, Internal Medicine II

The strength of Five Branches University is the diversity among the faculty and clinic supervisors. This mix of instructors allows students to receive a rich and varied learning experience.
Electives

The following is a partial list of electives offered in the Department of TCM Acupuncture. Electives are offered based on faculty availability and student interest. For a complete listing of electives, please refer to the Five Branches University website.

TCM Tuina Massage II

- MEL 400 2 Units/32 Hours

Tuina Massage II may be taken in the Department of TCM Acupuncture, while also completing the requirements for the Tuina Massage certificate program. For detailed information about the Tuina massage courses and certificate please refer to the Specialty Certificate Options section of the catalog.

Prerequisite: MAC 350, TCM Tuina Massage I

Advanced Channel Theory

- MEL 416 1 Unit/16 Hours

This course is designed to help you learn to detect the flow of channel Qi and integrate this information with tongue, pulse and symptom-based diagnostics. You will gain a deeper understanding of the actual flow-paths of primary channels, including the divergent channels, and will learn the channel flow theory that determines the needling methods for channel blockages brought about by scar tissue.

Prerequisite: MAC 110, Introduction to Channel Theory

Kiiko Techniques

- MEL 560 3 Units/48 Hours

Kiiko style acupuncture utilizes a systematic, easy to learn, instantaneous feedback, palpatory method, revealing a comprehensive diagnosis and a patient-unique treatment plan. By looking deeply into structural and/or constitutional imbalances underlying a patient’s symptomatic complaints, a Kiiko practitioner is able to successfully solve difficult cases and treat the most complex medical issues. In this course, you will learn the basic skills needed for abdominal, neck and back diagnosis, and their application on constitutional pathologies, regardless of the patient’s major complaint. The root cause of a patient’s inability to heal will be discussed and treatment strategies demonstrated.

Prerequisite: MAC 420, Acupuncture Techniques

Advanced Needling Techniques

- MEL 621 .5 Unit/8 Hours

An eight-hour, one-day seminar on advanced forms of needling techniques, with a one-hour lecture/one-hour lab rotation. This course covers the butterfly, turtle, and Dr. Lu’s special techniques.

Prerequisite: MAC 510/520, Extra Points & Microsystems/Lab

Demonstrating ear acupuncture
Chinese herbology is the world’s most sophisticated medical herbal system. The Traditional Chinese Medicine Herbology curriculum includes extensive training in the identification, categorization and clinical use of the traditional Chinese herbal pharmacopoeia. Six semesters of in-depth herbology study provide you with a solid working knowledge of more than 500 individual herbs and more than 350 classical and modern formulas. Advanced courses instruct you how to modify and enhance classical formulas in response to specific variants in a patient’s diagnosed condition. All herb courses are taught using the Pinyin names of herbs.

TCM Herbology I, II & III
■ MHB 100/MHB 200/MHB 310 9 Units/144 Hours
This three-semester course sequence provides students with knowledge of TCM herbology, including general theory, treatment methods, categorization, taste, temperature, entering meridians, indications, and the laws of herbal combining. Students will learn over 350 single herbs, including clinical use, contraindications, and methods of preparation and delivery. Current research in the field of TCM herbology will augment lectures. This knowledge will serve as a foundation for the TCM Formula courses.

Prerequisite: None

TCM Formulas I, II & III
■ MHB 410/MHB 520/MHB 610 7 Units/112 Hours
The art of Chinese herbology lies in the practitioner’s ability to combine herbs into a balanced formula tailored to meet each patient’s singular pattern of signs and symptoms. During this three-semester course sequence in TCM Formulas, students will implement the knowledge they have acquired in the single herbs courses, and TCM differential diagnosis, to understand how a formula is designed. The formulas are taught in functionally related categories. Students will study approximately 250 herbal formulas including: formula composition, functions, clinical indications, modifications and contraindications.

Prerequisites: MHB 100, TCM Herbology I; MHB 200, TCM Herbology II; MHB 310, TCM Herbology III
TCM Dietetics
■ MHB 530  2 Units/32 Hours
Since the beginning of TCM, great physicians understood the profound influence of diet on human health. This course introduces theories of TCM dietetics and surveys the TCM functions and properties of common foods, the dietary programs appropriate for the treatment of prevalent TCM disharmonies, and their effect on health and longevity. Effective food combinations and recipes are provided for the treatment of common diseases, and to enhance general well being.

Prerequisites: MHB 100, TCM Herbology I; MHB 200, TCM Herbology II; MHB 310, TCM Herbology III

TCM Patent Medicines
■ MHB 620  1.5 Units/24 Hours
This is an invaluable course for students and every clinician using herbal pills and prepared solutions. The course covers major TCM syndromes and the patent herbs used to treat them. The lectures include the differential analysis of patent herbs used for the same diagnosis, recommended dosages for both adults and children, and contraindications. Much of the information presented is derived from various Chinese texts and clinical expertise, and will not be found in any textbook. Upon completion of this course, students will understand the functions of over 150 prepared Chinese patent herbs and solutions and how to properly prescribe them.

Prerequisite: Completion of one of the following: MHB 410, TCM Formulas I; MHB 520, TCM Formulas II; MHB 610, TCM Formulas III

Herbal-Pharmaceutical Drugs Interactions
■ MHB 700  0.5 Units/8 Hours
This course addresses the increasing concern among the medical community, including TCM practitioners who prescribe medicinal herbs, regarding toxic biomedical interactions between pharmaceutical drugs and natural products, such as Chinese medicinal herbs. The course reviews the biomedical nature of herbs and the potential interaction between them and commonly used pharmaceutical drugs and nutritional supplements. The course includes the critical analysis of literature and research reports of herb/drug interactions.

Prerequisites: MHB 100, TCM Herbology I; MHB 200, TCM Herbology II; MHB 310, TCM Herbology III; MWM 620, Pharmacology

Electives
The following is a partial list of electives offered in the Department of TCM Herbology. Electives are offered based on faculty availability and student interest. For a complete listing of electives please refer to the Five Branches University website.

Herb Walk
■ MEL 483  .5 Unit/8 Hours
Join highly experienced faculty and herbologists on an herb walk at the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden or the Henry Cowell Fall Creek State Park in Felton to learn how to identify important medicinal plants used in Chinese medicine. You will walk one to two miles on mostly flat terrain and dirt trails seeing over a dozen medicinal and/or edible species such as: huckleberry, Aralia (a relative of ginseng), nettles, lemon balm, and Asarum, a local variety of Xixin.

Prerequisite: None

Sharon Feng and students weighing herbs in the 1980s
The courses in TCM Theory, Acupuncture and Herbology teach you the basic principles of Chinese medicine pattern differentiation and treatment, including the study of common functions and indications of herbs, formulas and acupuncture points. However, this knowledge alone is not enough to fully diagnose and treat disease. The Traditional Chinese Medicine Clinical Medicine curriculum expands on this knowledge, providing you with advanced skills in diagnosing and treating disease in the specialized fields of TCM internal medicine, external medicine, gynecology, pediatrics, traumatology, and orthopedics. Training includes detailed instruction of herbal and acupuncture treatment plans for both common and complex diseases. These courses lay the foundation for your clinical practice.

TCM Traumatology and Orthopedics

This course covers the etiology, diagnosis and treatment of common diseases of the musculo-skeletal system in accordance with both TCM and Western medicine. Emphasis is placed on the differentiation of bone and soft tissue injuries related to common sports and industrial injuries. You will learn to treat patients with acupuncture and herbs, perform essential orthopedic tests to evaluate the outcome of treatments, recognize red flags in orthopedics, and make appropriate referrals. You will learn how to competently instruct patients in the proper rehabilitation and the prevention of sports and industrial injuries.

Prerequisite: MAC 510/MAC 520, Extra Points and Microsystems/Lab

TCM Internal Medicine I & II

This two-semester course sequence reviews the history of TCM internal medicine, the mechanisms of disease, the principles of making a diagnosis, and the common treatment methods associated with making a diagnosis. Etiology, pathogenesis, and signs and symptoms of common disease patterns of internal medicine will be reviewed. Students will learn to diagnose common internal medicine diseases from TCM and Western medicine perspectives, identify their patterns, and devise appropriate treatment plans using acupuncture and herbal formulations with appropriate modifications.

Prerequisites: MHB 100, TCM Herbology I; MHB 200, TCM Herbology II; MHB 300, TCM Herbology III; MAC220/MAC 230, Meridians and Acupuncture Points I/Lab; MAC 220/MAC 230, Meridians and Acupuncture Points II/Lab

TCM Gynecology

This course presents both Western and TCM knowledge of gynecology. Differential diagnosis of the most common gynecological concerns and disharmonies are covered in detail, including common menstrual disharmonies, such as irregularity, leukorrhea, PID, PMS, infertility, pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum. Emphasis is placed on the common complaints of women and the TCM herbal and acupuncture treatments for these disharmonies. Contraindications during pregnancy are also covered. The course includes training in the use of Western diagnostic reports in relation to hormonal cycles.

Prerequisites: Completion of two of the following: MHB 410, TCM Formulas I; MHB 520, TCM Formulas II; MHB 610, TCM Formulas III
TCM External Medicine
■ MCM 810   2 Units/32 Hours

This course teaches students the treatment of common diseases in external medicine according to both TCM and Western disease categorizations. In studying each disease, students learn its etiology and pathogenesis, syndrome differentiation (patterns), treatment principles and corresponding treatment therapies, using both herbs and acupuncture.

Prerequisites: Completion of two of the following: MHB 410, TCM Formulas I; MHB 520, TCM Formulas II; MHB 610, TCM Formulas III

TCM Pediatrics
■ MCM 820   3 Units/48 Hours

This course emphasizes common complaints of children, and the TCM theories, herbal, acupuncture and pediatric Tuina treatments that apply to the special circumstances of children. Child development, specific patent formulas for children, herbs for breast-feeding moms to pass onto the baby, respiratory ailments, enuresis, special children’s disharmonies such as ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder), and TCM health recommendations for children, will be reviewed in the course.

Prerequisites: Completion of two of the following: MHB 410, TCM Formulas I; MHB 520, TCM Formulas II; MHB 610, TCM Formulas III

Electives

The following is a partial list of electives offered in the Department of TCM Clinical Medicine. Electives are offered based on faculty availability and student interest. For a complete listing of electives please refer to the Five Branches University website.

Advanced TCM Gynecology
■ MEL 600   2 Units/32 Hours

This case-study-based course examines the clinical applications of theories and treatment modalities introduced in TCM Gynecology, emphasizing the care of female patients during pregnancy, childbirth and post-partum. In this course, you will review the signs, symptoms, indications and contraindications for acupuncture and herbal treatment for pregnant women and new mothers. Current gynecological research provided by integrative medicine hospitals in China for conditions including: infertility, ovarian atrophy, endometriosis and amenorrhea, will be covered in detail.

Prerequisite: MCM 630, TCM Gynecology

TCM Oncology
■ MEL 610   2 Units/32 Hours

The use of acupuncture to support patients undergoing chemotherapy and radiotherapy is well documented for its success. This course will introduce the theory and pathogenesis of cancer mechanisms from a TCM perspective. TCM treatment modalities for cancer as well as detoxification methods for chemo-radiation therapy are covered in detail. Case studies will also be presented.

Prerequisite: Completion of 6th semester

Advanced TCM Trauma and Orthopedics
■ MEL 700   2 Units/32 Hours

Sports Medicine electives may be taken in the Department of Traditional Chinese Clinical Medicine, while also completing the requirements for the Sports Medicine certificate program. For detailed information about the Sports Medicine courses and certificate please refer to the Specialty Certificate Options section of the catalog.

Prerequisite: MRA 600, Cumulative Review III
Modern practitioners of TCM must have a fundamental understanding of Western medicine to effectively communicate with medical doctors and other healthcare professionals. Western Medicine studies are an integral part of the curriculum providing knowledge of Western diagnosis and pharmaceuticals, necessary to make appropriate referrals and to provide the best care possible for your patients. Introduced to the basic methods of Western diagnosis, you will learn the fundamental vocabulary used in diagnostic analysis and the clinical methods used in Western medical approaches to disease. With this knowledge, you can become an active part of today’s dynamic healthcare network.

Our Western medicine department is enhanced by our educational and clinical relationship with Stanford University and the doctoral residency program we have with Stanford and O’Connor hospitals. These professional relationships not only benefit you as a student but also contribute to a better understanding and acceptance of TCM in the West.

General Biology

This course covers the basics of the chemistry of life, molecular and cellular biology, structure and function of organisms, reproduction and development, genetics, evolution and ecology (the relations of organisms to each other and to their environment). This course, with emphasis on human biology, provides a solid basis for further biomedical studies with knowledge of vocabulary, concepts, and skills.

Prerequisite: None

Human Anatomy

This course gives an introduction to the study of human structure. This includes examination of cells, tissues, organs, systems and their interrelationships. Structural components of all physiological systems including nervous, endocrine, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, excretory, reproductive, immune systems and those involved in human movement will be studied. Emphasis will be placed on the nervous system and musculoskeletal system, which are particularly important in acupuncture. Human skeletons, anatomical charts, models and full color digital images will be used for demonstration.

Prerequisite: None

Western Medical Terminology

This course introduces students to the basic principles, concepts and terminology of modern Western medicine.

Prerequisite: None

Medical Physiology

This course outlines the principles of human physiology, general properties and functions of the living cell and the internal environment. The course will systematically cover the nervous, musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, renal, reproductive and endocrine systems, with an emphasis placed on the interrelationships among the systems. Additionally, students will learn about metabolism and homeostasis, and the diseases of the body systems.

With the knowledge of human physiology, students will build a solid foundation for further study of human disease.

Prerequisites: MWM 101, General Biology; MWM 103, Human Anatomy; MWM 110, Western Medical Terminology

I like the interaction with the students, being able to share my knowledge and experience with them, as well as learning from their experience. I like encouraging people to let their gifts shine. Five Branches University is a fun and stimulating place to learn, both as a student and a teacher. It is in a great location, with the beach one block away. The students are all so unique and come from many different backgrounds, so they have life experiences that contribute to their healing education. It is an honor to work with them.

Sally Lewis, Professor
Chemistry

■ MWM 204  3 Units/48 Hours

This introductory course explores various topics of inorganic chemistry including the periodic table of elements, atomic structure of matter, nuclear chemistry, molecular bonding, atomic quantum numbers and orbitals, equilibrium states, acid/base chemistry and thermodynamics. The basic organic chemistry of alkanes and unsaturated hydrocarbons will also be examined throughout the course.

Prerequisite: None

Introduction to Physics

■ MWM 301  2 Units/32 Hours

Designed for health science students, this is an introductory course on physics with minimum calculations. It will conceptually explore various topics of physics, including: motions and forces of a body, properties of matter, heat, sound, light, and electricity and magnetism. Basic atomic and nuclear physics, as well as the theory of relativity will be introduced.

Prerequisite: None

Pathophysiology I & II

■ MWM 310/MWM 410  6 Units/96 Hours

Pathophysiology is the study of the mechanism of disease in humans from a western medical perspective. In this two-semester course sequence, students receive a brief overview of healthy physiology of the body’s major systems, focusing on disease processes and the body’s attempt to adapt to them. These courses link western anatomy, physiology and biochemistry to clinical practice. The first course will cover infectious, psychiatric, hematological, cardiac and pulmonary diseases. In the second course, students learn about selected diseases in the departments of oncology, neurology, rheumatology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, musculoskeletal and nephrology.

Prerequisites: MWM 110, Western Medical Terminology; MWM 103, Human Anatomy; MWM 203, Medical Physiology

Immunology

■ MWM 315  1 Unit/16 Hours

This course begins with a review of basic immunology. Subsequently, the principles of immunology will be applied to enhance the understanding of various autoimmune diseases. The pharmacology of vaccines, immune-modulating drugs, herbs and supplements will also be discussed.

Prerequisite: MWM 203, Human Physiology

CPR/ First Aid

■ CFA  0.5 Units/8 Hours

This is a required class that students must take through an outside provider. Completion of this course is required before entry into Intern Rounds. Upon completion of this course, students will have certification in CPR and First Aid and will have the necessary skills to respond to emergencies within the clinic.

Prerequisite: None

Public Health and Epidemiology

■ MWM 412  2 Units/32 Hours

This course explores the impact of disease and wellness in regard to populations. Factors in epidemiology such as prevalence of incidence of disease in given populations and sensitivity and specificity of tests in diagnosis will be discussed. Environmental, socio-economical and cultural factors that contribute to health and illness in our society will be explored, as well as the role of evidence-based medicine. Particular emphasis is paid to the ways TCM practitioners interface with, and are affected by this system. Topics will include the effects of economics on the current health care system, especially to the underprivileged segments of population and the role of L.Ac.’s in the public health setting.

Prerequisite: Completion of 3rd semester
Western Physical Examination /Lab  
**MWM 520**  3.5 Units/56 Hours  
In this course, students are instructed in Western methods of information gathering and evaluation. They will study and perform adult history and physical exams, including the use of blood pressure cuffs and stethoscopes. Laboratory tests and x-rays are presented and discussed and students will gain a basic understanding of their use and results. The course also covers how and when to make referrals to other providers, as well as how to recognize and respond in emergency situations. Students will be required to give an oral and written presentation of a patient’s history and physical exam.  
*Prerequisites:* MWM 310, Pathophysiology I; MWM 410, Pathophysiology II

Diet, Nutrition and Vitamins  
**MWM 530**  2 Units/32 Hours  
This course is designed to provide a basic understanding of the fundamentals of human nutrition and how excess or deficiency of essential nutrients affects our health throughout life. Students will learn digestion and assimilation, including useful assessment tools and lab tests, and how to counsel patients on developing a healthy diet. There will also be a discussion of vitamins and minerals, recommended intake, the role of diet in the various stages of the life cycle, the way chronic disease is influenced by excessive or deficient states, and the bio-variability of needs among different patients. The course will cover special issues like food allergies, detoxification, and weight loss as well as possible nutritional approaches to illness commonly encountered in clinical practice.  
*Prerequisite:* MWM 204, Chemistry

Western Case Management I & II  
**MWM 610/MWM 710**  6 Units/96 Hours  
This two-semester course sequence is intended to help students bring together information from all prior Western medicine classes. Symptoms and signs, and X-ray and laboratory results will be analyzed. Students will study musculoskeletal, respiratory, gastrointestinal, endocrine, cardiovascular, dermatological, urinary, menstrual, and psychosomatic conditions. Students will be required to derive a list of differential diagnosis, including assignment of ICD-9 codes. Particular emphasis will be placed on conditions commonly encountered in an acupuncture practice. Recognizing red flags, indicating a serious disorder, will be covered in detail. Students will learn when to refer to other healthcare providers, and how to treat patients from an integrative perspective. Students will be required to present one case study, with written analysis, as part of the course assignment.  
*Prerequisite:* MWM 520, Western Physical Examination/Lab

Pharmacology  
**MWM 620**  3 Units/48 Hours  
This course is designed to familiarize students with the use of Western pharmaceutical drugs. The lectures will focus on the categorizations of the Western pharmacopoeia, and the broad principles and mechanisms of action of drugs commonly used in a Western paradigm. A large percentage of patients seeking TCM care will already be taking prescription medications, and this course offers the student an opportunity to understand how these drugs are used in the treatment of disease.  
*Prerequisites:* MWM 310, Pathophysiology I; MWM 410, Pathophysiology II
Research

■ MWM 712  2 Units/32 Hours

In this course students will learn the elements of doing research in the biomedical field. The following concepts will be covered: basic and literature research papers, clinical trials, blinding and research design, forming and testing hypotheses. The element of writing and implementing research proposals will also be covered including relevance of the study, materials and methods, and conclusions and basis statistical analyses. Students will be introduced to the various methods of evaluating research literature. The class will discuss special problems arising from the application of modern research methods on acupuncture and oriental medicine. A research paper or an evaluation of a TCM research report will be required to unify the student’s knowledge gained in the course.

Prerequisite: MWM 520, Western Physical Examination/Lab; MWM 620, Pharmacology

Red Flags

■ MWM 715  2 Units/32 Hours

In this course students review signs and symptoms indicating severe or life threatening emergencies that warrant referral to a Western physician. Instruction includes appropriate assessments and interventions including lab and common diagnostic information. The course includes training in proper management of “red flags” and “yellow flags” and the proper procedures for making referrals to other physicians. The procedures for referral include determining whether the referral is to an ER or an outpatient clinic. In addition, the course reviews how to handle simple emergencies within the acupuncture clinic.

Prerequisite: Completion of one of the following: MWM 610, Western Case Management I; MWM 710, Western Case Management II

Psychology and Counseling

■ MWM 720  2 Units/32 Hours

This course is designed to assist students in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to evaluate and treat clients with mental disorders. The class introduces the psychotherapeutic diagnostic system (DSM IV-TR) and the vocabulary to empower practitioners to more effectively interact with western clinicians. The course covers suicide, psychosis, chemical dependency, depression, anxiety and the psychopharmacology used in western medicine. Emphasis is placed on developing solid boundaries, interviewing and communication skills, and setting up a safe and trusting environment. The course presents an introduction to western counseling skills and also addresses eastern influences on counseling. Various modalities of psychotherapy are presented.

Prerequisite: MWM 520, Western Physical Examination/Lab; MWM 620, Pharmacology

Lab Analysis

■ MWM 815  1 Unit/16 Hours

This course is an exploration of Western laboratory approaches to diagnosis. The class will review routine labs applicable to major body systems. Lab tests will be correlated with clinical diseases. The class will discuss lab methodology, normal values, variation in laboratory results as well as the limitations and power of lab findings.

Prerequisite: MWM 520, Western Physical Examination/Lab

Medical Modalities

■ MWM 820  1 Unit/16 Hours

Patients are best served when their practitioners are part of a wider network of information and support. This course introduces students to guest practitioners representing various medical philosophies, histories and medical professions in the healthcare community. Guest speakers will discuss their medical philosophy, educational background, scope of practice, type of diagnosis and services offered, and how they manage their practice. The professions represented may include a general practitioner (M.D.), surgeon, pharmacist, chiropractor, neurologist, podiatrist, osteopath, gynecologist, oncologist, public healthcare nurse, homeopath, naturopath, shaman, and ayurvedic practitioner.

Prerequisite: Completion of 4th semester
In-depth clinical training comprises approximately one-third of the Master’s curriculum, preparing you to practice the theoretical knowledge you gained in the classroom. Throughout the program, starting in your first semester, you will observe a faculty-practitioner diagnosing and treating patients. In your last year, you will diagnose and treat patients with acupuncture, Chinese herbs and other methods of the five branches, under the direct supervision of a faculty member. The Five Branches medical centers in Santa Cruz and San Jose assist over 160 patients a day, allowing you to experience working with highly skilled faculty in a busy clinical environment and to gain hands-on experience working with patients. By the end of clinical training, you will have performed at least 350 patient treatments, a basic requirement for graduation.

Beginning Clinical Theater

In Beginning Clinical Theater, newly enrolled students receive a comprehensive introduction and orientation to the clinic’s protocols on patient care, safety, herb formula preparation and patient records. This is students’ first opportunity to see how TCM theory and practice are combined. In each class, scheduled patients are interviewed, diagnosed and treated by faculty, as students observe. Following each patient’s intake, diagnosis and treatment, a general forum-discussion of the patient’s case is conducted. Students begin learning professional conduct within this clinical setting: how to take a patient’s medical history, and how to create and maintain patient records. Students observe all aspects of treating patients as a TCM professional, including diagnostic data gathering, syndrome identification, treatment planning, herb prescription formulation, and acupuncture needling techniques. Students also participate in the preparation of herbal formulas.

Prerequisite: None

Surrender yourself humbly; then you can be trusted to care for all things.
—DAODEJING 13
Clinical Theater
- MCL 200  1.5 Units/48 Hours

This class is a continuation of Beginning Clinical Theater. Conducted in a classroom setting, students will have the opportunity to see how TCM theory and practice are combined. In each class, scheduled patients are interviewed, diagnosed and treated by faculty as students observe. Following each patient's intake, diagnosis and treatment, a general forum-discussion of the patient's case is conducted. Students begin learning professional conduct within this clinical setting: how to take a patient’s medical history, and how to create and maintain patient records. Students observe all aspects of treating patients as a TCM professional, including diagnostic data gathering, syndrome identification, treatment planning, herb prescription formulation, and acupuncture needling techniques. Students also participate in the preparation of herbal formulas.

Prerequisite: MCL 100, Beginning Clinical Theater

Clinical Rounds
- MCL 300  4.5 Units/144 Hours

Clinical Rounds provides students with experience in observing and assisting licensed faculty practitioners in interviewing, diagnosing and treating patients. In Rounds, four to five students follow a practitioner, treating patients in the school’s teaching clinic. Students participate in taking and recording a patient’s history and exam. Students take the patient’s pulses and observe the patient’s tongue to understand the instructor’s diagnosis, choice of acupuncture treatment and herbal prescription. This close assistantship is invaluable in the study of TCM. Students will learn how to fill an herbal prescription from the clinic’s pharmacy and give patients instructions regarding its preparation and use. Students are evaluated on their knowledge and their developing patient skills.

Prerequisites: MCL 200, Clinical Theater; MRA 200, Cumulative Review I

Clinical Internship Rounds
- MCL 400  4.5 Units/144 Hours

In Clinical Internship Rounds, students advance to hands-on treatments in a clinical setting under the direct supervision of a licensed practitioner. A small, intimate group of students attend to the patient’s intake and treatment with constant monitoring by a licensed faculty supervisor, who develops a diagnosis and treatment strategy. Students will learn to treat patients with a variety of TCM modalities, and prepare formulas or prescribe patent herbs, under the direct supervision of a licensed faculty supervisor. Clinical Internship Rounds is designed to provide a setting for the students to develop comprehensive clinical skills in preparation for Internship.

Prerequisites: MCL 300, Clinical Rounds; CNT: Clean Needle Technique; CPR/First Aid
Clinical Paired Internship
■ MCL 510  4.5 Units/144 Hours
Clinical Paired Internship is the next level in the clinical hands-on training, preparing students for senior Internship. In Paired Internship, students work in pairs and alternate in conducting the patient history, intake, diagnosis and treatment of their patients. In this setting, students collaborate in the development of the patient’s diagnosis and treatment plan, and the presentation of their patient’s case to their faculty supervisor.

Prerequisites: MCL 400, Clinical Internship Rounds; MRA 400, Cumulative Review II

Clinical Internship
■ MCL 600  12 Units/384 Hours
Clinical training at Five Branches University culminates with Clinical Internship. Clinical Internship is designed to simulate an actual clinical environment, in which students diagnose, treat and develop long-range treatment goals and plans for their patients. Interns work independently under a licensed clinical faculty supervisor who is there to answer questions and provide recommendations and support as needed. Clinical Internship imparts the ultimate clinical educational condition for students, in which autonomy with patients is supported by the guidance and wisdom of experienced licensed faculty members. Students will be able, upon licensure, to treat patients unsupervised with confidence and expertise.

Prerequisite: MCL 510, Clinical Paired Internship

Clinical Integrative Theater
■ MCL 800  1.5 Units/48 Hours
A member of the Western faculty and the TCM faculty will supervise up to nine interns. In rotating groups of three, interns will perform the history and relevant examination of a patient from both Western and Eastern perspectives, and develop an assessment and plan from each perspective. The diagnosis and the plan will be evaluated and discussed. A second group of students will perform the Eastern treatment and carry out and make appropriate recommendations for the Western treatment with the exclusion of administering medications.

Prerequisite: Completion of one of the following: MWM 610, Western Case Management I; MWM 710, Western Case Management II

Electives
The following is a partial list of electives offered in the department of TCM Clinical Training. Electives are offered based on faculty availability and student interest. For a complete listing of electives please refer to the Five Branches website.
The following electives may be taken as part of MTCM clinical training, while also completing the requirements for each certificate program. For detailed information about these certificates please refer to the Specialty Certificate Options section of the catalog.

Sports Medicine
Sports Medicine Clinical Rounds
MCL 300, 1.5 Units/48 Hours
Sports Medicine Clinical Internship
MCL 600, 1.5 Units/48 Hours

Five Element
Five Element Clinical Rounds
MCL 300, 1.5 Units/48 Hours
Five Element Clinical Internship Rounds
MCL 400, 1.5 Units/48 Hours
Five Element Clinical Paired Internship
MCL 510, 1.5 Units/48 Hours
Five Element Clinical Internship
MCL 600, 1.5 Units/48 Hours

Medical Qigong Practitioner
Medical Qigong Clinical Internship Rounds
MCL 400, 2.25 Units/72 Hours

TCM Tuina Massage
TCM Tuina Massage Clinical Internship Rounds
MCL 400, 1.5 Units/48 Hours
TCM Tuina Massage Clinical Internship
MCL 600, 1.5 Units/48 Hours

Clinical Training in China
Students may choose to complete up to 25% of their clinical training in the affiliated hospitals of our five sister colleges in China, Taiwan and Korea. For further details, please refer to the Study Abroad section of the catalog.

The founders’ forethought on the location of the Five Branches Santa Cruz campus was an immediate draw. The building was first established as a church, and is now a clinic and school located one block from Monterey Bay. The natural setting alone is an inspiration, but combined with the distinguished and reputable teachers and quality of education, the decision was an easy one—I chose to become a Five Branches student!
Leta Jussila, Graduate
Community Externships
Up to 25% of your clinical training hours may be completed through an externship. The diverse externships we offer allow you to become exposed to different patient populations, treat a wide variety of conditions, and explore new fields of specialization.

Offered in a broad range of settings, our community externships provide you with valuable hands-on clinical experience in a private practice, community clinic, or integrative medical environment. Community externship opportunities include working with senior citizens, veterans of war, mental health patients, those struggling with substance abuse, and treating individuals in a community clinic setting. The following community externships are currently available:

Janus
Since its founding in 1976, Janus has successfully assisted thousands of individuals in their efforts against chemical dependency. In this clinical setting, you will have the opportunity to become proficient using the National Acupuncture Detoxification (NADA) protocol as an integral part of chemical dependency treatment and recovery. For more information about NADA go to www.acudetox.com.

Mental Health Client Action Network
The Mental Health Client Action Network (MHCAN) is a valuable community service, helping adults with mental illness to live without crisis. The MHCAN drop-in center receives 12,000 visits annually from approximately 600 mental health clients. They lobby for improved health care, and affordable independent housing. MHCAN clients demonstrate that people with serious mental illness can work, go to school, maintain stable housing, and help their peers do the same.

Veteran’s Clinic
You will be treating veterans of all ages with a host of complaints, primarily chronic and long-term health issues. While primary care is often provided by the Veterans’ Administration, you may also be treating homeless and drug addicted veterans. In this clinical setting, you will have the opportunity to use acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine to treat a variety of conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Although this externship does not provide the capacity to make herbal formulas on site, you will be expected to recommend formulas to your patients when appropriate. This externship is offered at both the Santa Cruz and San Jose campuses.

Community Clinic
In a community clinic group setting, you will have the opportunity to provide donation-based Traditional Chinese Medicine treatments to low income patients. You will experience how acupuncture is commonly practiced in China, providing acupuncture, Tuina massage, or herbal medicine treatments in a group setting, in short 15-30 minute intervals. By offering this affordable service, clients can receive acupuncture treatments more frequently to improve their health and well-being.
Akiyama Wellness Center

Akiyama Wellness Center is part of Yu-Ai Kai Japanese American Community Senior Service Center. Akiyama provides wellness programs to their senior members, including acupuncture, yoga, and Taiji classes. The treatment setting at Akiyama is community room style. Interns are required to see patients on a pre-scheduled basis. Although this externship does not provide the capacity to make herbal formulas on site, you will be expected to recommend formulas to your patients when appropriate.

Clinical Private Externships

Multiple off-campus externships are offered by TCM practitioners located throughout California. In a clinical private externship you will work alongside the practitioner through a normal day’s activities as well as assist with client treatments. You will have the opportunity to learn about the specializations they offer and to gain hands-on experience working in a private-practice environment.

Community Events

Five Branches University students participate in a Career Development Fair prior to the completion of their Master’s degree. This requirement is fulfilled through a community health fair or a classroom outreach event where students demonstrate their knowledge and mastery of TCM to inform and recruit new patients. Often, these events address the needs of low-income or otherwise disenfranchised groups in communities throughout the Bay Area. These events are always free to the public, and are just a small representation of the philanthropic efforts that Five Branches engages in throughout each academic year.

International Externships

You may choose to study in Asia to experience the authentic practice of TCM integrated with modern Western medicine. Our relationship with five universities in China, Korea and Taiwan provide you with the opportunity to learn TCM from highly knowledgeable doctors and clinical experts, to receive training in a hospital setting, and to explore the beauty and diversity of Asia.
Complementary studies enrich and round out your professional TCM training. The Complementary Studies curriculum includes Energetics courses, introducing you to the ancient Chinese practices of Qigong and Taijiquan, and Career Development courses to prepare you to practice TCM professionally, ethically, and successfully.

Career Development

Career Development

- **MCD 301** 1 Unit/16 Hours
  
  This course provides students with the steps necessary to create a successful practice. Topics covered will include: the legal requirements of starting a practice, setting up a practice space, creating a financial budget, managing an office, medical billing, patient management, and practice marketing. Upon completion of this course, students will have a clearer understanding of what is involved in starting and maintaining a successful practice.

  **Prerequisite:** Completion of 2nd semester

Professional Ethics

- **MCD 420** 1 Unit/16 Hours
  
  This course covers the universal medical ethics required of a primary healthcare practitioner, emphasizing professional responsibility and the study of laws which regulate TCM practices in California and the U.S. Upon completion of this course, students will be thoroughly aware of the professional, ethical, and legal responsibilities of treating patients.

  **Prerequisite/Co-requisite:** Prior completion of or concurrent enrollment in MCL 400, Clinical Internship Rounds

Career Development Fair

- **MCD 500** 0.25 Units/4 Hours
  
  Five Branches University participates in periodic health fairs for the public to raise awareness of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Supervised clinical interns provide mini-treatments or give lectures to participants. Types of treatments include community-style acupuncture, tongue and pulse diagnosis, Tuina massage, cupping, and gua sha. Advanced students are encouraged to give short presentations on health topics of their choosing, or lead classes on preparing Chinese herbal prescriptions, and practicing Qigong or Taijiquan. Our Career Development Fairs provide interns with the opportunity to promote their practice by handing out business cards to prospective patients and by demonstrating their knowledge and mastery of TCM. In a four-hour period, interns are able to treat a wide variety of patients, providing excellent clinical experience.

  **Prerequisite:** None

Marketing and Management

- **MCD 701** 1.75 Units/28 Hours
  
  This course provides students with the information they need to apply their acupuncture training skills in a business-like manner, in a variety of clinical settings. The emphasis is on the practical application of the business and professional skills necessary to provide acupuncture health care to an ever-growing population of patients. Upon completion of this course, students will understand the synergistic nature of the professional, ethical, financial, and marketing skills necessary to run a primary health care practice in the U.S. in the 21st century. They will know how to set up, run and maintain a viable practice and will understand the inner workings of an acupuncture office.

  **Prerequisite:** MCD 420, Professional Ethics
Energetics

Qigong I

**MEB 100**  1 Unit/16 Hours

Qigong, or Vital Energy Skills, are the ancient Chinese methods of cultivating and using the vital energy in the body, representing the Chinese philosophy of the exercise-health connection. Qigong is now successfully used in China for treating chronic diseases. In this practical introductory course, students learn to experience various Qigong exercises in an atmosphere of personal experimentation, with emphasis on the fundamentals of “reading” and “feeling” the Qi.

This course will enable students to become familiar with the theory, form and potential health benefits of Chinese therapeutic energetics.

*Prerequisite: None*

TCM Qigong

**MEB 140**  1 Unit/16 Hours

Qigong is a system of exercises that cultivates life force energy and is at least as old as the *I Ching (Book of Changes)*, one of the first Chinese recordings of Qi, dating from 3000 years ago. Qigong studies the relationship of the three natural energies of the universe, Tian (Heaven), Di (Earth), and Ren (Man). The practice of Qigong can be classified as martial, medical, or spiritual in nature. TCM Qigong teaches medical aspects of this exercise by integrating physical postures, breathing techniques, and mental intentions. TCM Qigong practice can reduce stress, increase stamina, strengthen and balance internal organ systems, and enhance the immune system. This course will provide students with foundational skills in improving health for both practitioner and patient through TCM Qigong.

*Prerequisite: None*

Wild Goose Qigong

**MEB 150**  1 Unit/16 Hours

Originating over 1000 years ago from the Daoist Kunlin School, this once secretly passed down, classic set of movements is one of China’s most respected Qigong styles. Dayan (Wild Goose) style imitates the movements of wild geese with dynamic and static postures, combining strength and stretching. This easy to learn yet elegant form opens channels and points, expels toxins from the tissues, and draws in healthy air to improve the health of the body, mind, and spirit. Upon completion of this course, students will be familiar with the sequence of the first 64 movements and postures of Dayan Qigong.

*Prerequisite: None*

Qigong Stretch

**MEB 160**  1 Unit/16 Hours

Qigong Stretch utilizes the posture, breath, and mental intentions found in the disciplines of Qigong to gently extend the body’s joints, tendons, ligaments and muscles to provide elasticity and fluidity of movement. With proper stretching the body opens up and the vital energy moves freely, alleviating pain caused from stagnation and tonifying the body by allowing energy to properly nourish deficiencies. Qigong Stretch is a great way to relieve stress. This course provides students with the understanding of the fundamentals of Qigong Stretch and its therapeutic application for both practitioner and patient.

*Prerequisite: None*

Qigong II

**MEB 200**  1 Unit/16 Hours

In this course, students continue to explore the sensation of Qi flowing through their bodies, utilizing exercises to cultivate their Qi and increase their awareness of the dynamic state of their own body, in response to changes in the environment. Completion of this course serves as one of the prerequisites for the Qigong Teacher Training Certificate.

*Prerequisite: None*
The following is a partial list of electives offered in the Department of Complementary Studies. Electives are offered based on faculty availability and student interest. For a complete listing of electives please refer to the Five Branches University website.

**Medical Qigong**
Medical Qigong electives may be taken in the Department of Complementary Studies, while also completing the requirements for the 200 hour Medical Qigong Practitioner (MQP) certificate program. For detailed information about the MQP certificate please refer to the Specialty Certificate Options section of the catalog.

Medical Qigong I  
MEL 310, 2 units, 32 Hours  

Medical Qigong II  
MEL 320, 2 units, 32 Hours  

Medical Qigong III  
MEL 330, 2 units, 32 Hours  

Medical Qigong IV  
MEL 340, 2 units, 32 Hours  

**Yin Tuina I**  
MEL 491 1 Unit/16 Hours  

This course explores the methods of TCM diagnosis and treatment using the ancient art of Yin Tuina. Diagnostic methods include the TCM standards of Ba Gong, Six Evils, Zangfu, Wen Bing and San Jiao. A combination of lecture and hands-on practice, this course will deepen your understanding and confidence in diagnosis through palpation of energetic patterns, both healthy and aberrant. Lectures will allude to the classics and key cornerstone quotes.

Prerequisites: Completion of first semester courses
At the end of each semester, you will have the opportunity to review the materials you have learned and to receive assessment of your progress. This evaluation assists you in developing good study and test-taking skills, ensuring full comprehension of courses, and the ability to pass the national certification and the California licensing exams.

**Cumulative Review I**
- **MRA 200** 1 Unit/16 Hours
The core curriculum of the first two semesters of study, including TCM Theory, TCM Herbology, TCM Acupuncture and Western Medicine are systematically reviewed to strengthen and solidify the students’ understanding and mastery of the material. The objective of this course is to help students develop good study and test-taking skills, and to learn to maintain a controlled pace in studying the curriculum. The course is designed to assimilate the coursework covered during the first year, preparing students for the first cumulative examination.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of 1st semester

**Cumulative Review II**
- **MRA 400** 1 Unit/16 Hours
The core curriculum of the first four semesters of study, including TCM Theory, TCM Herbology, TCM Acupuncture and Western Medicine will be systematically reviewed in order to strengthen and solidify the students’ understanding and mastery of the material. The objective of this course is to help students develop good study skills, strong test-taking skills, and to learn to maintain a controlled pace in studying the curriculum. The course is designed to assimilate the coursework covered during the first two years and to prepare students for the second cumulative examination.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of 3rd semester

**Cumulative Review III**
- **MRA 600** 1 Unit/16 Hours
The core curriculum of the first six semesters of study, including TCM Theory, TCM Herbology, TCM Acupuncture, TCM Clinical Medicine, and Western Medicine will be systematically reviewed in order to strengthen and solidify the students’ understanding and mastery of the material. The objective of this course is to help students develop good study skills, strong test-taking skills, and to learn to maintain a controlled pace in studying the curriculum. The course is designed to assimilate the coursework covered during the first three years and to prepare students for the third cumulative examination.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of 5th semester

**Final Review**
- **MRA 800** 3 Units/48 Hours
This course is designed to prepare students for the final cumulative exam and to assimilate the coursework covered during the complete four years of study. This course provides a solid foundation and study guide for preparing for the California State Board licensing (CALE), and national certification (NCCAOM) examinations. Key TCM concepts, study methodology, analysis and integrative skills will be emphasized. Upon completion of this course, students will be primed and prepared for the final cumulative exam, the California State Board and the NCCAOM examinations.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of 7th semester and successfully passing the Assessment Exam

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“Our students are very clear about their career in TCM. They are already equipped with a strong motivation in their learning. As a teacher, I’m greatly motivated by the enthusiasm of my students. It’s an honor to teach at Five Branches.”
While completing the MTCM program you can choose to train in a specialized field of study and receive a certificate upon completion of any of the following programs. Specialty certificate programs are offered based on faculty availability and student interest.

Certificates are available in:
- Five Element
- Sports Medicine
- Medical Qigong
- Tuina Massage

Five Element Certificate Program

Dr. Gary Dolovich, M.D., L.Ac., Department Co-Chair
Mary Huse, R.N., L.Ac., Department Co-Chair

The Law of Five Elements was formulated by the ancient Chinese as a way to understand the movement of life’s energies in nature. The specialized field of Five Element integrates classical Chinese medicine philosophical theory with modern psychology.

Taught by highly knowledgeable and experienced faculty, the Five Element certificate program includes both theoretical courses and clinical training. You will learn to diagnose and treat Qi according to the Five Element model, addressing a deeper level of human experience. Upon completion of Five Element Theory I and II, Five Element Point Location, two units of Five Element electives, and all Five Element clinical courses, you will be awarded the Five Element certificate.

Course Descriptions

Five Element Theory I
- MEL 315 2 Units/32 Hours

Five Element Theory II
- MEL 420 2 Units/32 Hours

Five Element Spirit of the Points I
- MEL 431 2 Units/32 Hours

Five Element Spirit of the Points II
- MEL 432 2 Units/32 Hours

Five Element Spirit of the Points III
- MEL 433 2 Units/32 Hours

Five Element Deepening Into the Officials
- MEL 440 2 Units/32 Hours

Five Element Point Location
- MEL 445 1 Unit/16 Hours

Five Element Archetypal Acupuncture
- MEL 450 2 Units/32 Hours

Five Element Clinical Rounds
- MCL 300 1.5 Units/48 Hours

Five Element Clinical Internship Rounds
- MCL 400 1.5 Units/48 Hours

Five Element Clinical Paired Internship
- MCL 510 1.5 Units/48 Hours

Five Element Clinical Internship
- MCL 600 1.5 Units/48 Hours
**Five Element Theory I**
This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of the Five Elements. You will explore a map of energy, particularly well suited for treating emotional and spiritual levels, and will begin to develop the skill to read energetic imbalances through color, sound, odor, and emotion. The concepts in this course expand the range of conditions successfully treated by TCM practitioners.

**Five Element Theory II**
This course builds on the materials presented in Five Element Theory I, providing an opportunity to delve deeper into the elements and their Officials. You will gain a profound understanding of Five Element energetics and how to utilize this knowledge in the treatment room. Case studies will be presented throughout the course to enrich your understanding of this system of acupuncture.

**Five Element Spirit of the Points I, II and III**
Acupuncture points each have a name, a history, and a particular meaning and energy. This course examines the name of the point, its location, its relationship to the elements and to the corresponding Official. This course is divided into three sections and includes discussion, meditation, art and poetry.

Section I, MEL 431: Addresses the points of Wood and Fire Meridians
Section II, MEL 432: Addresses the points of Earth, Metal and Water Meridians
Section III, MEL 433: Addresses the points of the Window of Sky, Governor and Conception Vessels.

**Five Element Deepening Into the Officials**
This course presents the energetics of each of the Officials from the Five Element perspective. You will learn the many ways the Officials present themselves when out of balance and how these imbalances are expressed in patients’ physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual lives. The methodology of choosing points to address the Official most in need of support will be discussed. You will learn how an imbalance of the Officials within yourself, and as a practitioner, affects your understanding and treatment of patients.

**Five Element Point Location**
This course will deepen your understanding of Five Element treatment strategies learned in Theory I and II. You will learn to improve Five Element point location accuracy and further develop your knowledge of Five Element point functions and indications.

**Five Element Archetypal Acupuncture**
This course explores the similarities that exist between modern Jungian psychology and Chinese medicine and how Jungian psychology archetypes are viewed within the Five Element model. You will learn to recognize archetypal emotional imbalance patterns in your patients and influence these energies through acupuncture points. The emphasis of the course will be on personal growth, with rituals, slides, Qigong exercises, stories, and spiritual poetry used to create a “sacred space” for this exploration.

**Five Element Clinical Rounds**
In this clinical training course, you will observe senior practitioners in clinic as they apply Five Element theory, energetics and point selection to a broad spectrum of patients, gaining an understanding of the principles of Five Element acupuncture as applied in a clinical setting.

**Five Element Clinical Internship Rounds**
In Clinical Internship Rounds, you will diagnose and treat patients in a clinical setting under the direct supervision of a senior practitioner. You will learn to treat patients with a variety of conditions using Five Element theory, energetics and point selection.

**Five Element Clinical Paired Internship**
In this second level hands-on training, you will work in pairs and alternate conducting patient intake, diagnosis and treatment. You will collaborate with other students to present the patient’s case to the clinical supervisor.

**Five Element Clinical Internship**
In this final stage of clinical training, you will be assigned your own patients and conduct intake, diagnosis, and treatment under the supervision of a clinical supervisor.
Sports Medicine Certificate Program

Orthopedic acupuncture is used by athletes to alleviate joint pain, heal muscle strains and sprains, and prevent injury. The benefits of stress reduction and increased energy provided by orthopedic acupuncture help athletes achieve top performance and alleviate tension prior to competition.

The Sports Medicine certificate program is designed for students interested in assisting patients to increase stamina and flexibility, reduce stress, and obtain peak athletic performance. The program emphasizes the treatment of orthopedic injuries: shin splints, tennis elbow, knee injuries, low back pain, sprained ankles, and other impairments.

Course Descriptions

**TCM Traumatology and Orthopedics**
- MCM 410 3 Units/48 Hours

**Advanced TCM Traumatology and Orthopedics**
- MEL 700 2 Units/32 Hours

**Sports Medicine Clinical Rounds**
- MCL 300 1.5 Units/48 Hours

**Sports Medicine Clinical Internship**
- MEL 600 1.5 Units/48 Hours

**TCM Traumatology and Orthopedics**
This course covers the etiology, diagnosis and treatment of common diseases of the musculo-skeletal system in accordance with both TCM and Western medicine. Emphasis is placed on the differentiation of bone and soft tissue injuries related to common sports and industrial injuries. You will learn to treat patients with acupuncture and herbs, perform essential orthopedic tests to evaluate the outcome of treatments, recognize red flags in orthopedics, and make appropriate referrals. You will learn how to competently instruct patients in the proper rehabilitation and the prevention of sports and industrial injuries.

**Advanced TCM Trauma and Orthopedics**
This course covers the etiology, pathogenesis, differential diagnosis and treatment for traumatic injuries of the skin, tendons, ligaments, and muscles from an integrative approach. You will learn how to review X-rays, perform specific orthopedic tests for common musculoskeletal injuries, and make proper referrals when necessary. Herbal formulas for poultices, plasters and compresses will be taught in addition to acupuncture treatment modalities.

**Sports Medicine Clinical Rounds**
In this specialized clinical training course, you will observe senior practitioners in clinic as they apply acupuncture, Chinese medicinal herbs, and Tuina massage to a broad spectrum of patients with sports injury-related conditions.

**Sports Medicine Clinical Internship**
In this final stage of clinical training, you will gain the skills to diagnose and treat patients, applying classical and specialized acupuncture and herbal formula treatment plans for a variety of sports injuries, utilizing Western medical examination and diagnostic techniques when appropriate.
Medical Qigong Certificate Program

Francesca Ferrari, L.Ac., Department Co-Chair
Jean Vlamynck, L.Ac., Department Co-Chair

Based on the textbook, Chinese Medical Qigong Therapy: A Comprehensive Clinical Text, this program teaches the basic theories and practical applications of Medical Qigong.

Medical Qigong was developed to treat patients with a multitude of conditions, including internal organ diseases, immune system dysfunction, and cancer. Patients are treated with Qigong and given specific Medical Qigong prescription exercises and meditations in order to complement their treatments and enhance healing. A 200-hour Medical Qigong Practitioner certificate will be awarded upon completion of Medical Qigong I–IV (128 academic hours) in addition to 72 hours of clinical training.

Course Descriptions

Medical Qigong I
- MEL 310 2 Units/32 Hours

Medical Qigong II
- MEL 320 2 Units/32 Hours

Medical Qigong III
- MEL 330 2 Units/32 Hours

Medical Qigong IV
- MEL 340 2 Units/32 Hours

Medical Clinical Internship Rounds
- MCL 400 2.25 Units/72 Hours

Medical Qigong I
In Medical Qigong I, you are led through a progressive series of Qigong (Vital Energy Skills) meditations and exercises. You will learn basic applications of Medical Qigong (purging excess conditions, tonifying deficiencies, dispersing stagnations and regulating Qi, blood and body fluid), and how and when to apply them in clinic. You will be introduced to energetic psychology, discharging toxic emotions, and will learn how to handle the emotional discharges and toxic energetic releases coming from your patients.

Medical Qigong II
In Medical Qigong II, you are led through a progressive series of advanced Shengong (Spirit Skill) meditations and exercises, specifically used for developing advanced intuitive diagnostic skills. You will learn how to establish proper energetic boundaries, and neutralize psycho-emotional interactions such as projection, transference, and counter-transference. Upon completion of this course, you will be prepared to participate in the Medical Qigong clinical training and assist the instructor with performing treatment protocols.

Medical Qigong III
In Medical Qigong III, you will be provided with an overview of the esoteric principles and foundational structures that govern Traditional Chinese Medical Qigong. Course content includes: the study of the Three Outer Forces and their influence on the human body, energy, food and diet, the body’s energetic internal structures, advanced Shengong cultivation methods, the Eight Supernatural Powers, how to rectify Qi deviations, among other topics.

Medical Qigong IV
In Medical Qigong IV, you are introduced to advanced Medical Qigong theories and their clinical application. Upon completion of this course, you will be ready to practice on your own, utilizing Medical Qigong treatment protocols in combination with other TCM modalities, empowering your patients to use modified Qigong prescriptions to suit their personal needs.

Medical Qigong Clinical Internship Rounds
Conducted in a small class setting, Clinical Internship Rounds provides you with exposure and first-hand experience with Medical Qigong diagnosis and treatment. In this hands-on clinical training course you will learn and experience the different aspects of energetic dysfunction and symptom manifestation. Through the careful guidance of the instructor, you will assist in all phases of diagnosis and treatment.
TCM Tuina Massage Certificate Program

TCM Tuina massage practitioners work with the energy channels and points of the body using the same principles as acupuncture except that hands and fingers are used rather than needles. Tuina massage is used to release stagnant energy flow and tension in the body, enhance the healing process, and aide in the recovery of damaged tissues.

Utilizing a variety of hand techniques, Tuina massage is usually practiced on a clothed body.

A highly effective holistic approach, Tuina provides physical and mental relaxation and a deep sense of well-being. This treatment modality is highly beneficial for young children and patients that have concerns about the use of acupuncture needles.

The TCM Tuina massage certificate program consists of 176 hours of both theoretical and clinical training. This program is open to students who are not enrolled in the MTCM program, provided they meet the general education enrollment requirements and have taken the prerequisites.

Course Descriptions

**TCM Tuina Massage I**
- MAC 350 3 Units/48 Hours

**TCM Tuina Massage II**
- MEL 400 2 Units/32 Hours

**TCM Tuina Clinical Internship Rounds**
- MCL 400 1.5 Units/48 Hours

**TCM Tuina Clinical Internship**
- MCL 600 1.5 Units/48 Hours

**TCM Tuina Massage I**
Massage and manipulation, or Tuina, comprise one of the traditional five branches of TCM. Although the TCM program emphasizes the clinical methods of acupuncture and herbology, this course introduces you to Tuina and other traditional Chinese therapeutic massage systems. Emphasis is on using specific clinical evaluations to formulate therapeutic massage treatments, which can become a part of your clinical practice.

**TCM Tuina Massage II**
This course expands on the foundation of TCM Tuina Massage I, focusing on clinical assessment and treatment protocols for a variety of common musculoskeletal and internal medicine disorders. You will learn how to use Tuina as an independent treatment modality, offering TCM massage to those whom acupuncture is either undesirable or inappropriate.

**TCM Tuina Massage Clinical Internship Rounds**
In this specialized clinical training course, you will practice a broad spectrum of applications of Tuina massage with patients in a clinical setting under the direct supervision of a senior practitioner.

**TCM Tuina Massage Clinical Internship**
A continuation of the theoretical and practical aspects of Tuina massage, this clinical training course provides you with the opportunity to work with your own patients, practicing what you have learned in class and observed in clinic, under the direct supervision of a senior practitioner.

Michael Alexander performing Tuina massage
Study Abroad Program

The Study Abroad program offers you the unparalleled opportunity to witness the authentic practice of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) combined with Western medicine as a primary care medical system, where large volumes of patients with a wide variety of conditions are treated.

Accompanied by Five Branches’ native Chinese- or Korean-speaking faculty and 20 to 30 Master’s and Doctoral students, you can travel to Asia for a period of two to four weeks to receive specialized TCM and Integrative medicine training in an affiliated hospital and out-patient center at one of our five sister schools, in China, Taiwan or Korea.

You can complete up to 25% of your clinical training requirements at one of the following Universities: Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, Liaoning University of TCM, Tianjin University of TCM, China Medical University, and Daejeon University and receive specialized training in Internal Medicine, Oncology, Pediatrics, Gynecology, TCM Trauma or other medical specialties, based on faculty availability.

Using a translator, you will train with world class practitioners who possess a strong knowledge in the theories and clinical applications of TCM. All of the schools in this program are AAA-rated and offer the latest in modern medical technology.

Travel Throughout Asia

After training in the hospital, join faculty and fellow students on daily excursions to historical sites, shopping, tasting local delights or enjoying the area’s scenic gardens, pagodas and museums.

China

Considered one of the world’s top travel destinations, China offers travelers stunning natural beauty, bustling city experiences and more than 5000 years of rich cultural heritage.

Explore Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Great Wall of China in Beijing, and experience the striking scenery of the mountains of Guilin and Yangshao rising up from the rice paddy fields.

Korea

While visiting Korea, stroll the pavilions and halls within the grounds of the famous Gyeonbok Palace, and be sure to wander the streets of Seoul, known for its chic boutiques, renowned restaurants and exciting nightlife.

Taiwan

Taiwan, one of the most diverse destinations in Asia, is full of natural wonder: Explore the lush mountains of Wulai, hike in Taroko Gorge or spend time at one of the world’s best hot springs. At night, venture out to the exhilarating city of Taipei to experience a mélange of Taiwanese culture, entertainment and cuisine.

Other Destinations

With an infrastructure that allows easy travel by plane, ship, car or train, you can extend your stay and travel throughout Asia to engage in activities like swimming with elephants in Thailand, diving the multitude of coral reefs that surround the islands of the Philippines or mastering the art of meditation and tea ceremony during a temple stay in Japan.

This valuable international experience will complement your academic curriculum, broaden your perspective of the Asian culture and be highly regarded by future employers.
Welcome to Five Branches. We are here to support you, address your questions, and give you the answers you need to enter the rewarding field of TCM. We will provide you with a thorough overview of the TCM profession, the Master’s degree program that leads to California licensure and national certification, and the career opportunities available in the field. We invite you to visit us, take a tour of our campuses, and attend an open house. We look forward to joining you in your discovery of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Five Branches Students
Our program attracts students seeking to become TCM practitioners, those currently studying at another TCM school who wish to transfer to Five Branches, and international students who have a desire to study TCM in the U.S. Our students also include professionals seeking new careers, Western medical practitioners who wish to enhance their practice, and non-degree seeking students interested in studying Chinese medicine for the enhancement of their personal health and well-being.

Representing diverse age groups with varied cultural and ethnic backgrounds, our students are self-motivated and dedicated individuals who consistently achieve the highest passing scores on both the California licensing exam and the national certification exams.

Visit Five Branches
The best way to experience Five Branches University is to visit. We invite you to meet the individuals who are the essence of our community and to immerse yourself in the environment of our classrooms and health centers, rich in the beauty and culture of Chinese medicine.

We welcome you to explore our coastal campus in Santa Cruz, California where our TCM Master’s daytime program and health center has resided for over a quarter of a century. Santa Cruz is renowned for its beautiful beaches and redwood forests, fresh ocean air, mild weather, and year-round cultural and recreational activities.

In the heart of Silicon Valley, our San Jose campus resides in a modern high-rise office building located across from the prestigious Santana Row, within walking distance of sidewalk cafes, luxury shops and beautiful fountains. A welcoming courtyard leads you to the Health Center and University where our TCM

Eleonor Mendelson, Admissions Director, greeting a new student
Master’s degree is offered in three languages: English, Chinese and Korean. The English and Chinese Master’s are available in daytime programs while the Korean Master’s program is offered in the evenings and on Saturdays. Our flexible programs provide you with the option to complete the program on a full or part-time basis. While on campus, review our doctoral program schedule of events, providing licensed acupuncturists the opportunity to train with TCM and Western medicine experts from China and Stanford University.

Campus Visit
A campus visit is the most effective way to get an up-close and personal look at the Five Branches community. Enjoy a personal tour, a free treatment in our clinic, observe our classes and clinical training, and meet the faculty, staff and students of Five Branches. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the programs we offer, the admissions process, financial aid, scholarships, and to gain the information necessary to assist you with your decision to attend Five Branches University. Contact us to schedule an appointment for a campus visit.

Open House
While attending an Open House, learn what makes Five Branches distinctive from other TCM colleges and hear about the exciting growth in the field of Chinese medicine. Join us for a campus tour to explore how comfortable the facilities and environment feels to you. Engage in a student panel discussion, a treatment demonstration, and talk with faculty and staff to gain a better understanding of the programs we offer, as well as the social community you will enjoy at Five Branches.

Six open house events are held each year:
Santa Cruz campus: February, June and September
San Jose campus: April, July and November
Please refer to the Five Branches website for more information.
Attend a Seminar
The Extension program at both of our campuses offers certification in Asian bodywork, Medical Qigong, and Mind-Body medicine, as well as seminars in the healing arts. Attending a seminar is an excellent way to become acquainted with the healing modalities associated with Traditional Chinese Medicine and to experience the rich heritage of the Asian culture.

Request Information
If your schedule does not allow you to visit at this time and you would like to receive detailed information about the TCM Master’s program, you can request information online, via email, call the admissions staff at the campus you are interested in attending, or simply download our online catalogs to review our programs.

Thank you for your interest in Five Branches University!

Applying to Five Branches
Once you have made the decision to enroll in the Five Branches TCM Master’s program, you are ready to begin the application process.

Priority Application Dates
Applications are reviewed throughout the year on a priority status basis. The priority status application process gives preference to early applicants. Entering classes are formed on a semester basis, occurring in Spring and Fall. To ensure space in an entering class, we strongly recommend you apply by the priority application dates listed. If all entering class spaces have been filled, you will receive priority status for the following semester.

Priority Application Dates:
- Fall Semester: May 1
- Spring Semester: September 1

Transfer students, or students interested in taking natural science courses at Five Branches, must complete their application no later than March 1 to be admitted during the summer term, beginning in mid-May.

General Educational Requirements
All applicants must have fulfilled the minimum education requirements of 60 semester credits (equivalent to 90 quarter credits) of general education from a regionally accredited degree-granting college or university, with a minimum of 2.5 GPA.

Up to 30 semester credits of general education may be earned through successful testing assessment using a combination of acceptable assessment modalities such as: College Advanced Placement (AP), College Level Examination Programs (CLEP), American College Testing Proficiency Program (ACT/PEP), and U.S. Armed Forces Institute Programs (USAIF). Although you may be awarded credit for these testing assessments, some state licensing agencies may not accept these credits if they were awarded by non-regionally accredited institutions.

If you have not completed an AA degree or higher, your general education must include: one course in English composition with critical thinking, two courses from different departments in Arts and Humanities, one course in College Algebra or higher, one course in General Psychology, and one course in Social Sciences. Each of these courses must be a minimum of three semester credits each, a total of 18 semester credits. The remaining 42 semester credits may include transferable coursework towards the MTCM degree or any other topic of your interest. For a list of approved, transferable courses please contact the admissions office.

Pre-Qualification Services
If you prefer to apply before you have met the educational requirements, the admissions department will provide pre-qualification counseling services to assist you with the necessary steps to become eligible for the TCM Master’s degree program.
Natural Science Requirements

The MTCM program at Five Branches University requires five natural science courses: General Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Human Anatomy and Human Physiology, each with a minimum of three semester credits. It is highly recommended you complete the courses General Biology, Physics, and Chemistry prior to entry. These courses can be taken from a community college, university, or online. If these courses have not been taken prior to enrollment you may take them concurrently, within your first two years of study. Please contact the admissions director regarding transfer credit of natural science courses or for a list of approved schools providing these courses.

Non Degree-Seeking Applicants

Five Branches University will consider Non Degree-Seeking (NDS) applicants including; students participating in the California Acupuncture Board-approved tutorial program, licensed acupuncturists, medical doctors and other health professionals who may be seeking to meet an educational objective other than the Master’s degree. NDS students may take up to 50% of the Master’s degree program, receive an official transcript showing coursework that has been successfully completed, and request to become a degree-seeking student at any time. NDS students must follow the same application and admissions procedures as required of degree-seeking students. NDS students are not eligible for federal financial aid.

Completing the Application

To be considered for admission to Five Branches University, the following items are required:

1. Application for Admission. Use your full legal name on all admissions documents. The campus you prefer should be clearly indicated on the application form. If your choice of campuses is undetermined, mail your application package to the Santa Cruz campus.

2. Recent photograph. One recent passport-style photograph.

3. Statement of purpose. A one-page, typed essay describing your background, how you became interested in TCM and your plans beyond graduation.

4. Resume. An up-to-date resume listing all previous education, job experience, accomplishments and volunteer work.

5. Application fee. A non-refundable application fee of $45.00, payable in check or money order.

6. Health Evaluation. The course of study at Five Branches University includes clinical training. In order to ensure the maintenance of safety precautions and a healthy environment in the Five Branches clinics, we require the completion of a Health Evaluation. This health evaluation must be signed by a qualified primary health care practitioner.

7. Hepatitis B Vaccination or Waiver Form. Due to possible occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials, we recommend...
receiving a Hepatitis B vaccination. A copy of this immunization record must be provided. If vaccination is declined, a waiver form must be signed.

8. **Tuberculosis Test.** Tuberculosis is a common, and often deadly infectious disease caused by mycobacterium. It usually attacks the lungs but can also affect other body systems. Tuberculosis is spread through the air, when people who have the disease cough, sneeze or spit. To ensure the maintenance of safety precautions in the Five Branches clinic, we require all applicants to have a tuberculosis clearance prior to enrollment in the Master’s program. This may be done through a PPD Skin Test or a QuantiFeron TB Gold Blood Test.

**Supporting documents—sent separately:**

9. **Two letters of recommendation from teachers, employers, colleagues and/or healthcare professionals.** References should list how long they have known you and in what capacity. They should state your strengths and character traits and why they recommend your admission to Five Branches University. Recommendation letters must be sent directly from the individual to the admissions office at the Five Branches campus you are applying to.

10. **Official transcripts of all college and/or university coursework.** Academic transcripts must be sent directly from the institution to the attention of the admissions office at the Five Branches campus you are applying to. If you have taken Natural Science AP courses, make sure to contact the College Board at P.O. Box 6671 Princeton, NJ 08541-6671.

**Please note:** Education obtained abroad at an institution not accredited by the U.S. Department of Education must go through a credential evaluation agency. For more information go to the International Applicants section of the catalog.

**Campus Addresses**

San Jose campus applicants mail information to:

Five Branches University  
Attention: Admissions Office  
3031 Tisch Way, Suite 507  
San Jose, CA 95128

Santa Cruz campus applicants mail information to:

Five Branches University  
Attention: Admissions Office  
200 7th Avenue  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the application process, our admissions staff is available to assist you.

**The Admissions Process**

**Admission Interview**

Once your application package and all supporting documents have been received, you will be invited to Five Branches for a personal interview with one of the members of the admissions committee. The admissions interview is a mutually beneficial process, allowing you the ability to acquire additional information not gained in previous interactions with Five Branches, while the admissions committee has the opportunity to get to know you on a more personal level.

**Application Review**

After your interview, your file will be reviewed by the admissions committee. In evaluating applicants the committee takes into consideration many factors: academic achievement, professional experience, recommendations, accomplishments, personal character, and future potential.
Five Branches University selects students who have a sincere interest in TCM and integrative medicine, who have an interest in serving others as health care professionals, and who have demonstrated the aptitude to successfully complete the program. Our most successful students are prepared for their TCM education with well-developed study skills and a solid financial plan.

Admissions Decision
You will be notified in writing once a decision has been made by the admissions committee, within two weeks after your interview.

Deposit
Upon notification of acceptance, you will be asked to reserve your space with a $300 non-refundable deposit which will be applied to your first semester tuition. This deposit will reserve your place in the upcoming semester as space allows.

Waiting List
If there is not available space in the next entering class, accepted applicants will be placed on a waiting list. We will inform you of your position on the waiting list and you will be notified if space becomes available. If space is not available, those on the waiting list can elect to have their application brought forward to the following semester.

New Student Orientation and Registration
One week prior to the beginning of the semester, you will attend the New Student Orientation and Registration. The orientation reviews financial aid and registration options, the academic calendar, college policies, and the MTCM program. This is an excellent time to meet fellow students, faculty, and members of the administration. Student registration is scheduled on the day following orientation. During registration you will meet with the admissions director or an academic advisor to review your class schedule. If you need special assistance with the registration process or with specific scheduling needs, please contact the admissions office for assistance prior to registration day.

International Applicants
Five Branches University welcomes international applicants from all over the world. We support a bicultural and bilingual environment, offering our Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine in English, Chinese, and Korean, and our Doctorate program in English and Chinese.

Five Branches defines an international applicant as someone who is a citizen or permanent resident of a country, other than the United States, who wishes to pursue a Master’s degree at the university. Five Branches University is authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant alien students and complies with all federal guidelines and directives of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

International applicants follow the same application and admissions procedures as required of resident students, in addition to meeting the international application requirements. We recommend international applicants begin the admissions process six months to one year prior to the desired priority application date. Tuition and fees for international students are the same as for U.S. citizens and residents. International students are not eligible for U.S. federal financial aid.

International Application Requirements
If you are an international applicant applying for an F-1 student visa through Five Branches University, you must submit the following documents along with the completed application. It is important to write your name (as it appears on your passport) on your application and all supplemental documents.

1. A photocopy of the first page of your passport.
2. Transcript evaluation. If you have completed college or university level education in another country, you must have your transcripts reviewed by a credential evaluation agency that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services, Inc. Transcripts need to be evaluated on a course-by-course basis. The evaluation, containing the total number of earned credits and cumulative GPA, should be sent directly to Five Branches University by the evaluating agency. Two agencies we recommend are: the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO), www.aacrao.org or World Educational Services (WES), www.wes.org.

As hunger is cured by food, so ignorance is cured by study.
—CHINESE PROVERB
3. **Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and International English Language Testing System (IELTS).** If you are an international applicant and have completed at least a two-year (60 semester credit or 90 quarter credit) baccalaureate level education in an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education or from an equivalent English language institution in another country, the TOEFL and IELTS may not be required.

**English Master's Program.** If you are applying for the English Master's program, and your native language is not English, you will be required to take a test which measures your ability to communicate in English in four specific areas: listening, reading, writing, and speaking.

The minimum scores to achieve on these tests are as follows:

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<th>TOEFL</th>
<th>IELTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper Test</td>
<td>Computerized Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>173</td>
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When taking the TOEFL, please enter the appropriate Five Branches assigned code on the Score Report Request Form, as indicated below:

- Santa Cruz campus assigned code: 4459
- San Jose campus assigned code: 5881

**Chinese or Korean Master's Program.** If you are applying for the Chinese or Korean Master's program you may be admitted with English as a second language. However, before entering internship clinic level, you will have to meet higher English requirements by testing through TOEFL or IELTS.

The minimum scores to achieve in these tests are as follows:

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<th>TOEFL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Test</td>
<td>Computerized Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>450</td>
<td>133</td>
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4. **Financial Statement.** A Financial Statement, certified by a financial institution, verifying the availability of at least $25,000 in U.S. dollars. This amount should cover your education and living expenses for one academic year. If you need the university to issue an F-2 I-20 for your dependents, you will need to calculate an additional $4000 for each dependent. In addition, you may want to consider having additional funds for off-campus months and miscellaneous expenses. We recommend having approximately $7,000 for this purpose. If your tuition or living expenses are going to be partially or fully paid by a sponsor, the Financial Statement must be signed by your sponsor, stating they assume financial responsibility for the designated amount.

5. **Health Insurance.** International students must provide proof of health insurance coverage prior to student registration. Due to the high costs of medical insurance in the United States, it may be advantageous to purchase health insurance coverage in your home country. We recommend you purchase a healthcare policy for yourself and any dependents, with a minimum coverage of 250,000 per incident, and a deductible of no more than $500 per person, per year.

Prior to your arrival in the United States, we recommend you obtain medical records for you and your dependents from your primary physician. These should include a medical history describing previous illnesses, surgeries, and records of all immunizations, including those received in childhood. In addition, since dental costs in the United States tend to be considerably higher than in most other countries, you are advised to have any necessary dental work completed in your home country prior to your arrival in the U.S.

**International Applicants Currently Studying in the U.S.**

If you are an international student who is currently on an F-1 student visa, enrolled at another college or university, you must submit the following documents along with your application materials:

1. A photocopy of the first page of your passport.
2. A photocopy of your visa, contained in your passport.
3. A photocopy of your I-94 Form (Arrival-Departure Form).
4. A photocopy of your I-20 Form.

Once you have been accepted to Five Branches University, a Transfer Release Form must be signed by your school International Student Official, verifying you have maintained your visa status and are eligible for transfer. Please contact the admissions office to receive a copy of this form.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the international application requirements, our admissions staff is available to assist you.
Transfer Students

If you are a student at another TCM/acupuncture school and are considering transferring to Five Branches, you can apply for our Master's program as a Transfer Student. Five Branches University offers one of the best TCM educational programs in the United States. Our transfer policies ensure that a transfer student’s training from another school will meet the high standards of our MTCM program.

Five Branches accepts transfer students who will be completing at least 50% of their Master’s degree at the University. If you have only one year remaining before graduation, we recommend you graduate from the school you are currently attending, if possible.

Transferring TCM Courses

Transfer credit will be accepted for TCM courses taken from a nationally accredited TCM college, approved by the California Acupuncture Board, if the courses are equivalent in content to Five Branches courses.

TCM-related courses from a TCM college not approved by the California Acupuncture Board will only be accepted within the 50% limitations of the Board. TCM courses from tutorial or apprenticeship programs are non-transferrable.

Transferring Western Medicine Courses

Western medicine courses taken prior to enrollment at Five Branches may be transferred to fulfill part or the entire MTCM Western medicine track, including natural science requirements. If the natural science courses: Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Human Anatomy, and Human Physiology have not been taken prior to enrollment, students may take them concurrently, within their first two years of study. These courses can be taken from a community college, a university, or online. Western medicine courses are transferable only from regionally accredited, degree-granting colleges, universities, or TCM schools. Natural science credits from non-accredited or vocational schools are non-transferable.

Transferring Complementary Studies Courses

Five Branches accepts the transfer of classes from non-accredited schools or colleges for courses such as Qigong and Taijiquan, if equivalent in content and duration. A copy of a certificate of completion or diploma, or a letter from a teacher or school, will serve as a transcript.

Transfer Student Application Requirements

Transfer students follow the same application and admissions procedures required of new students, in addition to meeting the transfer student requirements listed below. If you are a transfer student transferring to Five Branches University from another TCM college, you must submit the following documents along with the completed application:

1. **Cover letter** stating your reasons for seeking a transfer from another TCM college, and a list of the courses you wish to transfer.
2. **Letter of recommendation** from a previous TCM/Acupuncture instructor, located at the TCM school you attended.
3. **Catalog from your previous TCM college, stating its approval agencies and accreditation.**
4. **Syllabus outlining the course content for each course you wish to transfer.**

Upon acceptance to Five Branches, you will be informed of your placement in the MTCM program, and an evaluation of your transfer credits will be completed by the admissions director. An equivalency exam may be required. Only coursework completed prior to enrollment at Five Branches, and awarded a letter grade of C or above, is transferable.

Transfer Fees

A transfer fee will apply to the evaluation of all courses transferred into the MTCM program, with the exception of the five natural science courses. The transfer fee is 15% of the current tuition, per unit, up to a maximum of $200. If an equivalency exam is required, an additional fee of 30% of the current tuition, per unit, will apply.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the transfer student application requirements, our admissions staff is available to assist you.
Financial Aid, Tuition and Fees

Five Branches University is an accredited institution of higher education approved to participate in federal financial aid programs. Our financial aid programs assist more than 80% of our students in meeting the financial costs of their education.

Federal financial aid programs provide financial assistance to students who, without such assistance, would be unable to meet educational costs at the University. Educational costs include tuition, fees, books, materials, and a reasonable allowance for living during the academic year. In order to qualify for federal financial aid, you must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and enrolled for a minimum of six units each semester. International students who attend Five Branches University on an F-1 visa are not eligible to participate in the federal financial aid program.

The financial aid office can assist you in finding the sources of financial aid that best suit your educational needs. If you have questions or need further information you can contact us by phone, via email or make an appointment to meet with a financial aid advisor. We hope to make your financial aid experience a pleasant one.

Applying for Financial Aid

Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the first step in applying for financial aid. The FAFSA needs to be completed each academic year and is available online at: www.fafsa.ed.gov. When completing the FAFSA, use the Five Branches Federal School Code: 031313. You will need a PIN (Personal Identification Number) to sign the application electronically. The PIN can be obtained at: www.pin.ed.gov.

Once the FAFSA is completed you are required to complete the Supplemental Financial Aid Form available online at: http://www.fivebranches.edu/masters-in-tcm/financial-aid/59.

Once you are successfully admitted to Five Branches University you will be notified by email and sent a Financial Aid Award Letter in the mail along with supporting documents. For more detailed information on applying for financial aid refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section of our website: www.fivebranches.edu/masters-in-tcm/financial-aid/63.

Financial Aid Policies

Students who receive federal financial aid while attending Five Branches University will be subject to the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy as well as the College Academic Progress Policy.

If you receive federal financial aid and withdraw from Five Branches University after classes have begun, you will be subject to the Federal Return of Title IV Funds Regulations and must notify the school according to school policy. The Return of Title IV Funds Regulations will be applied first, after which the school’s refund policy will be applied. Both the Federal Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy and the Return of Title IV Funds Policy are described in the student handbook.

During registration, state law requires all students to sign a contract to protect their student rights and specify their enrollment and financial agreement with Five Branches University.

Verification

Verification is a federally mandated process designed to verify the accuracy of information reported on the FAFSA. The Department of Education randomly selects students for verification, requiring the completion of a verification form and submission of supporting documentation. If you are selected for verification it is important to return the requested information as soon as possible so the disbursement of your financial aid will not be delayed. For more information regarding verification, please visit: www.finaid.org/fafsa/verification.php

Scholarships

The majority of our scholarship funds come from private donors and TCM-affiliated organizations with a sincere interest in supporting Five Branches students.
and the growth of the TCM profession. Qualifications for scholarships are primarily based on financial necessity, academic merits and strength of essay. For a list of current scholarship resources, refer to the Five Branches website, www.fivebranches.edu, under Financial Aid/Scholarships.

**MTCM Program Tuition and Fees**

**Tuition (2013 Academic Year)**

Tuition for the Master's program academic units is $280 per unit for the 2013 academic year. Each academic unit is equivalent to 16 hours of classroom instruction. Tuition for the Master's program clinical units is $560 per unit. Each clinical unit is equivalent to 32 hours of clinical training. The total tuition for the 3208-hour TCM Master's program is $56,140, approximately $14,000 per year.

Tuition does not include the cost of books or additional fees. Elective courses and certificate programs are additional and not included in the total tuition cost. Required books are estimated to cost approximately $1000. For room, board and miscellaneous expenses, students should calculate approximately $2000 per month.

**Fees (2013 Academic Year)**

- Audit course: $140
- Malpractice insurance: $90
- Student council: $25
- Professional association membership fee: $25
- Herb sample: $45 (first three semesters only)
- Transfer fee: 15% of current tuition up to a maximum of $200. Transfer fee is not applied to natural science courses.
- Make-up exams. Quiz: $25, Mid-term: $50, Final: $75
- Challenge exam: 30% of tuition cost per unit
- Drop course fee after first week: $50
- Installment payment fee: $25
- Transcript request: $5
- Application fee: $45
- Total required fees: $1255

**Tuition Payment**

Registration occurs two times per year: in November for the Spring and Summer terms, and in April for the Fall semester. Students pay for the total number of units they register for each semester, which is due in full two weeks prior to the beginning of the semester. For entering students, tuition is due at registration. Tuition and fees for international students are the same as for U.S. citizens and residents. Five Branches University reserves the right to change tuition and fees as necessary.

If you are unable to pay in full at registration, an extended payment plan can be arranged whereby 50% of tuition costs are due two weeks prior to the start of the semester, with the balance due six weeks into the semester. The installment payment fee is $25.

**Refund Policy**

To cancel your contract for enrollment at Five Branches University and to receive a full refund of tuition, a Withdrawal Form must be submitted to the administrative office no later than the fifth business day following the first day of courses for which you enrolled. If you choose to cancel your contract for enrollment after attending courses, a pro-rated tuition will be refunded based on the percentage of unused class time remaining. You may drop a course after instruction has started and receive a pro-rated refund for the unused portion of tuition, only if you completed 20% or less of the course. Please refer to the student handbook or the Enrollment Agreement for detailed information on the Five Branches refund policy.
Student Handbook
The academic policies of Five Branches University are detailed in the student handbook which is given to students during registration. To assist new students, the handbook describes student services, administrative policies, and guidelines such as grading, attendance, examinations, and leave of absence. The student handbook is edited regularly to reflect updated policies.

Part Time Studies—Six Year Limit
The Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine (MTCM) program is a full-time program requiring a considerable commitment of time and energy. We recommend that students regard their studies at Five Branches as their primary objective throughout their matriculation at the University. Students who need to enroll in the program part-time have up to six years to complete the Master’s degree program. Students who need to extend their studies beyond this six-year limit must submit a formal request to the registrar for review by the Student Progress Review Committee.

Academic and Clinic Class Size
To optimize learning, academic classes average 24 students. Classes that have insufficient enrollment (less than 10 students) may be postponed to the following semester. Clinical Theater classes range from 10 to 18 students, and Clinical Rounds, Clinical Internship Rounds, Clinical Paired Internship, and Clinical Internship classes are limited to four to eight students per section.

Attendance
If circumstances occur that cause absences of up to 18% for academic courses, or up to 12% for clinic courses, the student is responsible to meet with the instructor to assess their academic standing in the course. Frequent tardiness and/or continued absences that interfere with a student’s academic progress will be brought to the attention of the Student Progress Review Committee. Please note that instructors may have their own attendance policies that are stricter than the University policy.

Grading Policy
Five Branches University uses a letter grading system (A, B, C, F) for all academic courses and grades of credit/no credit (CR/NC) for all clinic courses. Each course syllabus describes the course’s grading procedure. To remain in good academic standing, students are required to take the MTMC program in sequential order and maintain a minimum term and cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or higher.
Cumulative Review and Competency Exams

The program offers a series of review classes to prepare students for the annual cumulative exams which are required for all students to continue their studies in good standing. Besides measuring progress, these examinations are designed to prepare students for the California state licensing and national certification exams. Students entering clinical internships are required to pass clinic competency exams.

Review Process

Review of a student’s academic progress is performed each term, including the review of all final course and clinic grades, evaluations by the faculty, and attendance rosters. Any student who does not meet the established criteria for normal academic progress and professionalism will be referred to the Student Progress Review Committee.

Student Progress Review Committee

The Student Progress Review Committee (SPRC) reviews academic progress of students to ensure their success in the program. Students who need assistance to maintain good academic standing are required to meet with the SPRC to devise a plan to improve their academic performance.

Students may ask the SPRC for help in finding tutors and/or other resources to assist with successful completion of the program.

The SPRC is responsible for ensuring a fair and impartial disciplinary process for students who breach standards of professionalism. Most cases are resolved in ways that serve to foster the ethical development and personal integrity of students, and to provide a safe and comfortable campus environment.

Standards of Professionalism

The Standards of Professionalism policies are intended to protect the rights of all students, faculty, staff and patients at Five Branches University while on campus and at all sponsored events. Five Branches University may impose discipline for violation of these standards of professionalism including, but not limited to dishonesty, disrespect, disrupting a professional atmosphere, substance abuse, and sexual harassment. For detailed information about the standards of professionalism policies refer to the Student Handbook.

Academic Warning and Probation

Students unable to maintain good academic or professional standing are placed on academic warning or probation. Students will be notified by letter of the reasons that led to this action and an explanation of the corresponding satisfactory academic progress requirements for the ensuing term. Student enrollment is subject to review until the student returns to good academic or professional standing. For detailed information regarding the academic warning and probation policy refer to the Student Handbook.

Academic Dismissal

Academic dismissal is termination of enrollment at the University for the inability to meet academic or professional standards. Failure to comply with the requirements set forth by the Student Progress Review Committee for remediation of a probationary status will result in academic dismissal. Students may appeal this action through the academic appeal process outlined in detail in the Student Handbook.
Academic Appeal
The Student Progress Review Committee (SPRC) is responsible for reviewing and approving appeals. Appeals must be submitted to the SPRC in writing, describing any extenuating or mitigating circumstances that prevented compliance with Five Branches University policies. An appeal must explain what has changed in the student's situation, and the precise steps the student will take or is taking to regain good academic standing. For detailed information regarding the academic appeal process refer to the Student Handbook.

Grievance Procedure
Students who have complaints concerning administrative or academic policy may submit the grievance in writing to the Student Progress Review Committee (SPRC). The SPRC will review the complaint and gather all relevant information prior to making a decision. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the decision of the SPRC, she/he may submit a written appeal with all relevant documentation to the academic dean and the president. Following this, the matter may be given to the board of directors for final review.

If the complainant has made full recourse of the University's grievance procedure, and believes the University did not address their complaint, the student may contact the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine at 14502 Greenview Drive, Suite 300B, Laurel, MD 20708, (301) 313-0855, www.acaom.org. For detailed information regarding the grievance procedure, refer to the Student Handbook.

Non-discrimination Policy
Five Branches University is an equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, in the administration of admission, educational policies or employment. The University abides by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibits discrimination against any "qualified individual with a disability."

Graduation and Licensing Requirements

Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine
The Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine Degree is awarded to students who complete the entire MTCM program in good academic standing and with no outstanding financial obligations to the University. The MTCM degree fulfills the requirements you need to take the California Acupuncture Licensing Examination and the National Certification Exam.

Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
A Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine candidate is eligible for graduation once he/she has satisfactorily completed all didactic and clinical courses, fulfilled all requirements, and obtained a passing mark at the final capstone project/oral defense. Upon graduation, students will be awarded the Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM) degree.

Becoming a Licensed Practitioner of Traditional Chinese Medicine
Licensure to practice acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine is regulated by individual states in the United States. Other countries also have various requirements for licensure. Applicants who wish to practice outside California should investigate licensure regulations in the state or country they are interested in practicing, prior to applying to Five Branches University.

California Licensure Examination
Students wishing to practice acupuncture in California must first obtain the state license, which requires qualifying for and passing California’s written examination administered by the California Acupuncture Board.

All program required coursework must be successfully completed to be eligible to sit for the California Acupuncture Board licensing examination. All accounts with the administration, clinic, and library must be clear, as well as proof of an exit interview with the financial aid advisor. Students must notify the administration of their intention to sit for this examination one month prior to the examination application deadline, allowing adequate time for processing of paperwork to the California Acupuncture Board.
For the latest information about the California Acupuncture Licensing Examination and licensure in California contact:
The California Acupuncture Board
1747 N. Market Blvd, Suite 180
Sacramento, CA 95834
Phone: (916) 515-5200
Fax: (916) 928-2204
Email: acupuncture@dca.ca.gov
www.acupuncture.ca.gov

National Certification Examination
The National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM®) is the only national organization that validates entry-level competency in the practice of acupuncture and Oriental medicine through professional certification. NCCAOM certification or a passing score on the NCCAOM certification examinations are documentation of competency for licensure as an acupuncturist by 43 states plus the District of Columbia which represents 98% of the states that regulate acupuncture.

For the latest information concerning the national licensing exam and licensure in other states contact:
NCCAOM
76 South Laura Street
Suite 1290
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Phone: (904) 598-1005
Fax: (904) 598-5001
www.nccaom.org

For additional information on state certification requirements and contact information for the regulatory agency for acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine located in each state go to: http://www.acupuncture.com/statelaws/statelaw.htm#47.
Application for Admission
Master's Degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine

I am applying for:  □ Spring 20___ (1st Due Date Sept 1; 2nd Due Date Dec 1)  □ Fall 20___ (1st Due Date May 1; 2nd Due Date July 1)

I am applying for admission to:  □ Santa Cruz Campus  □ San Jose Campus Day Program  □ San Jose Campus Evening Program  □ San Jose Bilingual Program

Personal Data

Legal Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)

Name on previous academic record, if different from above (Last, First, Middle Initial)

Present Address—Street

City  State  Zip

Permanent Address—Street

City  State  Zip

Home Phone  Work Phone  Cell Phone

Email  Social Security #  Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)

Student Type (check all that apply)

□ U.S. Resident  □ International  □ TCM Transfer  □ Non-degree seeking

U.S. Citizens only: the US Government asks us to report on the ethnic composition of our student enrollment

□ American Indian, Alaskan Native  □ Hispanic  □ Black Non-Hispanic

□ White Non-Hispanic  □ Asian or Pacific Islander  □ Other

Gender:  □ Female  □ Male

International Students

Citizenship  Country of Birth

Do you need a student visa?  □ Yes  □ No

If currently in the US, what type of visa do you hold?

Do you speak English fluently?  □ Yes  □ No

List other languages spoken

TOEFL  □ Yes  □ No  Score: ____________  Date: _______________________

Education  Attach additional pages as necessary

College/University  Degrees

Address

College/University  Degrees

Address

Date attended

Date attended
Experience  Please include a resume—attach additional pages as necessary

Present Occupation: From: To:

Previous Occupation: From: To:

Previous Occupation: From: To:

Do you have any work experience in the healthcare profession? □ Yes □ No If yes, please describe job(s) and training:

Describe your personal interests other than occupational:

Legal Information

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? □ Yes □ No
If yes, please note: The California Acupuncture Board has specific policies regarding applicants who have criminal records. Anyone who has questions regarding these policies should contact the Acupuncture Board at (916) 263-2680.

Financial Data

How do you expect to pay tuition?

You have access to tuition for: □ 1 semester □ 1 year □ 2 years □ 3 years □ 4 years
If your tuition is derived from sources other than your own savings or employment, please complete the following:

Person(s) or Agency paying tuition

Address—Street

City

Phone

State

Zip

In Case of Emergency, Notify

Name

Relationship

Address—Street

Phone

City

State

Zip

I hereby certify that all of the information provided in my application package is accurate and true, and that I am the author of the attached Statement of Purpose.

Applicant’s Signature Date

How did you first hear about Five Branches University?
Miao Shou Hui Chun
Magic Hands Return Spring

These four characters are found on the walls of many esteemed TCM practitioners’ clinics in China. They represent the way a practitioner’s heartfelt sense and skills help patients maintain optimal health, strength and well-being.

The calligrapher, Joanna Zhao, is a licensed acupuncturist and Five Branches Academic Dean. She descends from a long, famous lineage of Chinese calligraphers.

At graduation, along with the Master of Traditional Chinese Medicine diploma, each Five Branches graduate receives an original of this respected inspiration.