**Western Acupuncture**  
*(589724)* 45 Points  
Full year, 2012

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**Paper overview**  
The Western Acupuncture paper involves the safe and effective practice of acupuncture needling using Western medical clinical reasoning to support acupuncture treatment. The neurophysiological mechanisms involved when applying acupuncture are evaluated, thus expanding your clinical reasoning skills.

**Programme study options**  
This paper is available from the Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences in the rehabilitation specialisation area.

**Who can study this paper?**  
The paper is for registered health professionals who will normally have completed the requirements of one of the following in a relevant field from a New Zealand tertiary institution or equivalent:  
- A bachelor's degree  
- Professional qualification recognised by the university as being equivalent to a bachelor's degree  
- Evidence of professional experience deemed by the university to be equivalent to a bachelor's degree

Where entry qualifications do not meet the criteria for study at postgraduate level, completion of transitional studies may be required before the applicant is admitted to the programme.

**What you can expect to learn?**  
This paper covers the following topics:  
- Western scientific clinical reasoning  
- Neuroanatomy and neuroscience pertaining to Western acupuncture  
- Scientific basis and efficacy of Western acupuncture  
- Clinical reasoning decision-making in assessment and treatment.  
- Acupuncture meridians, acupuncture points and extra points based on anatomical relationships, palpation, WHO numbering and Chinese measurement systems  
- Practical needling techniques  
- Acupuncture-related precautions, complications, hazards  
- Advanced Western acupuncture skills such as trigger point, scar, auricular, scalp needling, as well as the use of indwelling needles, and electroacupuncture  
- Basic Chinese acupuncture theories  
- Integration of Western acupuncture into their existing health professional practice.

**What you need to study this paper?**  
To study this paper it is essential that you have a computer, internet (broadband preferred), email access and access to a clinical practice setting.

**Paper Coordinator:** Susan Kohut, MSc, Dip Phty, Reg Phys Acup  
Both papers are run by Susan Kohut with support from Peter Larmer. Input from several expert clinicians with advanced acupuncture knowledge is included. Susan is a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences at AUT University. Peter Larmer is Head of Physiotherapy at AUT University. They are both physiotherapists, each having over 20 years of acupuncture experience.

**Dates and location details**  
*Location:* On campus at Akoranga Campus, AUT University  
*Teaching Period(s):* Full year (27 February – 9 November 2012)  
*Online:* No  
*Block Course:* Yes

**How will the paper be taught?**  
Academic and clinical experts will facilitate the delivery of the teaching process in block modules. Students will be involved in the preparation and delivery of learning. These will include power point presentations, classroom discussions, case study presentations, group work and demonstration. In addition, nominated experienced clinicians acting as mentors and/or assessors will facilitate individual knowledge and practical skills.
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Students are expected to integrate findings from the literature and the practical skill of acupuncture into their existing clinical practice. AUT Online will be used to supplement class work, discussion boards and group wikis will be available for online discussion and preparation of material to be presented in class, or for formative examinations.

Paper hours:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self directed study</td>
<td>290</td>
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How much time will I need to commit to the paper?
The four, one-week blocks are an important component to the course. It is advised that you try not to work at your usual employment during the weeks before/after class. This is dependent on your other commitments and the speed at which you learn and work, but on average a 45 point paper typically involves around 450 hours per semester. This includes reading, analysis and discussion of provided literature. This will be done through participation on AUT Online and the preparation of assessments.

What experience/qualifications will I need?
For the Western Acupuncture paper it is strongly recommended that you have a working knowledge of anatomy, physiology and the fundamentals of nervous system function. Ideally, you will have some experience of working with people with pain, or musculoskeletal or neurological dysfunction. As a benchmark, we recommend that you have anatomy and physiology knowledge at least at first year undergraduate/diploma/certificate level from a university or similar institute. Because you will be encouraged to be practising acupuncture on your patients, all participants require a relevant current Annual Practising Certificate.

How will the paper be assessed?
There are four modes of assessment.
The formative (which does not contribute to the final paper mark) is:
• A ‘mock practical’ of the practical exam, midway through the paper. This will assist the refining of your acupuncture point, acupuncture mechanisms and clinical reasoning knowledge.

The summative (which does contribute to the final paper mark) consists of:
• An essay (3500 words) explaining neurophysiological mechanisms utilised in acupuncture treatment of a clinical condition of the student’s choice.
• A practical exam, where a case study is presented. Acupuncture needling of the case-study treatment is demonstrated, and further tutor questioning of acupuncture needling is undertaken.
• A Clinical Portfolio (5000 words), which consists of case studies drawn from your own clinical practice, demonstrating advanced clinical reasoning and reflective skills.

How much does this paper cost?
45 point paper tuition fee for domestic students in 2012 is approximately NZ$2,800. Additional fees for study may include; a learner services levy, student association (AUSM) fee, charges and paper activity fees. Please contact us for further information (International students email international.centre@aut.ac.nz).

Enrolment process
New students
Contact the Student Information Centre
Phone: 0800 AUT UNI (0800 288 864) or Email: courseinfo@aut.ac.nz

Returning students
Go online to AUtonline, https://autonline.ac.nz
a. Check paper timetable by clicking on ‘Timetable’ option
b. Then, complete ‘2012 re-enrolment form’ by clicking on ‘Forms’ option
c. Then, email us the completed form.

Enrolment and paper information
Student enrolment enquiries:
0800 AUT UNI (0800 288 864)
courseinfo@aut.ac.nz
www.healthpostgraduate.aut.ac.nz

Student enquiries about this paper:
Susan Kohut (Paper Leader)
09 921 9999 ext 7041
Susan.Kohut@aut.ac.nz or postgradHES@aut.ac.nz
or debra.spinetto@aut.ac.nz

Information in this document is provided as a general guide only for students and is subject to alteration.