

# Theoretical Concepts of Western Acupuncture

(589725) 15 points



## Paper overview

The Theoretical Concepts of Western Acupuncture paper offers practitioners the opportunity to study the contexts in which acupuncture is situated, and to comprehend the issues relevant to Western acupuncture research. The complex understandings inherent in providing acupuncture treatment provide an underpinning to acupuncture treatment.

## 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 bachelors degree
- Professional qualification recognised by the university as being equivalent to a bachelors degree
- Evidence of professional experience deemed by the university to be equivalent to a bachelors 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:

- Introduction to acupuncture
- History of acupuncture, including contexts of social, political and differing acupuncture paradigms and influencing factors
- Emergence of Western acupuncture
- Evidence-based medicine
- Use of methodological tools in assessing therapy and acupuncture based research literature
- Research and acupuncture. Inherent problems using the randomised controlled trial

## What you need to study this paper?

To study this paper it is essential that you have a computer, internet (broadband preferred), and email access.

## Paper Coordinator: Susan Kohut, MSc, Dip Pty, 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):** Semester 1  
**Online:** Yes  
**Block Course:** Yes

## How will the paper be taught?

Initial structured two days of introductory classroom lectures using PowerPoint presentations, classroom discussions, and group work are the primary strategies utilised during the two day classroom time. Other associated class activities include laboratories to AUT Online participation and Library laboratories for research data searching.

Online learning requires the tutor to act as a learning facilitator, questioning, directing and clarifying discussion with all individual groups to stimulate the student to a greater depth of thought in relation to the topic. Meetings using Skype to discuss the paper and tensions may be utilised during the semester.

## How much time will I need to commit to the paper?

This is dependent on your other commitments and the speed at which you learn and work, but on average a 15 point paper typically involves around 150 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.



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studentcentre@aut.ac.nz  
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## What experience/qualifications will I need?

For the Theoretical Concepts of 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 two modes of assessment.

- The first assessment relates to the online work done over the semester. The quality of individual student's discussion is marked during the online period.
- The second assessment is a Critical Analysis assignment (2500 words), in which the student will systematically analyse the quality of acupuncture research for a clinical condition of the student's choice

## How much does this paper cost?

15 point paper tuition fee for domestic students in 2012 is approximately NZ\$1000. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:courseinfo@aut.ac.nz)

[www.healthpostgraduate.aut.ac.nz](http://www.healthpostgraduate.aut.ac.nz)

### Student enquiries about this paper:

Susan Kohut (Paper Leader)

09 921 9999 ext 7041

[Susan.Kohut@aut.ac.nz](mailto:Susan.Kohut@aut.ac.nz) or [postgradHES@aut.ac.nz](mailto:postgradHES@aut.ac.nz)

or [debra.spinetto@aut.ac.nz](mailto:debra.spinetto@aut.ac.nz)

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



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