Welcome to the American College of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM). Founded in 1991 and based in Houston, Texas, ACAOM has grown from an independent academy to a medical institution leading the industry in education and research. Through its collaboration with some of the world’s leading hospitals and community health centers, ACAOM is one of the most respected and integrative-minded institutions of its kind. Our sister-school relationship with four major traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) universities in Asia allow students to study abroad, and our cooperation with Methodist hospitals and other clinics around the city allow acupuncture to be delivered to patients in need.

Thank you for your interest in ACAOM, as we continue…

“Shaping the Future of Healthcare”
American College of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine is a post baccalaureate academic institution dedicated to educating and conferring degrees upon graduating individuals having equipped them for successful careers as healthcare practitioners based on the theories, principles, and clinical applications of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM).

We embrace the tenets of Western science and promote the integration of TCM into mainstream biomedicine. Our clinics provide the community with affordable healthcare services while developing student skills and broadening the body of TCM research.

We are committed to excellence in teaching, research, patient care, and community service based on the finest skills, latest technologies, and the highest ethical standards of healthcare delivery.

ACAOM is dedicated to strengthening the role of acupuncture and Oriental medicine by providing complementary healthcare delivery in the United States. We believe that the collaboration of Oriental and Western medicines will yield a great number of advances and breakthroughs in the treatment of illness, resulting in better healthcare for all. Consequently, we are dedicated to offering our students a solid education in TCM while at the same time providing knowledge in Western medicine to facilitate their communication with patients and physicians.
**Why Acupuncture?**

Acupuncture is a patient-centered system that has over 5,000 years of history and offers healing without the dangerous side-effects of many Western medical treatments and medicines. People of all ages are turning to acupuncture and TCM for more natural and effective healthcare options, resulting in explosive growth within the industry and a continuous demand of licensed acupuncturists.

**Why Wellness?**

According to the Natural Marketing Institute, the growth rate of the wellness industry between 2005 and 2010 was almost 79%. It is projected that it will continue to grow by almost 13% annually. Global Industry Analysts indicates that the industry expects to reach $115 billion by 2015, marking a growth of over 30% in the last three years. With an increase in the number of wellness centers having acupuncture, herbal medicine, nutrition, exercise management, counseling, and other modalities, having management knowledge in integrative medicine has become crucial in today’s market.
In 2012, ACAOM became one of a selected few acupuncture schools in the nation to be regionally accredited. Our onsite and online degree programs are institutionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, which is the same accrediting agency overseeing other major colleges and universities in the region including Rice University and Baylor College of Medicine.

The MAOM program is also accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine, approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and also approved by the California Acupuncture Board, which allows students who want to practice in California to sit in on their state licensure examination.

Our Collaborations:
The Methodist Hospital
University of Houston, Clearlake
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Baylor College of Medicine
Rice University
Dalian Hospital, China
Zhejiang Hospital, China
Brazilian College of Chinese Medicine, Brazil

Our Sister Schools:
Tianjin University of TCM, China
Luzhou Medical University, China
Taipei Medical University, Taiwan
China Medical University, Taiwan
China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, China
Henan University of TCM, China
Da Yeh University, China
Hubei University of TCM, China
Our Programs

Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM)
The DAOM degree emphasizes a TCM approach to gynecology. This two-year program consists of advanced TCM coursework, research methodology, and specialty-specific clinical training in women’s health. Didactic courses include advanced acupuncture, which encompasses the modern methods of acupuncture diagnosis and assessment. The DAOM degree program also includes the most recent research studies on the principles of acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine.

Master of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (MAOM)
The MAOM program offers acupuncture, herbal, TCM and Western biomedicine courses, training students to become professional acupuncturists. Students will obtain knowledge in holistic medicine, natural health, and overall wellness from a TCM perspective. The program includes a comprehensive clinical internship.

Master of Integrative Wellness Management (MIWM)
The MIWM is a healthcare administration program training students to understand the theories and practices behind acupuncture, wellness, and management.

Master of Integrative Healthcare Leadership (MIHL)
The MIHL shares similar curriculum to the MIWM program except it is 100% online.
**DAOM Program**
- Two-year program
- 38 didactic credit hours
- 22 clinical credit hours
- Women’s health specialization
- Classes meet one weekend per month
- Study abroad opportunity
- Professional development

**MAOM Program**
- 163 credit hours
- Full or part-time enrollment
- Day and evening classes
- Classroom and hands-on clinical training
- Study abroad opportunities
- Clinical observation at the Houston Methodist Hospitals

**MIWM/MIHL Programs**
- MIWM & MIHL are similar except MIHL is fully online
- 36 semester credits
- 3 semesters fast track option
- Integrative approach between TCM theories & wellness principles
- Management & leadership training in integrative wellness
- Full or part-time enrollment

**Scholarships, Financial Aid, VA Benefits, Available**
Our Faculty

ACAOM attracts the highest qualified and experienced faculty from around the globe. Most of our faculty have both M.D. and Ph.D. degrees, and are knowledgeable in both Oriental medicine and Western bio-science.

Our Students

Our diverse student body is composed of all ages and ethnicities. They share a passion and enthusiasm for learning and exploring the world of acupuncture, Oriental medicine, and wellness.

Our Alumni

ACAOM proudly supports our successful alumni, many of whom now work in:

- Private Practice
- Research
- Academic
- Clinical Training
- Wellness Management

"During my time at ACAOM, I have had the pleasure of meeting very wonderful and knowledgeable professors, staff, and classmates. The curriculum here has provided me with a strong foundation in the integration of both Chinese and Western medicine that can be built upon for years to come. The school brings in experienced faculty from the U.S., China, Taiwan, and abroad, to prepare you with the confidence, and skills to go out on your own and make a difference in this field."

ACAOM Alumni
Jonathan Stuart, L.Ac.
Class of 2014

80% Graduate Placement Rate (MAOM 2004-2014)
ACAOM is located in the heart of Houston. Its centralized location is minutes away from the world renowned Texas Medical Center, museum district, shopping malls and multicultural cuisines. Restaurants and apartment complexes are within walking distance making it convenient for our students’ busy schedule.

Our Library

Our online and on-site medical library resources are comprehensive and helpful for students of TCM. These resources are available to public users as well as students, alumni, and staff. They are maintained regularly and include information from reputable, evidence-based medicine.

Our Clinic

Our clinic provides healing through both modern and traditional treatments. We treat over 90 different disorders using acupuncture, herbs, moxibustion, tui-na, and more. Interns supervised by experienced licensed practitioners offer economical treatments to the community. Seniors and public workers receive discounts.
Our clinical internship is structured to allow students to observe and treat patients with diverse medical conditions. Each intern treats over 350 patients and gains experience from skilled practitioners at our campus clinic and other Houston Methodist Hospital sites when available. Some common conditions treated are:

- Pain Management
- Infertility
- Women’s Disorders
- Addictions
- Internal Medicine
- Neurological Problems
- Digestive Diseases
- Allergies
- Insomnia
- Depression
- Respiratory Disorders
- Sports Injuries
- Immune Deficiencies
- Weight Management
Our sister school relationship with major TCM universities in Asia allows us to offer our students study abroad opportunities to study and train in the land where acupuncture originated. In the last few years, students have been able to rotate and treat patients in various departments at Tianjin University of TCM, earning a unique learning experience that cannot be found in the US. This optional elective course is part of the MAOM program.

For the last two decades ACAOM was honored to receive continuous support from the city of Houston and the community. In November 2014, ACAOM and the city of Houston co-hosted the WFAS World Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine Conference, which features notable speakers including Dr. Andrew Weil. Over 900 delegates from 36 countries attended the conference and over 200 abstracts presented.
Why Choose ACAOM

- Regionally Accredited
- Integrative Module
- Strong Faculty Team
- Depth of Curriculum
- Unique Clinical Internship
- Day/Evening Classes
- Study Abroad Opportunities
- Vibrant Student Body
- Flexible Class Schedule
- Full/Part-Time Enrollment
- High Board Exam Passing Rate
- Supportive Staff
- High Graduate Placement Rate
- Diversity
- Integrative Wellness Programs
- Strong Leadership

ACAOM is the stepping-stone for the merging of ancient wisdom and modern technology
Eligibility Information

Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM)
Master’s degree in acupuncture or Oriental medicine with completion of acupuncture, herbal medicine, and biomedical science according to minimum Master’s standards. GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Experienced practitioners may be admitted by a thorough entrance evaluation and documentation of five years full time clinical practice.

Master of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (MAOM)

Master of Integrative Wellness Management (MIWM)

Master of Integrative Healthcare Leadership (MIHL)

Bachelor’s degree or equivalent (defined as 120 semester credit hours with 30 being upper-level and 30 general education.) GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale (except 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for MIHL). Candidates holding a master’s degree may be admitted on the basis of that degree with a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Please refer to the catalog for details.

Application Requirements

- Completed application form
- Two recent photographs
- Official transcript
- Personal statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- Valid personal identification
- $100 non-refundable application fee ($150 for international students)

For International Students, Add:

- Transcripts evaluation
- Proof of financial responsibility
- Proof of English proficiency
  (DAOM and MAOM only)
Houston, also known as the Clutch City, is home to the NASA Johnson Space Center and Houston Rockets. At 634 square miles, the city of Houston could contain the cities of New York, Washington, Boston, San Francisco, Seattle, Minneapolis, and Miami. Houston is the fourth most populous city and busiest port in the U.S. There are approximately four million residents (250,000 Asians) living in Houston and surrounding areas. The Texas Medical Center, located only minutes away from ACAOM, is the largest medical complex in the world! The Greater Houston area has 14 major institutions of higher learning, including two medical schools—University of Texas Medical School and Baylor College of Medicine. ACAOM is the only traditional Chinese medicine school in Houston, and one of the few that is regionally accredited in the US. Although it is one of the fastest growing cities, Houston offers the second lowest cost of living with the most affordable housing. Forbes named Houston the "Coolest City" in the country in 2012, citing factors such as the strong economy, dynamic arts scene and multiculturalism, and is among the ten best cities for young entrepreneurs in 2014. Business Insider ranked Houston the Best City in American in 2014.

American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award masters and doctorates. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500, for questions about the accreditation of American College of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine.