



**Karolinska
Institutet**

Course syllabus for

Medical Acupuncture, 15 credits

Medicinsk akupunktur, 15 hp

This course syllabus is valid from spring 2018.

Please note that the course syllabus is available in the following versions:

[Autumn2012](#) , [Autumn2013](#) , [Spring2014](#) , [Autumn2014](#) , [Spring2015](#) , [Autumn2016](#) , [Spring2017](#) , [Spring2018](#)

Course code	9H1017
Course name	Medical Acupuncture
Credits	15 credits
Form of Education	Contract education (credits)
Main field of study	Clinical Medical Science
Level	AV - Second cycle
Grading scale	Fail (U) or pass (G)
Department	Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society
Decided by	Styrelsen för utbildning
Decision date	2012-08-16
Revised by	Education committee NVS
Last revision	2017-12-05
Course syllabus valid from	Spring 2018

Specific entry requirements

A minimum of 120 credits and a licence to practise issued by Socialstyrelsen as a physiotherapist, nurse, occupational therapist, doctor of medicine or dentist. Or a licence to practise issued by Socialstyrelsen as a naprapath or chiropractor. And proficiency in Swedish and English equivalent to Swedish B/Swedish 3 and English A/English 6.

Objectives

The course in medical acupuncture aims at achieving skills in integrating medical acupuncture as a treatment method for patients with pain in clinical practice.

Knowledge and understanding

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- explain origin and modulation of pain from a physiological perspective.
- describe how medical acupuncture modulates the nervous system and influences physiological processes.

- describe, explain and motivate dosage, indications and contraindications, risks, legal aspects and keeping medical records as well as
- critically describe and review treatment principles from a physiological perspective.

Skills and abilities

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- classify a given pain condition and explain the choice based on knowledge in pain physiology and known clinical findings and be able to apply principles of pain measurement and pain rating.
- independently plan, carry out and evaluate treatment with manual acupuncture/electroacupuncture in patients different pain conditions.

Judgement and approach

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- reflect on patients individual variations that can influence the pain experience, the planning and the implementation of the acupuncture treatment such as the effect of sex, age, physiological and psychological factors.
- reflect and evaluate design and performance analysis in scientific articles in the area of acupuncture.

Content

The course is divided into four parts.

Pain physiology, 3.0 hp

Grading scale: GU

Part 1 contain: Studies in pain physiology, pain classification, endogenous pain controlling systems, placebo as well as pain analysis and pain rating.

Medical acupuncture - physiology and treatment, 4.0 hp

Grading scale: GU

Part 2 contain: Lectures and seminars/workshops in for example acupuncture physiology, treatment principles, dosage, risks, adverse reactions and sham- and placebo acupuncture and electroacupuncture.

Practical applications and case seminars, 5.0 hp

Grading scale: GU

Part 3 contain: Practical application (needling) with localisation of needle points and practical training as well as patient case seminars.

Extended essay, 3.0 hp

Grading scale: GU

Part 4 contains a written advanced group assignment, that is examined in writing and peer-review of another groups' assignment.

Teaching methods

All in the course included parts start from a problem-oriented and collaborative view on learning where the working methods give precondition because the student takes responsibility for his learning actively.

Central is to take responsibility for the learning and to search and evaluate new knowledge.

The course contains lectures, seminars, workshops and practical application. In addition, self studies. The students will also write an advanced assignment.

Practical application (needling practise) takes place in pairs during the entire course why you as a participant need to feel comfortable being needled during the course. For security reasons, all compulsory sessions of acupuncture treatment has to be attended before the students are allowed to begin the practical application (needling).

Compulsory parts in the course are seminars/workshops and practical applied parts which are marked in the timetable. Attendance at other elements in the course are not compulsory, but are strongly recommended.

Examination

Part 1. Pain physiology
Be examined in writing.

Part 2. Medical acupuncture; physiology and treatment
Is examined in writing and via seminars and workshops*.

Part 3. Practical application and patient case seminars
Is examined using practical exercises and seminars*.

Part 4. Written advanced assignment
Is examined through a written advanced assignment and peer-review of another essay.

* Attendance during the initial mandatory sessions is required for safety reasons for continued participation in the course. Possibility to supplement certain absence from compulsory parts can be offered at assembly time. On absences more than a day, there will be an opportunity at the next course, provided that there is a decided course. This cannot be guaranteed and are subject to availability.

Transitional provisions

Other directives

Language of instruction: Swedish.

Literature and other teaching aids

Akupunktur : punkthandbok

Andersson, Sven; Ottosson, David; Lundeberg, Thomas

2. uppl. : Kungälv : AKAB utbildning, 1999 - 166 s.

ISBN:91-971037-4-8 (spiralh.) LIBRIS-ID:7793255

[Library search](#)

Om smärta : ett fysiologiskt perspektiv

Norrbrink, Cecilia; Lundeberg, Thomas

2. uppl. : Lund : Studentlitteratur, 2014 - 184 s.

ISBN:9789144089706 LIBRIS-ID:16592713

[Library search](#)

White, Adrian.; Cummings, T. M.; Filshie, Jacqueline.

An introduction to Western medical acupuncture

Edinburgh : Churchill Livingstone/Elsevier, 2008. - xviii, 240 p.

ISBN:978-0-443-07177-5 (pbk.) LIBRIS-ID:12157001

[Library search](#)

Filshie, Jacqueline

Medical Acupuncture

Elsevier Health Sciences, 2016 - 734 s.

ISBN:9780702043079 LIBRIS-ID:19697627

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