



THE ALTERNATIVE CLINIC

FOR EXTERNAL INJURIES AND INTERNAL DISEASE

Clinical Training at The Alternative Clinic What to Expect & Code of Conduct

Thank you for your interest in clinical training at The Alternative Clinic. Please read through the following information, and return a signed copy of these guidelines to us via e-mail prior to the start of your training.

Observation / Immersion Programs:

As part of our mission to raise the bar of Chinese medicine, we offer clinical observation at The Alternative Clinic. We believe in bringing classical theory to life through clinical application, showing the tangibility and effectiveness of acupuncture, bodywork and herbs.

While seminar training is very important, watching skilled Chinese medicine practitioners treat real patients is the most important step to clinical efficacy. Traditionally, a practitioner would spend years assisting and interning before going out on their own, yet today most students graduate from school without any meaningful form of clinical residency, internship or mentorship. Our clinical training hours have been approved for CEU credit by the California Acupuncture Board and can be submitted for the total number of hours accrued toward licensure recertification. The NCCAOM however will only accept 10 hours of clinical experience toward continuing education requirements.

Observation / Immersion Programs:

Observers must be licensed practitioners at time of booking.

- Payment is due in full at booking, dates are unconfirmed until payment is received.
- Payments are not refundable for any reason unless cancelled by ATS. Please respect this policy and do not ask for exceptions.
- Always confirm with your governing board before paying for observation if you are counting on CEUs for your practice. ATS is not responsible for ensuring your governing body accepts our CEU certificates.

One Day Observation: \$240

- 9-5 pm, any single day of the week
- Provides an 8 hour certificate of completion applicable for NCCAOM credentials as a professional development activity, or under the California Acupuncture Board as a formally organized and approved in person continuing education course.

Per Week Observation: \$750

- Monday through Friday
- Must be completed in one calendar week
- Provides 8 hour certificate for each day, totaling 40 hours of CEUS applicable to California Acupuncture Board credentials. Please note - the NCCAOM will only accept only one 8 hour clinical observation per 2 year licensure renewal period.

Intensive Immersion:

- For longer term clinical observation, please contact ats@traditionalstudies.org



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Application Process:

To sign up for clinical observation, please send an e-mail with requested dates of attendance. A credit card is required to confirm your observation dates and are not refundable once confirmed.

Space limited to two observers per practitioner

Monday: practitioners JulieAnn Nugent-Head & David Trevino

Tuesday: practitioners Andrew Nugent-Head & David Trevino

Wednesday: practitioners JulieAnn Nugent-Head & Andrew Nugent-Head

Thursday: practitioners Andrew Nugent-Head & David Trevino

Friday: practitioners JulieAnn Nugent-Head & David Trevino

CEU Certification:

If you need to certify your training hours for licensure, be sure to let our front desk staff know ahead of time to prepare CEU certificates. It is your responsibility to obtain this paper and to keep it for accreditation. Training shifts are approved for CEU credit through the California Acupuncture Board for each day attended under the title "Medical Grand Rounds". The NCCAOM considers clinical observation a professional development activity. As of 2020, they will only accept one day of observation toward each 2 year licensure renewal period.

Travel:

Asheville airport (AVL) is 15 minutes from town and very easy to navigate. However, as a small airport, flights are slightly more expensive than flying into Greenville or Charlotte. Shuttle buses are available to Asheville, but the convenience is worth the cost to fly directly into AVL airport. For international flights, connecting through Newark or Chicago is a good choice, as both of those cities have a direct flight to Asheville.

Accommodations:

The clinic is in the heart of downtown and the city is easily walkable. Many hotels are available within walking distance to the clinic, but do have premium rates. West Asheville and East Asheville have ample airbnb and small places to stay, but will require car / bike or uber service to get to and from the clinic to lodging. Please see the attached recommended accommodations sheet.

Parking:

There is very limited parking in the downtown area. However, parking by the Merrimon Avenue Whole Foods is free and does not have time restrictions. There is also a flat rate parking lot on Lexington Avenue across from Dobra Tea House. Metered street parking in downtown has a two hour time limit and is strictly enforced. Parking garages in the downtown area are available for \$12 per day or by the hour.

Observation Payment:

Payment is due in full at time of booking. Payment can be made by credit card or paypal.

Personal Belongings Storage:

We have limited storage, but we do have a secure place for a small bag/wallet/keys and coat.

Shift Times:

Treatment hours are typically 9 - 5pm, with a brief morning discussion and post shift Q & A. Lunch break is typically from 12:30-1:10pm. We recommend bringing a packed lunch, however we *do not* have facilities to heat up food. There are excellent restaurants and sandwich options in the downtown area but do note we only have a 40 minute lunch break. We do have tea and filtered water available.

Hygiene:

Please be aware of personal hygiene, come to the clinic clean and showered, and do not apply strong essential oils



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or perfumes.

Clinic Dress Code:

We are a medical clinic. Please dress as a professional medical care provider. No exceptions. If you arrive improperly attired, you will not be permitted to observe.

- Men: black collared shirt. Khaki, black or grey pants and closed toe shoes. Hoodies and t-shirts are not acceptable. In winter sweaters or jackets should also be solid black in color.
- Women: black professional attire, black pants and conservative jewelry. Please no low cut / cleavage revealing shirts. Closed toe black shoes. In winter, sweaters or cover-ups should also be solid black in color.

Important Notes:

Please do not engage in conversation with the patients or practitioners while with patients. We work to ensure that your time at The Alternative Clinic is a valuable learning experience, however, please understand the benefit of quiet observation and respect the treatment between practitioner and patient. Depending on the condition of the patient, it is often inappropriate to openly discuss the case, diagnosis, techniques or strategy while with the patient.

Casual conversation is often disruptive and consumes valuable treatment time. If the practitioner is chatting with a patient in a casual manner, that does not invite you to join in the conversation. If you have comments or questions, write them down. If you feel you have beneficial suggestions, diagnoses or treatment strategies, please keep them to yourself. Please remember that the patients are in our clinic to see us, and they put up with observers because that is our policy. We need you to blend into the background. We discuss cases at the end of the day and will provide you with time for questions or comments.

Please also keep conversations in the pharmacy and waiting area to a low volume. Please turn off your cell phone and store it with your belongings. **Do not keep your cell phone with you.** While it may seem acceptable in modern times to utilize the phone to look up points and herbs, looking at your phone conveys an image of non-professionalism to the practitioner and patient. Paper and pen note taking is preferred.

I have read and accept these guidelines for my clinical training while at the Alternative Clinic. Please sign this form and return to the clinic.

Signed By

Date



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Lodging in Asheville

recommended by past clinic & seminar participants

* Room in Private House - 15 minute walk to clinic. Prices vary by season & availability
<https://www.airbnb.co.uk/rooms/1054757>

* Super 8 on Tunnel Road - free breakfast, public bus to clinic, close to mall & grocery stores

* Private house in nice neighborhood near downtown - 20 minute walk to clinic
Contact Name: Nan Chase Home- (828) 225-1705 Cell- (828) 719-9217

* Asheville Hostel and guesthouse. In 2019, a private room cost 50\$, also available is a room with 2 beds. Confirm as pricing may have changed. Clean, with comfortable beds. The staff is friendly. 7 minute walk from the clinic.

* Grey Rock Inn, 100 Biltmore Avenue. Prices vary from \$65.00 and up. Nice location only five or six blocks away from the clinic with grocery store right next door, but does have communal bathrooms and kitchen. You can only book through Airbnb.

* Sweet Peas Hostel on Lexington around the corner from the clinic. About 40\$ a night. Clean, no smoking or drinking. Bar on the first floor; Thursday thru Saturday nights are quite noisy.

* Four Points Sheraton downtown. Within walking distance to clinic with good breakfast restaurant in the hotel. The rooms are nice, quiet and comfortable. \$130 per night on non-peak times.



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Clinic Reflections

Thank you for joining us at The Alternative Clinic. We created the observation program to give practitioners an opportunity to see Chinese medicine practiced as it was taught to us. We believe that Chinese medicine can and should be tangibly effective, and immediately obvious across a wide range of illness.

We hope that we have fulfilled these expectations, and created a valuable training program for you. While not required, we do hope you will take the time to write down or film your thoughts on being in our clinic, to assist us in improving the experience as well as to better inform others on what to expect. If you are willing to do so, we have created a list of questions below as a guideline. You are welcome to do the interview in your native language.

Suggested Talking Points:

Part 01 – A brief description of yourself

01. where are you from
02. how long have you been in practice
03. what kind of previous training you have had
04. have you taken any ATS courses before, and have they affected your practice

Part 02 – Your experience in the clinic

01. impression of the range of illnesses and diversity of patients coming in
02. impression of quality of treatments given
03. explanations of treatment decisions and patient cases
04. what was most interesting to you
05. what was most surprising to you
06. do you feel you will be able to integrate what you have seen at The Alternative Clinic into your practice

Part 03 – General impressions of the program

01. how was organizing your clinical training before arriving
02. how helpful was the staff once you arrived
03. how was your experience in Asheville
04. what more would you want from this program
05. any advice for future observers