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# DOMINION HERBAL COLLEGE

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**North America's Oldest School of Herbal Medicine**



Institution #283

Accredited by the Private Career Training Institutions Agency (PCTIA)

## ABOUT DOMINION HERBAL COLLEGE

Dominion Herbal College was founded in Vancouver, Canada in 1926 by naturopathic physician Dr. Herbert Nowell. Dr. Nowell taught Botanical Medicine to medical doctors prior to 1918 when such medicine was accepted and practiced by the medical profession. Dr. Nowell's knowledge in Herbal Medicine was admired and appreciated by doctors in England, Canada and the United States.

In 1962 Ella Birzneck, RMT, MH, EP, who apprenticed with Dr. Nowell, continued the tradition and spirit of Dr. Nowell's love of herbs and natural healing by resurrecting and reorganizing Dominion Herbal College and making the Chartered Herbalist and Master Herbalist Diploma Programs available for study by anyone with a sincere desire to gain real knowledge in the field of Herbal Medicine. Since 1987 members of Ella Birzneck's family have worked to ensure that the original purpose of the College is maintained.

Dominion Herbal College was the first school of Herbal Medicine to offer clinical level studies in North America. In 1989, in order to meet the growing demand for advanced herbal studies, the Clinical Herbal Therapy Diploma Program – 3 Year In-class was introduced and in 1993 the Clinical Herbal Therapy Diploma Program – 4 Year Distance Learning was established. These programs were developed to enable individuals with a strong sense of vocation to practice as a Clinical Herbal Therapist. Also introduced at this time was the Clinical Herbal Therapy Diploma Program Specially Structured for Health Care Professionals at the Physician Level – 2 Year Distance Learning.

In 2003 the Herbal Consulting Diploma Program – 1 Year Distance Learning was designed for individuals, employed or seeking employment in the herbal industry, to upgrade and become competent Herbal Consultants.

Dominion Herbal College continues to provide resource people for radio, television and community requests for information.

## MISSION STATEMENT

*To Preserve and Nurture the Study of Herbal Medicine.*

By striving to provide the best possible source of Herbal Studies from the basic to clinical levels, educating students to become competent in the field of Herbal Medicine and fostering alliances with other health care professionals.

## DISTANCE LEARNING AT DOMINION HERBAL COLLEGE

A distance learner at Dominion Herbal College is a self-motivated, independent individual who has the opportunity to receive a diploma in the field of Herbal Medicine as a Clinical Herbal Therapist (CHT) and maintains the flexibility to study while working, caring for a family or sustaining a busy lifestyle.

The Clinical Herbal Therapy Diploma Program utilizes a combined delivery method of distance and on-site learning in which the course work is completed by self-directed learning together with on-site attendance at a 5-day seminar at the end of each academic year, completion of 510 supervised clinical training hours at Dominion Herbal College Approved Clinics during Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 and a Final Practical Clinical Exam at the end of Year 4. The Dominion Herbal College approved student training clinics are currently located in British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario, Canada.

## CLINICAL HERBAL THERAPY DIPLOMA PROGRAM - 4 Year Distance Learning

This advanced clinical program of study will prepare the student with the working knowledge and skills necessary to practice as a Clinical Herbal Therapist (CHT) or work in other areas of Herbal Medicine as an instructor, researcher, writer, retailer, medicine maker, consultant to the industry or a community resource person.

This 4-year clinical program provides a comprehensive system of training which includes a study of the principles and philosophy of clinical herbal therapy, the definitions, constituents and pharmacology of medicinal plants, the human body in health and disease, clinical assessment techniques and a wide range of adjunctive subjects relevant to the practice of herbal therapeutics. Students are required to complete 510 hours of supervised clinical training at Dominion Herbal College approved clinics.

Students will have a sound knowledge of the basic health sciences as they relate to Herbal Medicine, understand the roles that correct nutrition and lifestyle play in the maintenance of good health, be competent in the assessment and treatment of common disease states by phytotherapeutic and complementary means, have an understanding of the limitations of natural therapies and be able to recognize when a client needs to be referred to medical and/or other health professionals and be competent and effective in running a herbal clinic.

### Admission Requirements:

1. High School Diploma or High School Equivalency Diploma or Mature Student (19 years or older)
2. High School Level Biology or Dominion Herbal College Prerequisite Biology
3. High School Level Chemistry or Dominion Herbal College Prerequisite Chemistry

**Program Duration:** The program duration is four years. Each academic year is 12 months and runs from September through August.

**Program Information:** The program consists of questions at the end of the lessons. This program requires 20-30 hours per week of self-directed learning. Students are provided with a Required Textbook List and Supplementary Resources List. Students are provided with a Clinical Training Profile. Upon successful completion of the program, the student will be awarded a diploma with the title "Clinical Herbal Therapist".

### Courses

Year 1: Anatomy & Physiology, Biochemistry, Botany & Herbarium, History & Philosophy, Materia Medica I, Pharmacology, Pharmacy

Year 2: Anatomy, Clinical Assessment I, Materia Medica II, Pathology, Physiology

Year 3: Clinical Assessment II, Clinical Pathology I, Differential Assessment, Nutrition, Therapeutics

Year 4: Clinical Pathology II, Dermatology, Geriatrics, Gynecology/Obstetrics/Pediatrics, Medical Laboratory Science, Psychiatry

### Midterm Exams and Final Exams

Students will write the following midterm exams and final exams:

Year 1: Anatomy & Physiology, Materia Medica I, Pharmacology

Year 2: Anatomy, Clinical Assessment I, Materia Medica II, Pathology, Physiology

Year 3: Clinical Assessment II, Clinical Pathology I, Differential Assessment, Nutrition, Therapeutics

Year 4: Clinical Pathology II, Gynecology/Obstetrics/Pediatrics

Midterm exams and final exams must be written on dates designated by the College. Midterm exams and final exams are written with a proctor. Students are required to arrange for a proctor in their area.

### Seminars

Students are required to attend a 5-day on-site seminar in Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 respectively. To be eligible to attend the required seminars all course lessons must be completed and submitted to the instructors for evaluation and correction by the due dates. Seminar dates are scheduled for June and July. Seminar lectures will build on the course work completed and assist students in preparing for final exams. Students are provided with a seminar schedule for their respective academic year.

### Clinical Training

Clinical Herbal Therapy students must complete their clinical training hours under the supervision of a qualified Clinical Herbal Therapist at private clinics that have been approved by Dominion Herbal College. The purpose of the Dominion Herbal College clinic experience is to prepare students to become Herbalists at a professional level through hands-on training with clients in a real-life setting. To accomplish this it is vital that students acquire competence and confidence in performing consultation and examination techniques; assessing the needs of the client by taking thorough case histories; recommending, formulating and dispensing the correct herbal remedies; and following through with individual treatment protocols. To achieve this it is necessary to set professional standards of practice. Dominion Herbal College Approved Clinics will ensure that students are well prepared in this regard.

510 supervised clinical training hours are mandatory and must be completed at Dominion Herbal College Approved Clinics as follows: 150 hours to be completed in Year 2, 180 hours to be completed in Year 3 and 180 hours to be completed in Year 4. The Final Practical Clinical Exam is administered on designated dates at a designated Dominion Herbal College Approved Clinic at the end of Year 4.

### Elective Hours

Students must complete 150 elective hours over the four years of the program. 25 of the 150 elective hours are to be completed as herbal gardening experience. The remaining hours must be done in modalities relating to complementary health care.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP IN HERBALIST ASSOCIATIONS**

Graduates of the Clinical Herbal Therapy Diploma Program are eligible for professional membership in Herbalist associations in Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom including, but not limited to, the Canadian Herbalist's Association of British Columbia, the Ontario Herbalists Association, the American Herbalists Guild and the National Institute of Medical Herbalists.