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DOMINION HERBAL COLLEGE

#271-5489 Byrne Road, Burnaby, BC V5J 3J1 Canada
Phone: 604.433.1926 Toll Free: 1.888.DHC.1926 Fax: 604.433.1925
Email: info@dominionherbalcollege.com
www.dominionherbalcollege.com

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 Herbal Consultant and maintains the flexibility to study while working, caring for a family or sustaining a busy lifestyle.

The Herbal Consulting 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 the academic year.

HERBAL CONSULTING DIPLOMA PROGRAM - 1 Year Distance Learning

This 1-year program is designed for individuals employed or seeking employment in the herbal industry to become competent Herbal Consultants. This program creates a balance between the western scientific approach to the study of Herbal Medicine and the traditional North American model. The Herbal Consulting Diploma Program is suitable for individuals working or seeking employment in health food stores, herb shops, pharmacies, supermarkets, direct marketing or wherever herbs are sold and for individuals in herbal product manufacturing or distributing. Students will learn how to assess and formulate herbal products, become familiar with the efficacy and safe use of herbs, market herbs for industry and consult with clients in the retail setting in a knowledgeable and professional manner.

Admission Requirements:

1. High School Level Chemistry or Dominion Herbal College Prerequisite Chemistry
2. Dominion Herbal College Chartered Herbalist Diploma Program

Program Duration: The program duration is one year. The academic year is 12 months (1320 hours) from September through August.

Program Information: The program consists of questions at the end of the lessons in the following courses: Biochemistry, Botany, History & Philosophy, Materia Medica I, Pathology, Pharmacology and Pharmacy. 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 must complete a Herbarium and attend a 5-day on-site seminar. Students will write exams in Materia Medica I, Pathology and Pharmacology with a proctor in their area. Students are required to arrange for a proctor in their area. Upon successful completion of the program, the student will be awarded a diploma with the title "Herbal Consultant".

Course Information:

BIOCHEMISTRY

General principles of organic chemistry and biochemistry and their application to human physiology and phytochemistry, molecules; organization of the cell, pathways of metabolism and energy-providing reactions; sources of energy; biosynthetic pathways.

BOTANY & HERBARIUM

The study of morphology; plant anatomy, histology and tissues; preparation and presentation of a herbarium.

HISTORY & PHILOSOPHY

History of Herbal Medicine, the whole person and homeostasis; vitalism, health and disease, the essentials of health; rational therapy, herbal approach to treatment, pain and its rational treatment; micro-organisms and disease, the germ theory, restricted and safe herbal medicines.

MATERIA MEDICA I

The use of popular herbs for the major body systems including: digestive, urinary, nervous, respiratory and musculoskeletal.

PATHOLOGY

The study of different body systems in their diseased state.

PHARMACOLOGY

The study of the groups of constituents of medicinal plants that give them their chemical properties and hence are responsible for many of the therapeutic actions experienced. The basic principles of pharmacokinetics, the study of the metabolic effects of the chemical constituents of herbs and the factors that influence the movement of any remedial substance through the body and its availability to the tissues.

PHARMACY

Basic principles and processes of preparing medicines from plant material, methods of extraction of plants, principles of dispensing, prescription writing and posology for Herbal Medicine.

Seminar Information: Students are required to attend a 5-day on-site seminar. To be eligible to attend the required seminar all course lessons must be completed and submitted to the instructors for evaluation and correction by the due dates. Seminar dates are scheduled for July. Students are provided with a seminar schedule.

The following topics will be covered during the required 5-day on-site seminar: Materia Medica, Over-the-Counter Consulting, Pharmacology and Pharmacy. Seminar lectures will build on the course work completed and assist students in preparing for final exams. The seminar will focus on the practical skills utilized when working in the herbal industry including assessing herbs and herbal products, retail and dispensing; efficacy and safe use of herbs; marketing herbs for industry; and consulting with customers/clients in the retail setting in a knowledgeable, ethical and professional manner.

COURSE CREDIT

Upon successful completion of the Herbal Consulting Diploma Program, applicable course credit can be applied to the Dominion Herbal College Clinical Herbal Therapy Diploma Program – 4 Year Distance Learning.

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR HERBAL CONSULTING GRADUATES

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).

CLINICAL HERBAL THERAPY DIPLOMA PROGRAM - 4 Year Distance Learning

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.

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.

MASTER HERBALIST DIPLOMA PROGRAM - 1 Year Distance Learning

This 1-year program includes research and a thesis on an aspect of Herbal Medicine of interest to the student and approved by Dominion Herbal College. The research and thesis topics have proven invaluable to Herbalists and others in the field of Herbal Medicine. Graduates of the Master Herbalist Diploma Program often have their thesis published or utilize this specialized knowledge as freelance writers, lecturers and instructors.

Admission Requirements: Dominion Herbal College Chartered Herbalist Diploma Program

Program Duration: The program duration is 12 months (600 hours). Enrollment is ongoing. Students can start at any time. Students have one year to submit a thesis.

Program Information: The program consists of a thesis with a minimum of 10,000 words and can be submitted by email or mail. The student must submit an outline describing the herbal and physiological applications to a thesis topic. Upon approval of the outline the student can begin the thesis. A minimum of six months research is required. Upon successful completion of the program, the student will be awarded a diploma with the title "Master Herbalist".

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP IN HERBALIST ASSOCIATIONS

Graduates of the Herbal Consulting Diploma Program are eligible for professional membership in the Canadian Herbalist's Association of British Columbia.

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.