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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 offer Field Experience as well as 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 Master Herbalist (MH) and maintains the flexibility to study while working, caring for a family or sustaining a busy lifestyle.

The Master Herbalist Diploma Program utilizes a distance learning delivery method in which the program is completed by self-directed learning.

## 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".

## PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR MASTER HERBALIST GRADUATES

### 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".

These advanced clinical programs 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 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.

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 DIPLOMA PROGRAM - 2 Year Distance Learning**

This 2-year clinical program is specially structured for health care professionals at the physician level who are interested in developing a working knowledge of Herbal Medicine as a complementary healing modality. Students will learn how to assess and treat common disease states by phytotherapeutic means. Students are required to complete 150 hours of supervised clinical training at Dominion Herbal College approved clinics as follows: 50 hours to be completed in Year 1 and 100 hours to be completed in Year 2.

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.

#### **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.

#### **FIELD EXPERIENCE**

##### **FIELD EXPERIENCE (BC, Canada)**

This Dominion Herbal College Field Experience requires completion of the Chartered Herbalist Diploma Program or Year 1 of the Clinical Herbal Therapy Diploma Program. Instructor Netta Zeberoff, MH, RHT will introduce herbs and seeds for a garden and take students on hikes through the beautiful Kootenay valley of British Columbia, Canada with its pristine forests, marshes, rivers, lakes and creeks over a 5-day period. Students will actively participate in wildcrafting, herb identification, gardening herbs, permaculture, foraging, preserving and cooking. Students will spend time learning herbal medicine making; preparing the dispensary, bottles and labels; making herbal preparations, tinctures, salves and capsules. Students will learn ecologically sustainable and practical ways of gathering and making herbal medicine. Dominion Herbal College will issue a certificate upon completion. Contact the College for further details and dates.