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| **Question** | **P1-Y2** | **P2-Y2** | **P3-Y2** |
| Explain briefly your understanding of the acupuncture programme. | During the acupuncture module, we learn the basics of traditional Chinese medicine and diagnostics so that we are able to treat outpatients. We will use these techniques and the acupuncture point to treat our patients. Our main focus is to learn the acupuncture points and when to use them. | After this course, we will be able to register with AHPCSA as Acupuncturists. I would however love to do more with phytotherapy and Chinese herbal medicine. | Acupuncture is a unique way of treating patients through needling, moxibustion and herbs. The acupuncture programme teach me how to needle in different ways and what kind of needle is expected to be used for different locations on the body. The meridians are pathways that contain acupoints that are used for needling that treats different diseases of the organs. |
| Explain why you choose to study the acupuncture programme. | I believe in using alternative medicine to treat patients so acupuncture was a perfect solution for me. I have been fascinated with acupuncture for a long time and want to further my studies and understanding of the topic. I believe acupuncture is great when to treat patients without having to prescribe substances that may be harmful to the patient | I always wanted to study acupuncture after school, however, it was not available back then. | The reason why I chose to study acupuncture is that it very unique and learning about the Chinese culture and their theories on acupuncture is very exciting. |
| Indicate which year of study you are in. For example year 2, year 3 or year 4. | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Briefly describe your experiences of the acupuncture programme? | I have completely enjoyed learning and studying this module even though it has been tough at times. I have learnt a lot about the topic and how it is used to treat patients. It has given me a better understanding of traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture. This module has given me an understanding of what will be required of me later in life. | Thus far I have enjoyed the program, even though most of it was online due to COVID. I look forward to applying the theory we studied online. | For me, acupuncture has been an exciting experience. There are a lot of new things that I learned over the year. Things I did not know existed. Hard work is required for acupuncture. A lot of new terms and theories are explained that can be overwhelming sometimes. Other than that, it has been a great experience. |
| Section B1: TEACHING |  |  |  |
| 1. Describe your experiences of the teaching of the acupuncture programme. | The teaching was done really well throughout the module and it allowed me to grasp the topics and learning units really easily | The online teaching videos were sufficient for the past year. So far this year a more contact approach is definitely needed. | Last year (2021), the teaching was good. The online classes sometimes made it difficult to grasp specific content. The live zoom sessions helped a lot if certain things were difficult to understand. This year (2022) the teaching has been great. We have more contact classes and practicals that help me to understand the content better |
| 2. Describe how the teaching of the acupuncture programme has improved your understanding of the acupuncture programme. | The teaching has allowed me to understand what is required of me during this programme and what it entails to be an acupuncturist. We have given cases studies that allowed us to have a better understanding of how the clinical and practical aspects will be in real-life situations | I am more aware of the scope of our practice now; I would like to include Chinese herbal medicine one day. | Acupuncture is a handful of work and therefor effort needs to be put in to understand everything. Before my first acupuncture class, I only knew a little bit of acupuncture but between my first class up until now, my view of acupuncture changed. I have learned a lot of new things, so I can say that my understanding of the acupuncture programme definitely grew. |
| 3. Explain ways in which you would like the acupuncture programme to be taught. | The only thing that was difficult for me was the fact that it was online | I enjoy the current method thus far. | The acupuncture programme should be taught on campus where we can engage the content together and help our peers that need the help. Recorded lecture videos are always helpful for me because I can revise my work and go through the content again to get a better understanding on the things that need more attention. |
| 4. Describe your views on the list of modules in the acupuncture programme. (The outline of the BHsCM programme will be provided.) | The modules are great because it gives us a complete medical background even though we will be treating our patients using alternative methods. It allows us to treat our patients more efficiently. | The program is excellent, and I feel each module has its place and provides a solid foundation for the human body and its functions. It is great that a western medicine approach is blended with complementary ones. I would have liked to be able to choose a specialization earlier on though, i.e., phytotherapy over homeopathy. | The modules for BHsCM are exciting to have. Every day I learn something new. My mind was blown away when I learned about the different types of healing methods such as acupuncture, phytotherapy and homoeopathy. Each of them has its uniqueness to it. |
| 5. Describe your experience of the use of technologies for the teaching of the acupuncture programme. | Having youtube videos that we could reference back to was very helpful in studying the module. It was helpful because we were able to go back and revise any topics or principles we were unsure off or needed extra help understanding | The online classes worked well for the previous year. However, I feel a more contact style is needed this year. | Technology has been very good lately. It gives me easy access to recorded lectures. I can revise my work anytime. I do feel that not everything thing can be taught online and that contact classes are needed to understand something better. Demonstration makes it easier to understand certain stuff better. |
| Section B2: LEARNING |  |  |  |
| 1. Explain your experiences in the learning of the acupuncture programme. | I was able to learn the module really well because it was taught well. I was able to grasp the information and the topics really well because I had sufficient resources to reference and study from | I enjoyed the introduction to a whole new way/of thinking of healing. I love the holistic approach. | It has been a wonderful and tiring experience. It is wonderful because acupuncture is an interesting field of study. It is also tiring because it takes a lot of hard work to fully understand it… get to know the Chinese culture and learn Mandarin as well. \_\_\_\_\_ |
| 2. Describe how the learning of the acupuncture programme has prepared you for the practical skills. | It has prepared me for the practical aspect because it has shown me what is required of me theory wise in the clinic. It has allowed me to see how is needed of me in the practical aspect of the module | Due to the online nature of the first year, I do feel we are a bit behind in the practical sense, however, I feel confident that we will be able to catch up. | The content of acupuncture really prepares me for what to expect in practice. The more knowledge I have, the better I will be in my practice. |
| 3. How would you prefer to develop your knowledge and skills of the acupuncture programme? | I think the module is taught and done in a well-organised manner and I wouldn’t change any aspects | Although I liked the online learning system, I do feel this course specifically is grasped better with practicals. | Personally, if I wanted to gain more knowledge and skills on acupuncture, I would revise my work frequently and quiz myself on it. I feel that reading articles about acupuncture can give you more knowledge. |
| 4. Describe how technologies have helped you to learn the content of the acupuncture programme during COVID-19. | Having youtube videos that are uploaded was very helpful as it gave us easy access to the work learnt throughout the module. It made it easier to go back and relearn any work we did not understand or wanted to revise | The recorded lecture slides were excellent. | The technology made it possible to study online and still be able to talk to my peers and discuss the content. It provided recorded lectures that were available to watch at anytime |
| 5. Explain ways in which you can be supported to develop a positive attitude towards the acupuncture programme | Constant interaction between lecturers and students and interactions between students in order to help each other | My attitude is already positive. I look forward to a more practical approach with hands-on experience. | Ask your peers to help you study by quizzing you on the content. \_\_  Set goals you want to achieve when studying. It can be daily goals or weekly goals. When those goals are achieved then spoil yourself with something small. For example, buying yourself an ice cream. |
| Section B3: ASSESSMENT |  |  |  |
| 1. Describe your experiences in the assessment of the acupuncture programme. | The assessments were done well and the continuous assessment process has been very helpful in allowing enough time to grasp the content in tolerable segments before getting assessed. It made it easier to focus on certain portions of the contents. Despite a large amount of information to be memorized and understood, the work became bearable.  continuously in order to make us continuously revise. The weekly reports were good in order to keep un studying and to make sure we understood the work | The assessments were fair and well structured, however, I did find it a bit “parrot learning” instead of the application of the knowledge. I do acknowledge that a lot of the theory however needs to be memorised and is thus taught this way. | The questions were straightforward and not difficult to answer. |
| 2. Explain how the assessment has helped you to strengthen your knowledge in the acupuncture programme. | It helped me to strengthen my knowledge because it made sure I was constantly revising and learning my work. It also gave me the practice to test my knowledge and understanding | I was definitely able to identify gaps in my knowledge and work on those to improve. | If I struggle to answer a question in an assessment then I know where I should focus my study on more. It helps me to see which content I know and which I lack in. |
| 3. Explain how you would prefer to be assessed in the acupuncture programme. | I think the assessments were done well and I believe the way the lecturer set these tests was to benefit us with our studies. It kept us constantly learning. | The assessments work well as is. | I would like to be assessed on paper |
| 4. Describe how technologies have helped to assess your knowledge in the acupuncture programme. | Having the weekly reports which we had to submit made sure we were continuing with our studies and were understanding the work. It helped us to keep revising the coursework so that the tests were easier. | The online mini-assessments were great study goals to attain and constantly assess progress. | I can watch Youtube videos on acupuncture or use Google to look up articles to read about acupuncture |
| Section B4: PRACTICES |  |  |  |
| 1. Explain your experiences (advantages and disadvantages of practicals) in the acupuncture programme. | The only practical aspect we did in first year was the live case studies. This helped me to understand diagnostics better and how we will see it in a practical and clinical aspect | It is a pity that so few practical were held last year due to COVID, thus I feel I would have been better at pulse diagnosis and palpation with more guided practice. | Advantages: I can engage with my peers and study together and hear each other’s answers to questions that are being asked. Disadvantage: No disadvantages. |
| 2. Describe how the teaching, learning and assessment have prepared you for practicals (focus on the acupuncture skills). | It has prepared me with the theoretical aspects of the module that will come into play in later years when we are in the clinic. It will benefit us in understanding what our patients’ symptoms are and how we will have to diagnostics to determine a form of action moving forward | We were well prepared in theory, however, a bit lacking in the application of the theory knowledge. | The knowledge I have from studying and teaching and being assessed on, prepares me to practice that knowledge in class. It makes it easier so communicate in class and know what my peers are talking about. |
| 3. Explain how you can be supported to improve your acupuncture practical skills. | Constant help from fellow students is helpful as well as having practicals so that we can learn with the help of the lecturers Having hands-on help from lecturers allows us to understand the location of the acupoint better in year 2. | This can be improved with more practice only. | To help one another in practical class and discuss it with each other. |
| 4. Explain how the use of technologies have benefited or not benefited your practical skills. | It is really good to have recorded lectures that are uploaded because we can continuously go back and reference certain points that we may have not understood in the contact lecture or practical | They definitely allowed a good foundation for the more practical nature this year. | Technology is helping me to study frequently. It gives me different sources to enhance my knowledge and how to apply that in practice. What to do and what not to do. |