HOMC111
Introduction to Homeopathy

SUBJECT STUDY GUIDE
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HOMC111 Introduction to Homeopathy provides grounding in the underlying principles that inform the practice of homeopathy, and allows you to understand and discuss the homeopathic perspective on health and disease. You’ll learn how a homeopath approaches their clients and practice, the role homeopathy can play in contemporary health care, the various different types of homeopathic practices or methodologies in common usage and what attracts people to use this therapy in their healthcare. You’ll review the status of research into homeopathy, including clinical application and research related to its mechanism of action which challenges and expands dominant biomedical models.

This subject encourages you to think deeply about your understanding of what health and disease are, and may even challenge your understanding of your own health patterns. We hope to also provoke reflection on your own understanding of what homeopathy is and what health is. Homeopathic clients often remark that a homeopathic consultation enables them to realise things about themselves they hadn’t known before. Through philosophical and historical discussion, real world learning activities, and by applying novel health concepts we aim to follow some of this same journey together in this subject.

As students in the ‘knowledge-age’, you are increasingly confronted with a vast array of information that is sometimes conflicting and contested. As students and later professionals, you must be able to seek, evaluate and synthesise information, and be active participants in the development of your own knowledge and understanding. Subsequently, you will become more responsive and dynamic professionals who are able to ensure your ongoing capacity to effectively work within the changing nature and demands of society and enhance the field of natural health practice.

How to best utilise directed self-learning

This Subject Study Guide (SSG) has been produced to assist you to explore, investigate, critically analyse and evaluate the principles and practice in this subject of study and to encourage you to achieve deeper levels of learning. As an approach to study, it is suggested that you read the section for each session first. This will guide you through your reading, note-taking and research.

The following suggestions will assist you to read effectively:

- Highlight the key points during your readings.
- In the case of lengthy readings or documents, summarise and write your own synopsis.
- Answer questions or complete activities as directed.
- Jot down any queries, questions or concerns for discussion.

If you need extra help with terminology you may like to refer to the Glossary of Terms that is accessible within the LMS.

Textbook

References to readings in the set text in this document apply to:


**Readings and lectures in this subject must be completed each week prior to engaging in the Tutorial activities and assessable forums.**
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|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| HOMC111 SESSION 1: | Development of Homeopathy       |
| HOMC111 SESSION 2: | Principle of Similars            |
| HOMC111 SESSION 3: | Defining Disease                 |
| HOMC111 SESSION 4: | Homeopathic Pharmacy             |
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| HOMC111 SESSION 8: | Techniques of Prescribing 1      |
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| HOMC111 SESSION 10: | Homeopathic Consultation         |
| HOMC111 SESSION 11: | Scientific Evidence Base for Homeopathic Prescribing |
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| HOMC111 SESSION 13: | The Role of Homeopathy in Contemporary Health Care |
HOMC111 SESSION 1: Development of Homeopathy

Session Aims
This session will provide opportunities for students to:
- Develop an understanding of the historical influences in the development of homeopathic principles and practice
- Investigate the early experiments of Samuel Hahnemann, leading to his creation of the homeopathic method
- Trace the progressive development of homeopathy internationally, including the political contexts and utilisation
- Address Learning Outcome(s) 1, 4

Session Topics
- The similars principle in antiquity
- Medicine in the 1800s
- Hahnemann’s new principle
- History in western countries
- History in developing countries

Read the HOMC111 Subject Outline and pay particular attention to the Learning Outcomes, Set Texts and Assessment Tasks for the Subject of Study. Make certain that you understand what is expected of you to complete this subject successfully.

Summary

TOPIC
You will now begin your exploration of the conception and evolution of homeopathic practice. Lecture and tutorial forum discussion will provide you the opportunity to consider your study of homeopathy as a complementary medical practice in a broad context, including current and historical influences upon homeopathic practice and how homeopathy differs from other health disciplines.

For this session you are required to complete the following:

Assessment research and preparation: Refer to the Subject Outline (SO) for assessment items that accompany this subject. Please note the requirements and dates for submission and structure your study plan to accommodate these. Please also note that there is a participation requirement for Tutorial activities. If you have any queries regarding this please contact your tutor for further information.

Lecture: Prior to joining in tutorial discussion, watch the recorded lectures for this session.

Readings:
Complete the following readings for this session prior to watching the lectures:


View the following recordings after watching the lectures.


Discussion Questions for Tutorial Forum:

Some of us will already be very familiar with homeopathy, and some of us will not be. The purpose of this week’s forum is to understand and clarify the extent of our individual experience with homeopathy, along with any personal goals or learning opportunities sought for this subject. Share your experiences and knowledge of homeopathy, and what you hope to learn more about during this subject.

- Were there any topics in this session’s material that you found interesting, challenging, or surprising, or that stimulated you to want to know more about them?
- What would you like to learn more about during this subject?

Critical thinking: Continue to discuss the tutorial questions above and lecture ideas throughout the week.

Glossary: If you need extra help with terminology you may like to refer to the Glossary of terms that is accessible within the LMS.

Email Communication: Remember you can make contact with your tutor. Be sure to read The Loop regularly.

Revision Questions / Activities
1. Why has homeopathy been referred to as the ‘black sheep’ medicine?
2. What strengths are likely to grow homeopathy’s popularity in countries not traditionally using homeopathy?
3. What obstacles exist to greater acceptance of homeopathy internationally?