



Right Fit Assessment

We are passionate about herbalism and especially about educating our students. Picking a school to learn from is an important decision. We understand this and want you to find the best educational options for *you*. We hope the information provided here will help you to decide whether the Herbal Academy is the right fit for you!

How does learning at the Herbal Academy work?

The basics...

All of our courses are offered online. For students who wish to learn outside of an online platform, we do offer printed course textbooks for the Introductory, Intermediate, Advanced, and Clinical Skills Herbal Courses. Students who wish to study online and from the course textbooks will receive a student discount on the course textbooks, however these are completely optional for students joining us online. Note that downloadable PDF printouts of all course material are available with online course enrollment.

Our courses are presented in written and video format. Topical videos (with downloadable transcripts), helpful graphics, and beautiful images are interspersed throughout most of our courses.

Once you have enrolled in an online course with us, you will immediately have access to your course materials via a Student Dashboard that is created uniquely for you during registration. You will log in to your Student Dashboard to access your courses and navigate through your studies. Course access time begins when you click the Start Course button; if you have purchased a course with Lifetime Access there is no expiration. There is a separate Start Course button for each course you have registered for—these are found in your Student Dashboard.

Course content is arranged into units of study, each containing several lessons. A downloadable PDF of each unit's content is available upon accessing that unit. Students taking foundational courses must pass a quiz at the end of each unit with a score of 80% or higher to access the next unit. Short courses and mini courses do not have this requirement with the exception of [The Mushroom Course](#). To ensure that students are truly learning and processing information, we do not provide early access to units in the foundational courses and The Mushroom Course so students will not be able to access all unit PDFs at once.

Do I need to attend class at a specific time?

No. Our courses are self-paced, which means that they fit into busy lifestyles! There are no required live lectures and students have access to their courses 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

This means that students who have busy schedules or do not live near an herb school will find that the Herbal Academy offers a great way to get a solid herbal education that fits into their life.

All Foundational Courses and Short Courses are now enrolling with lifetime access unless otherwise noted (for example, free mini courses and workshops may enroll with an alternative time-based access structure that begins when the student presses the Start Course button).

Each of the units and lessons, recipes, charts, video transcripts, and ebooks are available to download and print so students can study offline and continue to use these resources even after completion of the course.

Limited access period workshops and free mini courses offer extensions if course access time runs out before the student has finished their course.

Will I have access to teachers?

We are here for you and we want to hear from you! If you have questions about course content or herbalism, our team of experienced and clinical herbalists is just an email away! Teachers respond with in-depth answers and when applicable, helpful links to further student research and learning. Our team is here to assist Monday through Friday.

You may also engage with our student-only Facebook group where you can meet and share with other classmates. You will be a part of a warm and supportive community learning experience, allowing you to solidify and support your knowledge. Our wonderful teachers are also members of the group, but if you have specific questions for a teacher, please email!

We have a core team of clinical herbalists who work with us as teachers and in course development. These wonderful teachers are here to answer your questions! Our online platform also allows us to work with a talented group of expert herbalists and leaders in the field who contribute to writing and creating our highly ranked courses. This means we are able to enlist herbalists who are specialists in each field of study to contribute to our courses. Our students benefit from learning from each of these amazing teaching professionals. This is one of the great advantages of studying with the Herbal Academy! Learn more about our staff and teachers on our team page here: <https://theherbalacademy.com/team/>

How can I decide which course is the best fit for me?

Please visit each individual course page and review all of the information provided. Our foundational course pages include links to detailed course outlines which will tell you exactly what is covered in each course. You can find links to each course we offer on our course page here: <https://theherbalacademy.com/herbalism-courses/>

The four foundational courses build upon one another. There is minimal overlap in content as the courses build toward the entrepreneurial and advanced levels except for a brief review of introductory concepts at the beginning of the Intermediate Herbal Course.

The four foundational courses are:

[Introductory Herbal Course](#)

[Intermediate Herbal Course](#)

[Business Herbal Course](#)

[Advanced Herbal Course](#)

If you are brand new to herbalism, we recommend starting with the Introductory Herbal Course. Students who have previous experience can join us in class at the level that suits their knowledge level. Please review the detailed course outlines available on each course page and compare what is offered in each course to your current knowledge level to gauge the best course option for you.

The Herbal Journey Guide will also help give you an idea of the different paths you can take during your studies. Please find the guide here:

<https://theherbalacademy.com/herbal-journey-guide-free-download/>

Short courses are offered for all skill levels and are exciting options for building in-depth knowledge in specific areas. Our short courses offer new and interesting content that is not included in the four foundational courses.

If you have specific questions please visit our FAQ page for answers to many common questions! You can find the FAQ page here:

<https://theherbalacademy.com/herbal-academy-faq/>.

You are also always welcome to email our amazing customer service team who will be happy to help guide you! You can reach the team here: customerservice@theherbalacademy.com

Is the Herbal Academy right for me?

We strive to bring the highest quality herbal education to as many people as we can by keeping our prices affordable and offering excellent online herbalism content that can be enjoyed from anywhere in the world. We have had the honor of helping over 100,000 students study herbalism and would be thrilled to have you join our learning community, too! If you have internet access and a device that connects to the internet, you can join us in online class! Students can also study completely offline with our course textbooks which are available for the Introductory, Intermediate, Advanced, and Clinical Skills Herbal Courses.

Please read on to learn more about the Herbal Academy to help you make the best decision for your herbal education.

In a nutshell -

If you are self-motivated, proficient at reading in English and learning from written and video materials, excited to get hands-on in your own kitchen, want to learn from industry leaders at an inexpensive price, and comfortable with asking questions online, then the Herbal Academy could be an excellent fit for you!

If written text is not suitable for your learning style, if you prefer in-person access to teachers or administrative staff to give you personal hands-on guidance, the Herbal Academy is likely probably not the best fit for you.

Does this educational style fit what you may be looking for? Keep reading to learn more about the Herbal Academy and how we deliver our top-ranked herbalism programs!

Find more specifics and details below including information for special situations to help guide you through your decision-making process.

Who is a good fit for the Herbal Academy?

Students who want to learn about herbalism and delve deep into this amazing field with some of the [best, well-known herbalists and educators](#) in the field will be well on the road to filling their educational goals here at the Herbal Academy. If you need or want a highly flexible schedule, want to learn from the comfort of your own home, and are able to be self-motivated, then Herbal Academy is a great option for you.

With the freedom and flexibility of a modern online classroom, you have the ability to engage in our courses on your own schedule – may that be late nights after your children go to sleep, daytime hours between your college courses, or on weekends in your time off work!

With this independence, students are able to self motivate and set their own schedules. To lend a hand, we have a wonderful student-only Facebook community where you can join in with our student community and teachers to help motivate yourself and get great study ideas. Plus, teachers are an email away and ready to support you as best we can.

Our modern approach to herbalism education allows you to learn in a multimedia setting either on your computer or on the go using a mobile device. You can even print your course lessons if you'd like an experience with minimal screen time! To be successful here at the Herbal Academy you must be able to learn by reading. While our courses offer lots of wonderful recipes and exercises to help you get hands on with herbs, as well as video content, much of the content is presented in written form.

When is the Herbal Academy not the best fit?

If you are looking for a teacher you can spend time with and interact with directly on a daily basis, then the Herbal Academy may not be the best fit for you. Specifically, students who are looking for one-on-one mentorship, direct instruction, or frequent contact with teachers will not find this at the Herbal Academy. We do not offer daily instruction via the internet or a schedule for you to follow like a traditional classroom setting does. However, you can engage with your peers and teachers daily in our online Facebook community.

While our course platform is very user-friendly, you will need to be able to function well online or be willing to learn this skill! Our team is here to help you make yourself at home in your courses and we have helped thousands of students of all technology skill levels to enjoy the online platform.

Course content is presented in written and video form with visually engaging multimedia resources and so students must be able to read to learn and take multiple choice quizzes to work through their studies. Note that quizzes are essentially open book and can be taken over and over until the required score of 80% is achieved. [Advanced Herbal Course](#) students are also provided with exercises and a monograph project as a part of their self study to further their educational journey, while Clinical Skills Herbal Course students are provided a suite of self-study exercises.

We do not offer mentorships for students who are working toward gaining hands-on clinical experience, however we do offer ideas in the [Advanced Herbal Course](#) for setting up a mentorship opportunity.

The [Business Herbal Course](#) does not cover requirements for setting up an herbal business that are specific to individual states or countries. Students looking for this information will be best served to do their own independent research.

We are here for students who need support! We want to help, and we love hearing from our students! Because we are an online school with a small administrative staff, we can best assist students via email. If you want to talk with someone, we can help with that in a limited capacity—we are not able to offer phone conversations as a main form of support.

Guidance for Specific Questions and Situations

Do you offer courses in languages other than English?

Note that our courses are mostly text-based and in English only. You will find videos in our courses along with the written text as well as lovely graphics and pictures. We help students to get hands-on with their studies through suggested exercises to complete and plenty of recipes to try. However, you will need to be able to read and listen to English.

It is possible to use a translator if English is not your first language, and it is important to note some scientific terminology might not translate directly.

I cannot take advantage of video features, can I still take your courses?

Absolutely! Our programs are offered in a multimedia format. Our curriculum is presented in written lessons with the support of video demonstrations and lectures. For students with hearing difficulties or for those with limited internet access, we offer transcripts of the video content available as downloadable PDFs. Many of our programs also have video subtitle capability in addition to transcripts, and we are working on adding this feature to all programs.

Students with sight difficulties may be able to use a screen reader to access written content in the course.

Are Herbal Academy courses applicable to students studying outside of the United States?

Our classroom is a global classroom. We are honored to have students joining us in class from around the world. Herbal Academy courses offer a wide range of information about plants, herbs, and the business of herbalism, depending on the course you choose. Much of the information on plants and herbs will be applicable outside of the United States.

Our courses cover the basic concepts of Western herbalism that can be applied to the various different herbs found worldwide. We do also cover herbs from all over the world in our courses including many herbs that are used as culinary herbs such as ginger, turmeric, rosemary, basil, cayenne, cinnamon, black pepper, and more that are typically readily available globally. Through your learning with us you will develop the tools you need to study any herbs beyond what is covered in the courses. So if there is a plant local to you that is not covered in the course, you will have the knowledge you need through our courses to research and study that plant!

Special note about the Business Herbal Course:

For international students who are interested in taking the [Business Herbal Course](#), note that there are 37 lessons total in the Business Herbal Course. Two lessons are written with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration guidelines in mind: Good Manufacturing Practices for Dietary Supplements and Labeling Herbal Products. Within these two lessons you will find a lot of good information about manufacturing and labeling in general, however you will need to keep in mind the legal requirements in your location may be different and thus you will need to research those independently. This also applies to the unit on clinical practice, which has lots of information on establishing and running a clinical practice that's helpful for anyone, and reviews the requirements for clinical practice and legal recognition in the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, Australia, U.K., and Ireland. However, those practicing outside the U.S. will need to do additional research on the laws in their area.

I have previous experience in herbalism, what course should I choose? Do I need to start with the Introductory Herbal Course or can I jump right into a course more suited to my skill level?

We have herbalists from all backgrounds and experience levels joining us in class. You can start at the level that best suits your needs. We find that most students with previous experience are best able to determine the appropriate course for them by visiting the detailed course outlines available on each foundational course page. You will find links to these near the bottom of the [Introductory](#), [Intermediate](#), [Business](#), and [Advanced](#) Herbal Course pages. The detailed course outline will tell you exactly what is covered in each course. You can find links to each course we offer on our course page here: <https://theherbalacademy.com/herbalism-courses/> or by clicking the hyperlinks provided above.

If you have specific questions after reviewing the detailed outlines, you are always welcome to email our amazing customer service team who will be happy to help guide you! You can reach the team here: customerservice@theherbalacademy.com

I am vegan, will I be able to make the recipes in the courses?

Our courses offer some general ideas for substitutions in the courses (for example in the Botanical Skin Care Course we discuss vegan wax substitutes for beeswax), but we don't give specific measurements for vegan substitutes in specific recipes.

When choosing a substitution, you will want to be mindful of what the original ingredient is doing in the recipe. For example, many herbalists do prize honey for its own benefits in recipes beyond preservation and taste.

Herbalists who do not wish to or cannot use honey can substitute maple syrup, vegetable glycerin, and sugar depending on the preparation. For example, glycerin and sugar can be used in place of honey for syrup making, while date syrup and maple syrup can be used in place of honey for making herbal honeys and oxymels. Please do note that maple syrup and date syrup will not offer the same preservation benefits as honey.

Here is a post from the Academy blog on vegan herbalism:

<https://theherbalacademy.com/blog/vegan-herbalism/>

And a post which talks about making vegan syrups:

<https://theherbalacademy.com/vegan-herbal-syrups/>

As you work through the courses you will also find that some of our recipes use beeswax. Substitutes for beeswax include sunflower wax, candelilla wax, and soy wax. Research the pros and cons of each of these waxes, including sustainability concerns. You can also look into using

emulsifying wax, however this is a synthetic product and so we recommend that our students do research on this product before using.

Have more questions? We have answers! Please visit our FAQ page for answers to many common questions! You can find the FAQ page here:

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