

Asian and Alternative Medicines

Student Group #6

Cannabis and Salvia

Photos of [cannabis](#) and [salvia](#) removed due to copyright restrictions.

Cannabis

Species:

- *Cannabis sativa*
- *Cannabis indica*
- *Cannabis ruderalis*

- Indigenous to South Asia

Uses:

- Hemp
- Medicine
- Recreational Drug

- Long History

- Used as Food
(6000 BCE)
- Popular Drug
(1000 AD and on)

- Medicinal Cannabis
Sold in US
(1840)



Photo by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Salvia

Species:

- *Salvia officinalis*
- *Salvia miltiorrhiza*
- *Salvia splendens*
- *Salvia apiana*
- *Salvia divinorum*

Uses:

- Entheogen
- Treatment for diarrhea, anemia, headaches, diabetes, rheumatism.
- Originated in Central, Southwestern Asia

- Used in religious ceremonies.

Photos of [salvia leaves](#) and [extract](#) removed due to copyright restrictions.

- Recently gaining press attention.

Artemisia and Astragalus

Photos of [artemisia](#) and [astragalus](#) removed due to copyright restrictions.

Artemisia Annua

- Aka “Sweet Wormwood”, “Qinghao”
- Used as an antimalarial, for treatment of fever.
- Suggested treatment for cancer, headache, inflammation, and infection.
- Available for purchase in herb or extract form.

Photo of artemisia annua extract removed due to copyright restrictions.

Astragalus (Membranaceus Root)

- Known in China as “Huang qi”
- Native to Eastern China, Mongolia and Korea
- Used to strengthen the body against disease.
- First used in western medicine in 1800s.
- Shown to stimulate immune system to fight bacteria, virus and inflammation.
- Suggested as a post-treatment for chemotherapy and radiation

Ephedra and Clove Oil

Photo of [ephedra](#) removed due to copyright restrictions.



Ephedra

- Also known as “ma huang”

Two major species:

- *Ephedra nevadensis*:
“Mormon Tea”
- *Ephedra sinica*:
Used to treat asthma.

- Contains ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.
- Supplements containing ephedra were banned by the FDA in 2004.

Clove Oil

- Indigenous to the Molucca Islands, grown in the West Indies, Asia, and Africa.
- Care to guess what it's used for?

***TOPICAL
ANESTHETIC!***

Temporary Dental Filling!

Photos of [clove-baked ham](#) and [mulled cider](#) removed due to copyright restrictions.

Delicious Ham and Mulled Cider

X-ray of an arthritic hand removed due to copyright restrictions.

- Testing has suggested it could be used to suppress arthritic joint swelling.

Why Asian Medicine?

- Less invasive than many modern procedures.
- Often less expensive than mainstream treatments.
- Lack the stigma that “artificial chemicals” have.
- Cater to different beliefs.

Placebo Effect

“Placebo effects can arise not only from a conscious belief in a drug but also from subconscious associations between recovery and the experience of being treated—from the pinch of a shot to a doctor’s white coat. Such subliminal conditioning can control bodily processes of which we are unaware, such as immune responses and the release of hormones.”

-Scientific American Feb. 2009 Issue

ACUPUNCTURE

Photo of a [woman receiving acupuncture on her face](#)
removed due to copyright restrictions.

Acupuncture
evolved as one
component of
the complex
tradition known
as Chinese
medicine
(Unschuld, 1985)

Assimilation in Asia

- The *Yellow Emperor's Inner Classic* compiled between 206BC and 220AD
- The *Comprehensive Manual of Acupuncture and Moxibustion* (Zhen Jiu Jia Yi Jing), Huang-Fu Mi around 282AD
- The Imperial Medical College, 618AD
- Buddhist missionaries to Korea and Japan

Spread to Europe

- Refinement of acupuncture in the 16th century: The *Great Compendium of Acupuncture and Moxibustion* (Zhen Jiu Da Cheng) published in 1601
- Darby de Thiersant (19th century)
- George Soulie de Morant

Acupuncture in the West

- The *Morand's Memoir on Acupuncturation* translated by Franklin Bache, published in 1825
- James Reston (1971)
- The *Journal of the American Medical Association* (Dimond, 1971)
- President Richard Nixon (1972)
- NIH

Spread to Africa

Photo of acupuncture training in Africa removed due to copyright restrictions.

- Salomons, Emilie. [“The Pan African Acupuncture Project in Uganda.”](#)
Acupuncture.com Newsletter, March 2008.

Effect of globalization on acupuncture in China

- Qing emperor abolished education of acupuncture in schools in 1822
- During the 1940s, many parts of China suffered from infectious epidemics
- The corps of *barefoot doctors*
- By the 1960s, 70% to 80% of all illnesses were treated using acupuncture or herbs

Research is the main reason for
ease of assimilation today

Supposed main uses

- Pain management
- Nervous and mental diseases
- Diseases of the Internal organs
- Surgical ailments
- Paediatric diseases
- Skin, Eye, Mouth, Ear, Nose and Throat diseases

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