

Frequently Asked Questions

Will this course credential or certify me in fine –wire EMG?

There currently is not a national body that credentials kinesiological EMG; however the Physical Therapy Board of California does Kinesiological Electromyography Certification. The requirements are rigorous and detailed at www.ptbc.ca.gov/forms/139963_kemg.pdf The certification requirements cannot be addressed in a single-day course as they require extensive clock hours (200) or kinesiological examinations (50) to be eligible to be examined by the board. Our course faculty includes instructors with California Certification and will supervise those course participants from California.

This course will specifically address the following requirements listed for certification in California; 1399.63 Training in Tissue Penetration under supervision by a licensed physician or physical therapist certified to perform electromyography:

Pertinent anatomy and physiology, choice of equipment, proper technique, hazards and complications, post-test care and satisfactory training in technical skills of tissue penetration

This course will review the relevant gross anatomy, neuroanatomy, nerve and muscle physiology.

How many “sticks” will I actually get to do?

In large part this will depend on you learning rate. We are planning on providing opportunity for participants to perform 3 – 8 insertions in lower extremity muscles as part of the course.

Can I insert in someone else, but not have anyone practice on me?

No, its equal exchange for this course. We also think it's a good idea to understand the sensations involved from the patient perspective.

Can I just register or come to the lecture parts only of the day long course?

Please contact Sherry or Carole to discuss

Can I just sit in on the laboratory sessions?

No – the didactic material and the laboratory content is inter-woven. You cannot really do one without the other, it is a complete package.

Will I get continuing education credit?

Yes, this course, as will the GCMAS conference, is expected to have CME/CEUs approved.

Will I be tested on the course material?

Yes, you will take short pre- and post course exams that cover each of the course content areas. Your insertions skills will also be supervised and observed by a faculty member. Rest easy, this is not really at all like your “lab practicals” in college, but tend to be enhanced learning opportunities – think warmer and fuzzier ☺ We will also ask you for course feedback and evaluations so we can improve this offering.

Why is it such a long day? Will I have breaks?

We wanted to maximize our time without making people stay an extra night. We do have food and bio breaks of course, we may choose to have “working” lunches and breaks to discuss concepts, or provide you didactic content. So the participants certainly get breaks, though the instructors may not!

Do I have to be a licensed PT or MD? I do not have an entry-level PT degree, but I am student or new graduate of a PT Program... Can I register? I am a non-US licensed clinician... Can I register? I am a non-PT, PhD student who uses FWEMG for research purposes only. Can I register?

Most individuals that do clinical kinesiological EMG are PTs or MDs. In the State of California you must be a PT (or MD). As noted in the course description, each participant must decide if the course content is within and allowed by their specific practice act. If you are not a PT, we recommend that you are a graduate of a 4 year program, and have extensive motion analysis laboratory experience (or similar setting). Graduates of technology or professional 2 year programs (non BS degree) are discouraged. If you are not a licensed PT, MD or other clinician who is governed by a practice act that allows your profession to perform kinesiological FWEMG, please contact the Course Leaders who can help determine if you are eligible to participate in the course:

Carole A Tucker - tuckerc@temple.edu

Sherry Backus – backuss@hss.edu

What other pre-requisites are needed?

You will get the most out of this course if you have had the following college-level course content and a working knowledge of: gross anatomy with a laboratory component, neuroanatomy, physiology (muscle and nerve), and basic electrophysiological and instrumentation principles. We will share a reading list prior to the start of the course and you again will maximize your experience if you complete the suggested pre-workshop activities.