



**Division of Clinical Sciences**  
**Department of Chiropractic Principles, Technique, and Biokinetics**  
**Syllabus Su-2010**

**CH 2213 Palpation II “The Palpation of Motion”**

2.5 credits ( 60 Hours )

Lecture: Room L-203 Day and Time: T-9:00am.

Labs: Room LB-3 Days and Times: W-10:00am, Th-8:00am, F-11:00am.

**Contact Information:**

Course Professor: **Bradley R. Koby, B.S., D.C., C.C.S.P.**

Office: Iwama Building Room 214

Office Hours: W 11-12, & Th 11-12.

Phone: 281-998-5721

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**Course Materials:**

Required Text: *Chiropractic Technique* by Peterson and Bergmann, 2nd Ed., Mosby 2002

Alternate Suggested Resources: *Palpation and Assessment Skills: Assessment Through Touch*, by Leon Chaitow, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., Churchill Livingstone 2003, reprinted 2006

**Scholar 360 Address:** <http://scholar360.com/txchiro>

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide a detailed didactic and practical exploration of the assessment of motions of the spine through palpation. With the integration of static and motion findings, the student is expected to begin to formulate diagnostic impressions.

**Goal/Rationale of the Course:**

Palpation is a primary examination tool that is used in conjunction with other assessments to arrive at a diagnosis and then appropriate treatment or referral of the patient. This is an acquired skill that is developed through intelligent practice and repetition. This course will allow students to gain an understanding of the skills and concepts associated with the art of palpation. This course will focus mostly on the assessment of joint motions.

**Learning Outcomes:**

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- appreciate the need to explain what will be done when examining, palpating and ultimately administering the chiropractic adjustment or manipulation, discuss risks, and recognize the potential for patient apprehension and concern;
- be aware of the need to accommodate patient privacy and modesty;
- be aware of the need to reassess and modify chiropractic assessment appropriate to the needs of the patient.
- appreciate the normal and abnormal structural and functional articular relationships;
- be aware of the pathophysiology and methods of evaluating articular biomechanics;
- palpate specific anatomical landmarks associated with spinal segments and other articulations;
- select and effectively utilize static and motion palpation along with other appropriate diagnostic methods to identify dysfunction of ---
- the spine and/or other articulations and structures of the human body;
- predict how joint dysfunction affects the kinetic chain

**Learning Objectives:**

At the completion of this course a student will be able to;

- a. Distinguish normal from abnormal tissue texture
- b. Evaluate symmetry in the position of structures
- c. Detect and assess variations in range and quality of movement
- d. Distinguish joint range of motion end feel
- e. Examine and evaluate normal and aberrant function in spinal and extremity articulations
- f. Assimilate information from a palpatory exam and then to begin formulate a differential diagnosis
- g. Diagnose a functional versus anatomic short leg through the application of limited orthopedic tests
- h. Predict how joint dysfunction affects the kinetic chain
- i. Predict how leg length inequality affects the kinetic chain
- j. Identify palpatory landmarks
- k. Demonstrate basic concepts of gaining rapport with patients
- l. Describe spinal coupled motion
- m. Demonstrate multiple patient positions to perform assessments

**CCE Clinical Competencies:** This course provides instruction that includes components of the following CCE Clinical Competencies:  
 Physical Examination  
 Neuromusculoskeletal Examination  
 Diagnosis  
 Record Keeping  
 The Doctor-Patient Relationship  
 Professional Issues  
 Ethics and Integrity

**TCC Clinical Competencies:** This course provides instruction that includes components of the following TCC Clinical Competencies:  
 Communication  
 Referral/Collaborative Care  
 Special Populations

**Teaching Philosophy:**

Information will be presented in didactic and practical lab settings to develop the student’s skills and understanding of the art of palpation and its relevance in the practice of chiropractic. Students will best benefit from this course by regularly attending the classes and labs. The art of palpation is an acquired skill that improves with practice and exposure to multiple differing body types. Students are encouraged to practice the palpation techniques while rotating partners constantly in labs and also to participate in lecture discussions.

**Student Responsibilities:**

Participation:

It is the student’s responsibility to observe, listen, learn, apply and practice the presented information. If a student has questions or has difficulty with the application and mastery of these skills it is their responsibility to seek assistance from the instructors. Participation in labs and lecture discussions is expected. Gowns are required for all lab sessions. It is the student’s responsibility to be on time and properly attired for their lab practicals or they may fail that practical.

Homework:

Students should practice palpation techniques to master this art and to learn to identify normal verses abnormal through palpation

**Course Content and Outline for Lecture and Labs:** (Subject to change due to learning issues of the class) Lecture content in bold print.

Week 1	<b>Lecture: Overview of Palpation</b> , Review static palpation I basics, Concept of rapport, Concept of motion palpation, skin rolling technique
Week 2	<b>Lecture: Manual exam</b> , Motion Palpation of Occiput, Motion palpation of C1, Active and passive ROMs, Seated cervical spine palpation techniques, Concepts of coupled motion,
Week 3	<b>Lecture: Cervical spine</b> , Seated, prone and supine cervical spine palpation techniques, End Feels,
Week 4	<b>Lecture: Cervical spine continued</b> , Seated, prone and supine cervical spine palpation techniques (continued)
Week 5	<b>Lecture: Thoracic spine</b> , Thoracic Spine, seated, palpation techniques, Active and Passive ROMs, Red reflex
Week 6	<b>Lecture: Thoracic spine continued</b> , Prone and sphinx thoracic spine palpation techniques, Concept of Scoliosis, Adams Test, Wall Push-up Test for scapular winging, Rib palpation and movement concepts, Listing basics (static vs. motion), General regional spine screening techniques,
Week 7	<b>Lecture: Lumbar spine, Lab Practical #1 (Cervical and Thoracic)</b>
Week 8	<b>Lecture Midterm Exam</b> , Seated and prone lumbar palpation techniques, ROMs,
Week 9	<b>Lecture: Pelvis</b> , Seated and prone lumbar palpation techniques (continued), Kinetic chain concept, Pelvic motion palpation, Concept of functional and anatomic short leg syndromes, Iliac crest height, PSIS and ASIS palpation, Supine and prone leg length checks, Long sitting test, Hip rotation test, Allis test, Standing and seated flexion test, Hip extension test, Iliac compression test, Gillet’s test, Patrick’s test, Lumbosacral flip test, Yeoman’s test.
Week 10	<b>Lecture: Lower Extremity</b> , Lower Extremity motion palpation techniques, (Hip, knee, Patellofemoral, Tibiofibular, ankle/foot, toe movements),
Week 11	<b>Lecture: Upper extremity</b> , Upper extremity motion palpation techniques (shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand and fingers)
Week 13	<b>Lab Practical # 2 (comprehensive)</b>
Week 14	<b>Final Exam (comprehensive)</b>

**Grade Method and Scale:**

Midterm Exam	25%
Comprehensive Final Exam	25%
Practical #1	25%
Practical #2	25%

Written midterm and final examinations will be multiple choice questions. Practical will be performance based where accuracy and technique of palpation will be assessed, along with identifying specific anatomical landmarks. Students must be on time and properly attired for their lab practicals or they may fail that practical.

Grade Scale:	A=90-100
	B=80-89
	C=70-79
	F=69 and below

**Essential Policy Information:****Attendance** p. 58 Student Handbook:

Regular and punctual attendance at all scheduled classes and laboratories is expected. A student is subject to academic penalty if absences exceed ten percent. Absences exceeding twenty percent subject a student to dismissal from a course. Three (3) incidences of tardiness may constitute an absence. If justifiable cause can be shown for the absenteeism, the student may be permitted to make up missed assignments and maintain enrollment in the class.

**Examinations** (updated policy):

Students must notify faculty before missing any examination. If an examination is missed for good and sufficient reason and the student has notified the faculty member in advance, a make-up examination may be given subject to a fee of \$40.00. The fee for the make up examination is a minimum of \$75.00 if a standardized patient is required for the exam. Additional required standardized patient hours may increase this \$75.00 minimum fee. All intra-term examinations must be made up prior to final examinations. Missed final examinations must be made up within the first week of the next trimester. A student may be allowed a maximum of two missed examination dates for good and sufficient reason per trimester. These two missed examination dates are for all enrolled courses in a trimester, not for each individual course. Any request for additional make up examinations will require documentation substantiating the absence and must be approved by the Dean of Academic Affairs.

**Incompletes** p. 58 Student Handbook:

Course assignments and examinations must be completed prior to the final examination in that course. Assignments and examinations not completed receive a grade of zero.

**Cellular Phones and Pagers** p. 12 Student Handbook:

Electronic communication devices are to be turned off or placed in silent mode when entering the classroom. This will benefit the learning environment for you, and your fellow classmates.

**Guidance and Counseling** p. 18 Student Handbook:

The Guidance and Counseling Department is prepared to confidentially assist students, faculty, and staff with personal, relationship, and academic mental health-related issues. With appropriate documentation, the Director of Guidance and Counseling coordinates academic-related special needs with instructors.

**Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.**

**ADA policies are observed.**

**Note:** Other important policies can be obtained from the current edition of the Student Handbook.

Instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus for the good of the order.