



ACS Chicago Courses

Axion Training Institute

COURSE LOCATION AND HOTEL INFORMATION

1. Our training facility is at 14 North Peoria Street - Chicago, IL 60607 in Suite #100. We are 2 blocks west of Halsted Street and 0.5 blocks north of Madison Street. Enter through the main entrance on the **south** side of the 7-story red brick building (cobblestone parkway). The training facility is right inside the main door of the building in suite #100. If the outside door is locked just dial ##0100 on the computerized directory. If you have any questions, you may contact the instructor on his cell phone at (773) 859-1854.
2. We recommend the Crowne Plaza Metro Hotel – Only 2 blocks away and really nice! Call (312) 829-5000 and ask for the “AXION” rate. If you have specific hotel questions, please contact the sales manager, Lauren at (312) 602-2175. The hotel is next to a 24 hr Pharmacy (Walgreens) and across the street from a great grocery store (Mariano’s).
3. We recommend that you **do not rent a car**. There are plenty of taxis and Ubers all around the city. It is much easier (and cheaper) to get around Chicago without a car (most hotels charge \$30/day for parking). A taxi from either airport to the hotel is ~\$40. There is also a train from each airport to downtown for \$2.25-\$5.00. I am not a big fan of GO Airport Express. They are too expensive and take too long. We like Uber.
4. The course will go 8:30 AM until 5:00 PM each day. We will finish by 1 PM on the last day. We provide morning / afternoon snacks and lunch.
5. If you have any questions or problems, please call the lab at (312) 243-2153 or my cell phone at (773) 859-1854.

I look forward to meeting you in Chicago!

Dr. Lee N. Polite
Instructor

Directions to the ACS / Axion Chicago Training Facility

Axion Training Center
14 North Peoria
Suite #100
(Just North of Intersection of Peoria Street and Madison Avenue)
Chicago, IL 60607
(312) 243-2153 or (773) 859-1854

From O'Hare Airport (Approximately 17.8 miles) or Northwest Suburbs

Take I-90 East (Kennedy Expressway) towards Downtown Chicago. Exit Madison Street (Exit #51D). Pass Halsted Street (1st stoplight) and proceed 2 more blocks to Peoria St (Stop Sign). Make a right at the stop sign (Peoria Street), and the training facility is on your left 14 N. Peoria. Enter through the main entrance on the south side (cobblestone alley) of the 7-story red brick building. The training facility is immediately inside the main door of the building in suite #100. If the front door is locked, just dial #0100 on the computerized directory. If you have any questions, you may contact the instructor on his cell phone at (773) 859-1854.

From Midway Airport (Approximately 9 miles) or South Suburbs

Go north on Cicero Avenue to I-55 North towards Chicago (Stevenson Expressway). Exit onto I-90 West/I-94 West (Dan Ryan Expressway), exit number 292, towards WISCONSIN. Exit on Madison Avenue (Exit #51D) and turn left onto Madison Avenue. Pass Halsted Street (1st stoplight) and proceed 2 more blocks to Peoria St (Stop Sign). Make a right at the stop sign (Peoria Street), and the training facility is on your left 14 N. Peoria. Enter through the main entrance on the south side of the 7-story red brick building. The training facility is immediately inside the main door of the building in suite #100. If the front door is locked, just dial #0100 on the computerized directory. If you have any questions, you may contact the instructor on his cell phone at (773) 859-1854.

Parking Facilities

Less than one block away, there is an indoor parking facility (Park-1) at 840 West Washington Avenue that charges ~ \$10 per day. Follow the directions to the training facility. Continue North on Peoria to the next block (Washington Avenue) where there will be a stop sign. Make a right on Washington, and the parking garage will be immediately on your left.

My Top Restaurant Guide for Chicago - Not Necessarily in Order

Walking Distance from the Crowne Plaza Hotel, you'll find lots of outstanding restaurants along Randolph Street ("restaurant row")...nestled in between the historic meat packing plants (go figure!). There is everything from world-famous chefs to BBQ to authentic Mexican . Here are a few of my local favorites.

Green Street Smoked Meats 112 N Green Street (near the lab) – It may look like a biker bar as you enter through an alley, but they serve outstanding house-smoked BBQ in a cool environment (don't worry, it's safe!)

Pizza East - 113 N Green Street – Great casual restaurant in the Soho House (euro-chic boutique hotel from London). Don't miss the garlic bread prepared tableside. Make sure to take a stroll through the lobby.

Chicken Shop – 113 N Green Street – Also in the Soho House, they have outstanding roasted chicken (they say it comes from an Amish farm...but how to they get here?). I love the chicken & waffles and the dirty burger.

Lone Wolf – 806 W Randolph – Casual Bar with great British pub fare: Scotch eggs (soft boiled eggs, rolled in bread and sausage then deep fried), meet pies, Welsh Rarebit, and vegi chilli!

Haymarket Brew Pub – 737 W Randolph – Great beer and food...what else is there? They serve 4oz beer samplers, so you can create your own flight.

Grange Hall Burgers – 844 W Randolph – Farm-to-table burgers. They make everything from scratch, and it shows! Save room for the home-made pies.

Other Cool Chicago Restaurants

Frontera Grill - 445 N Clark Rick Bayless's Restaurant. Excellent Gourmet Mexican with a twist. Tends to be crowded...Always! This has been called the best food in Chicago.

Cafe Baba-Reeba - 2024 N Halsted - Spanish (NOT Mexican) food. This is a Tapas bar (appetizers), so you can sample lots of different things. We may go here as a group during the course.

Twin Anchors - 1655 N Sedgwick -Frank Sinatra's favorite restaurant, a neighborhood BBQ and steaks place.

Greektown ~200 S. Halsted - Only a few blocks from the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Great food, inexpensive wine, very accommodating, lots of fun. Try **Greek Islands**, **Athena**, **Santorini** (Traditional) or **Artopolis** (Modern).

Pizza Let's not forget what made Chicago famous. This is the only place to get REAL pizza. There is an endless list of world-class pizzas. Here are my favorites: **Giordono's** , **Pizzeria Due**, **Gino's East**, and **Lou Malnati's**.

Gourmet Burgers – High-end meat ground in-house, craft beer and cool atmospheres make this my favorite new trend in restaurants. Try Au Cheval, Grange Hall, DMK, Burger Bar, Butcher Shop, etc.

Mortons of Chicago – 1050 North State (312) 266-4820 – The original great steak place!

Alinea - 1723 N Halsted (312) 867-0110 for gourmet on the expense account! One of the few Michelin 3-Diamond restaurants in the world. Always ranked in the nation's top 5!

After Dinner Fun...Or Places for People on Liquid Diets

The Ritz - Garden lounge - Quiet, exclusive; best drinks in town. This is in the lobby of the Hotel (which is on the 16th floor of Watertower place). Excellent place to stop for a drink (not cheap). They have relaxing couches to lounge on and great snacks.

****The 96th** floor of the John Hancock Building - Don't miss this place on a clear night. This is the top floor of one of the world's tallest buildings. Most of the tables are close to the giant windows. The incredible views make this place a must for one drink. A surefire way to cure acrophobia. Check out the ladies bathroom.

****HQ Beercade** – 213 W Institute PL - Imagine having all the great video games and pinball machines from the 80's and 90's...all set on free play...in the middle of a cool bar serving craft brews and funky cocktails...while listening to music from cassette tapes. They call it a beercade, I call it my retirement home!

Pop's for Champagne - 601 N State - A real champagne bar with a live jazz a few nights per week. They claim to have the largest selection of "drinkable" champagnes (over 200). They serve about 10 different champagnes by the glass. Not cheap, but a unique place.

****Lakefront** - A 20 mile stretch of beautiful Lake Michigan shoreline is *within* the City of Chicago! From anywhere in the city, just head east, and you'll find miles of sandy beaches, running/biking paths, water fountains, parks, etc. Just about any time of the day or night, you'll find people running, walking, skating, biking and strolling on the lake front. One of the great spots is North Ave Beach, with a bar, snack shop, bike rentals, showers, 45 volley ball nets on the beach and an outdoor Bally's fitness club!

****Second City** - 1608 N. Wells (312) 664-4032 - The best place for Sketch comedy (like Saturday Night Live). The list of alums from this place includes John Belushi, Dan Akroyd, John Candy, Bob Newhart, Mike Myers, Steven Colbert, Tina Fey, etc. They have a few stages. Call for info. Always Great! Usually starts at 8-8:30 PM

Navy Pier on the lake - Giant Ferris wheel, IMAX Theater, lots of shops and restaurants, and general family fun including the Chicago Children's Museum. They are not known for their food, but the location is hard to beat.

Architectural Boat Tour – Sounds boring but is really fun and informative! It lasts about an hour and takes you around the city via the Chicago River. You get to learn about Chicago's world-renowned architecture.

****Kingston Mines Blues Bar** - 2548 N. Halsted - Outstanding blues bar with 2 live bands every night! ~\$12 cover. World-class performers in a casual setting 7 nights a week. The list of frequent visitors includes Eric Clapton, Robert Plant and Mick Jagger! This is a great place to go if you are a music lover.

Wiener's Circle ~2600 N. Clark – This place would make my list for the great, char-grilled hot dogs alone, but it is the entertainment at this hot dog stand that really makes it worth the visit. Call it R-rated urban theater! The cooks dish out comments and insults faster than dogs and fries. Not for the easily offended. The later the better.

**** - My Top Picks**

AREA MAP

