Course Syllabus
MICROBIOLOGY
BIOL 2420

Semester  
Spring 2013

(CRN)  
30864

Instructor contact  
AUGUSTE NIOUPIN  
8001 FULTON, Houston, TX 77022

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Email Address:  
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Office Location and Hours  
Northline Campus, Room 321  
Fridays; 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Course Location/ Times  
Tuesdays:  2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Room 309 (Lecture/ Lab)  
Thursdays:  2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Room 217 (Lecture)

Course Semester  
Credit Hours  4.00

Credit Hours (SCH)  
Lecture Hours  3.00 (3 college credits)  
Laboratory Hours 3.00 (1 college credit)

Total Course Contact Hours  
96.00

Course Length  
16 weeks

Type of Instruction  
In person, on campus.

Course Description:  
Study of microorganisms including morphology, metabolism, taxonomy, culture techniques, microbial genetics, immunology, bacteriology, virology, mycology, parasitology, and diseases. Core Curriculum course

Course Prerequisite(s)  
- College-level reading (or take GUST 0342) and
- College-level writing (or take ENGL 0310/0349)
- BIOL 1406: General Biology 1
TEXTBOOK:
- AUTHORS: Talaro, K and Chess, B.
- PUBLISHERS: McGraw-Hill
- Student companion site: http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0073375292/student_view0/

LAB MANUAL:
- TITLE: Microbiology, Laboratory Manual for Biology 2420, 5th Ed. 2007
- AUTHORS: Donna S. Wiersema & Pramila Sen

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):
1. Explain microbial evolution, microbial diversity on earth, and environmental impact of microbes.
2. Understand microbial cell biology and genetics including, cellular structure and function, cell division and growth, metabolism, mutations, and inheritance.
3. Recognize Microbe-Human Interactions including, host non-specific defenses, adaptive immunity, chemotherapy (antibiotics), pathogenesis, and disease transmission.
4. Apply basics of biotechnology and genetic engineering, to provide an understanding of the importance of molecular methods in the construction of microbial products for scientific, medical, and industrial uses.
5. Apply microbiology laboratory safety rules and maintain lab equipment and lab environment in accordance with those rules.
6. Perform standard microbiological lab techniques including, use of the bright field microscope, aseptic technique, smear preparation and staining, inoculation/streaking techniques, media preparation, serial dilutions, and incubation protocols.

Learning Objectives
- Explain microbial evolution, microbial diversity on earth, and environmental impact of microbes.
- Understand microbial cell biology and genetics including, cellular structure and function, cell division and growth, metabolism, mutations, and inheritance.
- Recognize Microbe-Human Interactions including, host non-specific defenses, adaptive immunity, chemotherapy (antibiotics), pathogenesis, and disease transmission.
- Apply basics of biotechnology and genetic engineering, to provide an understanding of the importance of molecular methods in the construction of microbial products for scientific, medical, and industrial uses.
- Apply microbiology laboratory safety rules and maintain lab equipment and lab environment in accordance with those rules.
- Perform standard microbiological lab techniques including, use of the bright field microscope, aseptic technique, smear preparation and staining, inoculation/streaking techniques, media preparation, serial dilutions, and incubation protocols.

Instructional Methods
This course focuses on your textbook readings and instructor Power Point lectures. Course contents are heavily based on the topics covered in the required textbook, although certain details may be added from various easily accessible sources. It is the responsibility of the student to read the chapters assigned by the instructor with emphasis on the topics and concepts covered in class. Any of these topics can be included in lecture exams, although the main focus of these tests will be derived from the reviews.
Laboratory sessions will include exercises from the required laboratory manual. In most cases, "lab day" will be de facto lecture/lab exercise. Lab reports are due at the next lecture session immediately following "lab day". Lab reports must be turned in to your instructor no later than the end of that lecture session. Lab reports turned within 24 hours after the deadline will be assessed a 20% penalty. Anything turned in more than 24 hours after the deadline will earn you a 0 (zero!).

**Student Assignments**

Students are required to read assigned chapters. Announced or unannounced quizzes during lecture or lab may be conducted throughout the semester.

**Student Assessment(s)**

**EXAMINATIONS AND GRADES:**

Students will be assessed via lecture and laboratory examinations, final lecture and lab examinations. There will be a total of five examinations in all. These include 3 lecture exams, 1 laboratory exam and a final examination. You must provide ASAP a USB Flash drive with at least 1 gigabyte (1 GB) of available memory to your instructor to have a copy of lecture outlines, the reviews, the animations, and other useful documents. The laboratory exam will be based on the visual identification of selected microbes. The final will include material from review 4, and a comprehensive element.

**Instructor Grading Criteria**

**THE FINAL AVERAGE FOR THE COURSE IS CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:**

- 3 LECTURE EXAMS: 36% (12% each)
- 1 LABORATORY EXAM: 20%
- ATTENDANCE: 5%
- LAB REPORTS AVERAGE: 5%
- FINAL EXAM: 34%

**HCC Grading Scale**

- A = 100- 90: 4 points per semester hour
- B = 89 - 80: 3 points per semester hour
- C = 79 - 70: 2 points per semester hour
- D = 69 - 60: 1 point per semester hour
- 59 and below = F: 0 points per semester hour
- IP (In Progress): 0 points per semester hour
- W(Withdrawn): 0 points per semester hour
- I (Incomplete): 0 points per semester hour
- AUD (Audit): 0 points per semester hour

IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. COM (Completed) is given in non-credit and continuing education courses. To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades "IP," "COM" and "I" do not affect GPA.

For Health Science programs, see the Program/Discipline Requirements section for specific grading requirements.
Instructor's Requirements

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

Students should be on time for class and be prepared with required materials including textbook and lab manual. Full class attendance is required including lecture and lab portions. Full attention during lecture and lab is required. **YOU MUST PURCHASE A LAB COAT or AT LEAST A LONG SLEEVES SCRUB JACKET FOR LABORATORY EXERCISES.**

**NOTE:** This course requires basic level of computer skills such as HCC Webmail, MS OFFICE 2007 or above (including MS Word, MS PowerPoint, MS Excel), Windows XP or above (including Paint, Calculator, Notepad, WordPad, XPS viewer, etc.), Current version of various Web Browsers (Explorer, Firefox, Safari, Chrome, or Opera)

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Houston Community College System permits up to 4 absences during a regular semester. Beyond that, the student may be subject to administrative withdrawal at the discretion of the Instructor.

In this course, attendance will constitute 5% of the final grade

0 absences = 100%
1 absence = 90%
2 absences = 80%
3 absences = 70%
4 absences = 60%
More than 4 absences = 0

**Note:** Classes start on time, at the designated, officially scheduled start time. You have 15 minutes to come in. Past 15 minutes after the officially scheduled start of class the doors shall be “locked” regardless of your circumstances. Your next opportunity to come in would be at break time which should occur 1 hour and 15 minutes after the officially scheduled start of class. Break time lasts 15 minutes, after which doors will be “locked” again. Missing half the class causes you to be half absent (whether you came in at break time, or you left before class was dismissed). Of course half absences do add up to full absences. Be aware of that.

PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Absolutely no phone or other personal electronic devices are to be used during class (lecture and lab). This includes making or taking a call, reviewing messages, texting, playing games, checking email, surfing the web, or anything that involves a phone or other personal electronic device. If your work or family situation requires that you be available via phone, your phone can be on vibrate mode and you can take the call during our regular scheduled breaks or you can exit the class to review the call. Notify your friends, family, employers, and anyone else who regularly contacts you that you will be in class and that you should be contacted only when necessary. Answering phone calls during class is not only disruptive but it is also discourteous to classmates and the instructor.

Use of recording devices, including camera phones and tape recorders, is prohibited in classrooms, laboratories, faculty offices, and other locations where instruction, tutoring, or testing occurs. Students with disabilities who need to use a recording device as a reasonable accommodation should contact the Office for Students with Disabilities for information regarding reasonable accommodations.
### **HCC ADA Policy Statement:**

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office of their respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty is authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. For questions, contact Donna Price at 713-718-5165 or the Disability Counselor at your college.

Northeast ADA Counselor – **Kim Ingram** – 713-718-8420  
ADA website: [http://www.hccs.edu/hccs/future-students/disability-services](http://www.hccs.edu/hccs/future-students/disability-services)

### **Student Services Policies:**

[http://hccs.edu/student-rights](http://hccs.edu/student-rights)

### **EGLS3 – Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System**

At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time near the end of the term, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and department chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term. EGLS3 availability will be published later during the semester.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by the College System against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. Penalties can include a grade of “0” or “F” on the particular assignment, failure in the course, academic probation, or even dismissal from the College. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism and collusion.

### **COURSE REPEATERS:**

"Students who repeat any college-level course for a third time or more at Houston Community College (HCC) will be assessed an extra fee of $50 per credit hour. Please ask your instructor / counselor about opportunities for tutoring or other assistance prior to considering course withdrawal or if you are not receiving passing grades."

Faculty will no longer be able to "withdraw" students on their final semester roll sheets. The use of the withdrawal form must be used by students/faculty to withdraw students from coursework with appropriate boxes) checked. **If a student decides to withdraw from a class upon careful review of other options, the student can withdraw online prior to the deadline through their HCC Student Center, on PeopleSoft. Students should check HCC’s Academic Calendar by Term for withdrawal dates and deadlines.**
The State of Texas has begun to impose penalties on students who drop courses excessively. For example, if you repeat the same course more than twice, you have to pay extra tuition. In 2007, the Texas Legislature passed a law limiting students to no more than six total course withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. There may be future penalties imposed.

To help students avoid having to drop/withdraw from any class, HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your instructor will “alert” you and HCC Student Services of the chance you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance. You should visit with your Instructor, an HCC counselor, or HCC Online Student Services to learn about what, if any, HCC interventions might be offered to assist you – tutoring, child care, financial aid, job placement, etc. – to stay in class and improve your academic performance.

**MAKE UP POLICY**

A student *may* be allowed to make up an exam at the sole discretion of the instructor. Each situation will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

**CALENDAR: **

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR SPRING 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classes begin:</td>
<td>January 14th</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st lecture exam:</td>
<td>February 28th</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Review 1 on Feb 21st, Questions are due Feb 20th, before 7:30p)</td>
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<tr>
<td>President’s Day:</td>
<td>February 18th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Break:</td>
<td>March 11th through 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd lecture exam:</td>
<td>March 28th</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Review 2 on Mar. 21st, Questions are due Mar. 20th, before 7:30p)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Holiday:</td>
<td>March 29th through 31st</td>
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<td>Last Day to Drop (W):</td>
<td>April 1st (4:30p)</td>
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<td>3rd lecture exam:</td>
<td>April 25th</td>
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<td>(Review 3 on Apr. 18th, Questions are due Apr. 17th, before 7:30p)</td>
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<td>Laboratory Exam:</td>
<td>May 2nd</td>
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<td>Final Examinations Week:</td>
<td>May 9th (See Official Schedule)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Review 4 on April 30th Questions are due April 29th, before 7:30p)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grades available:</td>
<td>May 17th</td>
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See the Instructor for exact time and date. Time and Dates may be changed on short notice.
**CHAPTERS TO BE COVERED**

Chapter 1, The Main Themes of Microbiology
Chapter 2, The Chemistry of Biology
Chapter 3, Tools of the Laboratory: The Methods for Studying Microorganisms
Chapter 4, Prokaryotic Profiles: The Bacteria and Archea
Chapter 5, Eukaryotic Cells and Microorganisms
Chapter 6, An Introduction to the Viruses
Chapter 7, Elements of Microbial Nutrition, Ecology, and Growth
Chapter 8, Microbial Metabolism: The Chemical Crossroads of Life
Chapter 9, Microbial Genetics
Chapter 10, Genetic Engineering: A Revolution in Molecular Biology
Chapter 11, Physical and Chemical Control of Microbes
Chapter 12, Drugs, Microbes, Host - The Elements of Chemotherapy
Chapter 13, Microbe-Human Interactions: Infection and Disease
Chapter 14, Nonspecific Host Defenses
Chapter 15, Specific Immunity and Immunization
Chapter 16, Disorders in Immunity
Chapter 17, Diagnosing Infections
+ Selected topics from Chapters 18 through 25.

Lecture Exam #1 should cover chapters: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Lecture Exam #2 should cover chapters: 6, 7, 8, 9
Lecture Exam #3 should cover chapters: 10, 11, 12, 13
Final Exam should cover chapters: 14, 15, 16, and 17.

**LABORATORY EXERCISES TO BE COVERED**

All lab exercises should be covered.

**LABORATORY SAFETY RULES:**

Read the rules in your lab book. Lab rules and regulations will be discussed during the first lab day and will be adhered to at all times. Each student is responsible for cleaning up after labs; this includes glassware, utensils, specimens/models and other material used during lab time. **You must bring a lab coat for lab sessions, and lab follow-up sessions.** If you are allergic to the available gloves (latex, nitrile, cotton, or glove powder) you may have to bring your own gloves.

**ONLINE TUTORING**

All BIOL students are encouraged to use HCC’s online tutoring system for help with any BIOL class. Questions submitted to the ASK queue will be answered within 24 hours – and usually much before that. Tutors are on duty 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Online tutors will not do homework for you, but they will guide you in the right direction. To maximize the effectiveness of the system, be specific when you ask questions, and let the tutor know what class you are taking.

Registering for online tutoring is easy. Go to [www.hccs.askonline.net](http://www.hccs.askonline.net). Select a user name and password that you will remember. Use any e-mail address, and add your student ID number in the COMMENT box. It will probably take five minutes to set up your askonline account. After that, you can submit questions in seconds. Tutor responses are not e-mailed to you. To see the answers, log back in to the system and click the bright yellow NEW button.

Online tutoring is also available for chemistry, physics, math, English, and papers in all disciplines.
**PLEASE NOTE!**

- You need to purchase your textbook and lab manual as soon as possible.
- If you have any problem whatsoever with the class, speak to the instructor first. Together we can handle it.
- You may contact me any time via the email.
- Check my office hours for personal conferences.
- Check on your grades often and discuss your concerns with me. Don't wait till the end of the semester!
- The class attendance roll rules: if you are not on the roll you cannot attend.
- Students are expected to conduct themselves as adults. Be courteous to your classmates and the instructor. Disruptive behavior or any behavior that interferes with any educational activity being performed by the instructor will not be allowed. No cursing is allowed in this class! You may have to walk… 😊 Additionally, no student may interfere with his/her fellow students’ right to pursue their academic goals to the fullest in an atmosphere appropriate to a community of scholars. Disruptive behavior may result in removal from the class.
- Turn in reports and assignments when they are due. Late work will be penalized.

**SHOW UP! SHOW UP!! SHOW UP!!!**

**STUDY! STUDY!! STUDY!!!**
For the majority of the last one hundred years, microbiology laboratory methods have remained relatively unchanged, with tests being based on culture media and the foundations that were laid down by the pioneers of microbiology: Pasteur and Koch. It’s only relatively recently that the fundamental basis of testing has begun to change; as a result, rapid and alternative microbiological methods have...