

General Microbiology (BISC 333)

Spring Semester 2020

10:00 am – 10:50 am M-W-F Lamar Hall Room 129

Instructor: Wayne L. Gray, PhD. wgray@olemiss.edu

Office- Shoemaker Hall Room 303

Course Description: General Microbiology (BISC 333) introduces students to the basic morphology, physiology, and pathogenicity of microorganisms. The class will focus on key cellular aspects that differentiate microorganisms from other larger forms of life, and inform students on several organisms from throughout the microbial phylogenetic spectrum.

Course Objective: Upon completion of the course students are expected to learn and understand the following aspects of microbiology:

- microbial structure and morphology
- microbial growth and physiology
- microbial gene expression and regulation
- microbial genetics
- microbial pathogenesis and host defense
- antimicrobial agents and vaccines
- lab diagnosis of microbial infections
- epidemiology

This objective will be achieved through attending and actively participating in class lectures and laboratories, reading course materials, and performing successfully on quizzes and exams.

Prerequisites- Grade of a C or better in BISC 160, BISC 161, BISC 162 and BISC 163.

Recommended Textbook: *Brock Biology of Microorganisms*, 14th Edition (recommended)

Dr. Gray's office hours: Tuesday 10:00 – 11:00 am and Thursday 4:00- 5:00 pm (no appointment necessary). If you cannot meet during scheduled office hours, you can make an appointment by email.

In-Class Policies: Regular class attendance is expected. Cell phone use and texting is not permitted, and cell phones must be turned off during class. Use of **laptop computers** for note-taking is fine, but it is not appropriate to be facebooking, twittering, or sending emails, etc.

Turning Technologies Response Cards (Clickers)- Clickers or I-phone will be used as an optional extra-credit class participation grade. Most classes will include 3-4 clicker questions. Your final class participation grade will depend on the number of correct answers during the semester and will count much as 16.6% of your final grade. You must register your Response Card on Blackboard. It is the student's responsibility to correctly register and maintain the clicker (I-phone). Bring your fully charged card to every class. Using another person's card is serious academic misconduct and will be reported to the University Academic Discipline Committee. Violation will result in loss of participation points and possible expulsion from the course.

Blackboard: You are assigned a Web ID and Password for access to online resources including Blackboard, the UM course management system (<https://blackboard.olemiss.edu>). Course announcements, Power Point slides, study materials, grades, and other course information will be posted on a regular basis. You should consult Blackboard daily for important class messages.

Exams and Grading: There will be four exams including the final exam and will cover lecture material. Each of the 4 exams will consist of 40 multiple choice questions (100 points each).

The laboratory component of the course will include weekly quizzes and an unknown. The final lab grade will count equal to one lecture exam (100 points). See the course lab syllabus for additional information.

The optional class participation grade will count as an additional exam and would be worth 16.6% of the final grade. Your final course grade will be determined based on the higher final grade calculated with or without the class participation grade.

Bring your **student ID, #2 pencil, and a Scantron form # F-289** to every exam. The Scantron form # F-289 (red print) can be purchased at the Bookstore in the Student Union. **No electronic devices are allowed to be turned on during exams.** If you suspect that a question was graded improperly, you have one week from the date of test return to contact me.

Final Grading Scale

93.0 and over	=	A
90.0 to 92.99	=	A-
88.0 to 89.99	=	B+
80.0 to 87.99	=	B
78.0 to 79.99	=	C+
70.0 to 77.99	=	C
60.0 to 69.99	=	D
0 – 59.99	=	F

Make-up exams- Valid reasons for missing an exam are very limited and include medical or family emergency or University-sanctioned events. Depending on the circumstances, a student may or may not be allowed to make-up an exam. To be eligible to make up an exam:

- 1) You must notify Dr. Gray by email or in person immediately, preferably prior to the exam, but at most, 24 hours after the exam.
- 2) Documentation for an excused absence may be required.
- 3) Upon receiving an excused absence, a make-up exam will be scheduled, within 1- 2 days.
- 4) The format of the make-up exam will be multiple choice, short answer, oral, and/or discussion.
- 5) Unexcused absence for a missed exam results in a grade of zero.

Microbiology in the News: On a regular basis, microbiology articles will be posted on Dr. Gray's infectious disease twitter account- **@wgrayvirologist**. Extra-credit opportunities will be available for writing one page summaries of articles posted on this twitter account as explained in class.

Special Needs: Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in the course or meet course requirements. The University of Mississippi is committed to the creation of inclusive learning environments for all students. If there are

aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your full inclusion and participation, or to accurate assessment of your achievement, please contact Dr. Gray as soon as possible. Barriers may include, but are not necessarily limited to, timed exams and in-class assignments, difficulty with the acquisition of lecture content, inaccessible web content, and the use of non-captioned or non-transcribed video and audio files. If you are approved through SDS, you must log in to your Rebel Access portal at <https://sds.olemiss.edu> to request approved accommodations. If you are NOT approved through SDS, you must contact Student Disability Services at **662-915-7128** so the office can: 1. determine your eligibility for accommodations, 2. disseminate to your instructors a Faculty Notification Letter, 3. facilitate the removal of barriers, and 4. ensure you have equal access to the same opportunities for success that are available to all students.

Academic Misconduct: Academic dishonesty and cheating of any kind is not tolerated. Procedures for handling academic misconduct are described in the UM Policy Code ACA.AR.600.001. Penalties include, but are not limited to, taking a 0 on an exam and/or expulsion from the course.

Keys to Success in this Course:

- read the PowerPoint slides and textbook, preferably before coming to class
- attend class- listen, take notes, ask questions
- keep up with the material- don't put off studying until the night before the exam
- take advantage of extra-credit opportunities
- contact Dr. Gray if you need additional help