

MICR 5091
Current Topics in Microbiology & Immunology
Spring 2018

CLASS DAYS and TIME: TBA with Thesis Research Advisor

CLASSROOM: None

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr. Michael T. Berton

OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment

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TELEPHONE: Dr. Berton – 210-567-3931

READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY - YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS CONTENTS.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

A combination of library research and discussion with a member of MSI&I program faculty will give each student in-depth understanding of a selected topic in immunology & microbial pathogenesis. The course will culminate in the submission of the student's Thesis Research Proposal.

Pre-requisite – Typically, a student has identified his/her prospective Research Advisor prior to signing up for this course.

Semester credit hours – 1.0

By the end of this course, each student should have accomplished the following:

- met with his/her prospective Thesis Research Advisor directly for a minimum of 12 hours to develop an appropriate research project to begin the following Fall semester;
- completed to the satisfaction of the Research Advisor a 5 page, single-spaced research proposal describing the thesis research project to be conducted in year 2;
- spent as much time as possible in the Thesis Research Advisor's laboratory to learn the research techniques and approaches required to perform the thesis research project.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Students will meet individually for at least one hour **each week** with their Research Advisor to discuss research proposal ideas and to review relevant scientific literature. If time permits, students should also spend as much time as possible per week to familiarize themselves with the laboratory of the Research Advisor and the general methods used in that laboratory.

Reading Assignments – TBA

ATTENDANCE

In order to achieve the expected level of competency, students must be fully engaged. **Students are therefore expected to attend every scheduled meeting with their Research Advisor and to be on time.** It is recognized that a student may occasionally arrive late due to unexpected traffic problems or inclement weather. However, chronic lateness is considered an unprofessional behavior that disrupts the learning experience.

TEXTBOOKS

None

GRADING POLICIES AND EXAMINATION PROCEDURES

Students will receive a letter grade (A, B, etc.) for this course that will be based on the frequency/duration of meetings with the Research Advisor, and on the submission of a written research proposal to the Program Director that is acceptable to the Research Advisor.

Grading System

A = submission of acceptable research proposal and a minimum of 14 meetings with Research Advisor

B = submission of acceptable research proposal and a minimum of 12 meetings with Research Advisor

C = submission of acceptable research proposal and a minimum of 8 meetings with Research Advisor

F = submission of unacceptable research proposal or failure to meet with Research Advisor at least 8 times

REQUESTS FOR ACCOMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES

In accordance with policy 4.2.3, **Request for Accommodation Under the ADA and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA)**, any student requesting accommodation must submit the appropriate request for accommodation under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA, form 100). to his/her appropriate Associate Dean of their School and a copy to the ADA Coordinator. Additional information may be obtained at <http://uthscsa.edu/eo/request.asp>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONALISM

The expectation is that all students will exhibit the highest standards of scholastic and scientific integrity as elaborated on page 99 of the current UTHSCSA Student Catalog. Any student who commits an act of academic dishonesty is subject to discipline as prescribed by the UT System Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on exams, plagiarism, tampering with reference materials or files, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person (e.g. copying material from the web without proper attribution), and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such an act. Failure to abide by these rules of professional conduct will result in a grade of zero for the exam in question and, depending on the nature of the infraction, the consequences may include dismissal from the program.

If you suspect another student of professional misconduct, please bring your suspicions directly to the Course Director. Confidentiality will be maintained at every level during any ongoing investigation of suspected academic or scientific misconduct.

Additional information may be obtained at

<http://catalog.uthscsa.edu/generalinformation/generalacademicpolicies/academicdishonestypolicy/>

TITLE IX AT UTHSCSA

Title IX Defined:

Title of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. It reads “no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio’s Commitment:

University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio (UTHSCSA) is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discriminatory conduct based on gender. As required by Title IX, UTHSCSA does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education programs and activities, and it encourages any student, faculty, or staff member who thinks that he or she has been subjected to sex discrimination, sexual harassment (including sexual violence) or sexual misconduct to immediately report the incident to the Title IX Director.

In an emergency, victims of sexual abuse should call 911. For non-emergencies, they may contact UPD at 210-567-2800. Additional information may be obtained at

<http://students.uthscsa.edu/titleix/>

EMAIL POLICY

Every student is issued a University e-mail address and account at the time of enrollment. As a matter of University Policy, communications between students and faculty that occur using the student’s University e-mail address are considered official business. Therefore, **students are expected to check their university email inboxes on a regular basis** so that any announcements, instructions, or information regarding this course will be received in a timely way. Missed communications due to inadequate monitoring of incoming emails on the University’s email server will never be a valid excuse for unsatisfactory academic progress.

USE OF RECORDING DEVICES

Recording of lectures and other learning activities in this course by any means (e.g., video, audio, etc.) is only permitted if approved by the instructor or required for compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell phones must be turned off during all class meetings and exams. Computers and electronic tablets are allowed only for participating in classroom activities (e.g., viewing slides presented in lecture or conference materials). Texting, tweeting, emailing, web-surfing, gaming, or any use of electronic devices that is not directly connected with classroom activities is NOT permitted.