

**MICR 5035**  
**EMERGING TRENDS IN IMMUNOLOGY AND INFECTION**  
**Fall 2019**

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**CLASS DAYS and TIME:** Mondays 2:00-4:00 PM

**CLASSROOM:** room 5.063v, Basic Sciences Building

**COURSE FACULTY:** Nu Zhang, Ph.D.  
Course Director

**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment

**EMAIL:** [zhangn3@uthscsa.edu](mailto:zhangn3@uthscsa.edu)

**TELEPHONE:** Zhang: 567-3973

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

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This course will offer an intense and advanced exploration of the primary literature focusing on the latest emerging trends in immunological research. The format will allow students to develop skills of in-depth critical analysis and will involve a combination of student presentations of current data and discussions of the historical development and evolution of new directions in immunological research.

**Prerequisites:** IBMS 5000 or MICR 6052 and permission of course director

**Semester credit hours:** 2

**Course objectives:**

By the end of this course, each student should be able to:

1. explore and identify the latest emerging trends in immunological research through in-depth reading of the current primary literature.
2. critically analyze cutting-edge immunological approaches in emerging areas of immunological research.
3. identify and understand how new directions in immunological research develop and evolve into high impact areas.

### **SCHEDULE**

See class schedule on last page of syllabus

### **ATTENDANCE**

In order to achieve the expected level of competency, students must be fully engaged. **Students are therefore expected to attend every presentation and to be on time.** It is recognized that a student may occasionally arrive late to class due to unexpected traffic problems or inclement weather. However, chronic lateness is considered an unprofessional behavior that disrupts the learning environment for everyone else in the classroom.

## TEXTBOOKS

N/A

## GRADING POLICIES AND EXAMINATION PROCEDURES

**Grading System – Final letter grades** for the both semesters will be based solely on the quality of student attendance, presentation and discussions.

Grading may be curved at the discretion of the course director and is based on the following scale:

A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% F = < 70%

**Note:** Fractions of grades are rounded to the nearest whole number for your final course grade. For example, 89.45 is an A, but 89.44 is a B.

**Examination Protocol** – N/A

**Grading Procedures** – Grade will be provided to students as quickly as possible after the last presentation of each semester. No “challenges” are allowed.

**Make-Up Presentations** – A student who must miss a scheduled paper presentation for a serious reason must request an excused absence from the Course Director. Acceptable “serious reasons” usually involve serious illness or injury to the student (doctor’s excuse may be required) or the student’s family member. Examples of unacceptable reasons include: Not prepared or incomplete studying, over-sleeping, hangover, heavy traffic or any travel delays, other appointments or scheduled professional or personal commitments. If it is determined that missing paper presentation is justified, a make-up presentation will be scheduled. Any student who misses a paper presentation and does not receive an excused absence **will receive a grade of zero for that presentation.**

## REQUESTS FOR ACCOMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES

Information regarding accommodations for disabilities is available in the UTHSCSA Catalog. A student who wishes to request accommodation for a disability should contact the Associate Dean for Students, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. The Student Request for Accommodations under Americans with Disabilities Act form and additional information may be obtained at <http://www.uthscsa.edu/eo/request.html>.

## SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY / PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:

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.

## 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.

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Fall 2019 CLASS SCHEDULE  
Mon 2:00-4:00 PM**

Date	Time	Topic	Presenter	Room	Reading Assignment
8/26	2-4 pm	TBA	Dr. Nu Zhang	5.063V	TBA
9/3 (the day after Labor day)	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
9/9	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
9/16	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
9/23	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
9/30	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
10/7	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
10/14	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
10/21	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
10/28	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
11/4	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
11/11	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
11/18	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
11/25	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
12/2	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA
12/9	2-4 pm	TBA	TBA	5.063V	TBA

### Class requirements:

**Paper presentations** – Students will prepare a 60 min power-point presentation on the assigned paper or

papers. The papers will be assigned before or on the first day of class. Student presentations should include:

1. a thorough and relevant introduction of the background for the topic, including but not limited to the literature citations in the assigned papers being presented.
2. presentation and explanation of the rationale for the overall hypothesis being tested
3. a clear description of the hypothesis itself
4. clear descriptions and explanations of the experimental approaches used for testing the hypothesis
5. and finally the presenter should be prepared to answer the question: "what should be the next step?".

**Discussion** - Each student is expected to read all the papers and prepare for an in-depth discussion of each paper(s), regardless of who is presenting the paper(s). Following the 60 min presentation, students will be randomly selected to further discuss individual figures and experimental results in detail, to critically analyze the results and propose alternative experiments if the original experiments failed to adequately support the authors' conclusions. These activities will help the students to develop the skills for identifying potential pitfalls of a given experimental approach and for proposing alternative strategies later in their scientific career.

**List of students registered for the course:**

To be announced

**List of articles for class:**

To be announced