

Syllabus for MMG 861: Advanced Microbial Pathogenesis

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To better understand the mechanisms of pathogenesis used by bacterial pathogens
2. To critically evaluate research articles published in the field of microbial pathogenesis
3. To develop writing skills that enhance each student's ability to introduce and critique research topics in the field and discuss and interpret data.

FACULTY: Shannon D. Manning, Ph.D., Course Coordinator
194 FST
884-2033, mannin71@msu.edu

Robert Abramovitch, Ph.D.
5179 BPS
884-5416, abramov5@msu.edu

Cindy G. Arvidson, Ph.D.
5192 BPS
884-5364, arvidso3@msu.edu

Victor J. DiRita, Ph.D.
2551 BPS
884-5292, diritavi@msu.edu

Martha H. Mulks, Ph.D.
5193 BPS
884-5365, mulks@msu.edu

TIME AND PLACE: Tues/Thurs. 1:00 PM – 2:20 PM in 2245 BPS

FORMAT: Lectures will be based on topics related to bacterial pathogenesis for a wide range of pathogens. The course will be divided into 8 sections or modules. Each module will include 2-4 sessions, which includes a short lecture and a discussion of reading material to foster critical thinking about the material covered. Up to 60 points will be awarded for attendance and participation in class discussion sessions (2 points per class) as follows:

- 0 points- missed class
- 1 point- attended class, but did not participate in the discussion
- 2 points- attended class and participated in the discussion

There will be no midterm or final exam. Instead, most modules will require completion of a 1-4 page writing assignment linked to the module topic. Each assignment will be due after the end of each module.

All assignments must be turned in to a D2L dropbox folder for originality checking via “Turnitin” and grading. This application will be used to check for plagiarism and documents with a >10% similarity score will be penalized. Some instructors may request that students also provide a hard copy.

Information on Turnitin: <http://learndat.tech.msu.edu/teach/student-writing>

From the website: “Consistent with MSU’s efforts to enhance student learning, foster honesty, and maintain integrity in our academic processes, instructors may use a tool called Turnitin to compare a student’s work with multiple sources. The tool compares each student’s work with an extensive database of prior publications and papers, providing links to possible matches and a “similarity score.” The tool does not determine whether plagiarism has occurred or not. Instead, the instructor must make a complete assessment and judge the originality of the student’s work. All submissions to this course may be checked using this tool.

Students should submit papers to Turnitin Dropboxes without identifying information included in the paper (e.g., name or student number), the system will automatically show this information to faculty in your course when viewing the submission, but the information will not be retained by Turnitin.

Uploading assignments into D2L

- You can either click on “Upload” or drag and drop your file into the box shown. Do not include your name on the document to be submitted as it will be used in the originality calculation and your name will be preserved in the online database.
 - After you have uploaded your file, make sure you click on “Submit to Dropbox”. You should see confirmation that you have successfully submitted your assignment (you should also receive an e-mail).
 - To check the similarity score/report, click on “Assessments” and then “Dropbox”
 - A list of your submissions will appear. Click on the number that appears in the Submissions Column.
 - You will see a list of file uploads. Under “Report” it will either say “In Progress” or a percentage will show. You will need to wait about 10-15 minutes for the originality report to complete.
 - You may resubmit another version of your paper without penalty and the most recent submission will be considered the final draft.

Late assignments will automatically be docked 5 points per day and any assignments with evidence of plagiarism will automatically receive 0 points followed by a report to the graduate school.

READINGS: Assigned readings will include primary references and review articles and will be posted on the course D2L site. Please read the required reading material prior to each class to ensure that you can participate in each discussion.

GRADING:

<u>Writing assignments</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Due</u>
Assignment 1 (Summary)	20	1/18 at 11:59 pm
Assignment 2 (Abstract)	20	2/1 at 11:59 pm
Assignment 3 (Toxin/secretion summary)	20	2/15 at 11:59 pm
Assignment 4 (Intracellular pathogens)	20	3/1 at 11:59 pm
Assignment 5 (Peer review/critique)	20	3/22 at 11:59 pm
Assignment 6 (NIH style grant)	60	4/5 at 11:59 pm
Assignment 7 (3 NIH grant reviews)	30	4/17 at 11:59 pm
<u>Class discussion</u>	<u>60</u>	
Total points	250 points	