

COURSE SYLLABUS

AHS 1061
INTRODUCTORY MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORY
SUMMER 2007

SECTION 01T: TR 7:30 - 9:30AM* (SB 3.01.42)

SECTION 02T: TR 9:45 - 11:45AM* (SB 3.01.42)

SECTION 03T: MW 7:30 - 9:30AM* (SB 3.01.42)

SECTION 04T: MW 9:45 -11:45AM* (SB 3.01.42)

*SEE NOTE 3 BELOW.

INSTRUCTOR:

OFFICE HOURS:

TEXTBOOK:

By appointment and after class.

*SYMBIOSIS, The Benjamin Cummings Custom
Laboratory Program for Biology*

COURSE OUTLINE:

See separate handout.

MATERIALS:

Each student is required to obtain the following supplies
for use in the lab.

- 1) Sharpie pen with black ink
- 2) Knee-length white lab coat with long sleeves

GRADING SCHEME:

Quizzes		30%		
Unknown Identification		5%		
Midterm Exam (written and practical)	30%			
Final Exam (written and practical)		30%		
Class participation, attitude, and cooperation		5%		
Attendance – See paragraph 7 below				
A=90-100%	B=80-89%	C=70-79%	D=60-69%	F=0-59%

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE: See course outline

NOTES:

1. Quizzes will be given during the first 15 minutes of most lab periods. If you are late to class you will not get more time to complete the quiz. No quiz can be made up. Quizzes may cover material from all lab periods and experimental observations since the last quiz plus general information from the material for that day's experiment(s). Your lowest quiz score will be dropped, except that the score on the first quiz which includes lab safety and other material presented the first period will not be dropped.

2. The midterm exam covers all material presented during lab periods and is based on information presented by your lab instructor, written material in handouts and the lab manual, as well as lab procedures, techniques, experimental results, and conclusions. The final exam will be the same format with about 66% of the questions based on material covered after the mid-term exam.

3. Frequently, the observation of experimental results in microbiology must be done during times other than your scheduled lab periods. The microorganisms that we use have no concept of clock time and respond only to their own schedules. You are expected to find the time to observe the results of your experiments during the days and times announced by your instructor. You may observe your results during the lab

sessions of other class sections, **except** during the first part of each class when the instructor is providing the directions for the lab period, during quizzes, and during the set-up and administration of scheduled examinations, or as otherwise described by your instructor. Please be as quiet as possible and act courteously when another class is in session. During the hours 0600 to 1800 (6 am to 6 pm) you may gain access to the lab when it is locked by swiping your UTSA Identification Card through the card reader on the Locknetics security lock on the lab door. This card reader is computerized. It reads your Banner number and records this number and the time of entry whenever you enter the lab after hours (when no class is in session) or on weekends. You may enter the lab during the same time on weekends, but only when you are accompanied by your partner or another current microbiology lab student. Each student must swipe his/her card to record entry. (There must be at least 2 persons in the lab always for safety purposes.)

4. You are expected to read and understand the lab experiments for each day's class before class. Also, your lab manual has an introduction to each part (series of experiments). Read and understand the material in the introduction before doing any experiments from that part. (Quiz questions will come frequently from the introduction). You cannot perform well by attempting to conduct the experiment as you might follow a recipe. Being ignorant of the day's activities is unfair to your partner also.

5. Unless otherwise announced, all work that is handed in for grading must be your own work. (See paragraph 10 below for a discussion of scholastic dishonesty.) This idea should not suggest to you that you may not discuss and compare lab observations, findings, results, and conclusions, however, because you should. Whenever possible discuss your results with others. Such collaboration is a part of scientific inquiry.

6. Retain all graded work in the event a question arises regarding your grade.

7. Your attendance is required at each lab session. Laboratory skills cannot be learned in absentia. If you must miss a session coordinate with your instructor, preferably for attendance during another section's lab period, or at another time agreeable to you and your instructor. Several skills with safety precautions are taught, practiced, and then used frequently during the course. You may not be permitted to attempt some procedures if you have missed the class when those procedures were covered. You will lose 3 points from your final course percentage grade for every lab period that you miss and do not make up in a reasonable time. What is reasonable will be determined by your instructor in consultation with the lab coordinator and will be based on the circumstances of your situation and the availability of necessary cultures, media, and equipment. If four or more periods are missed and not made up as of 5 o'clock the last class day before the final exam you will receive an "F" for the course because of inadequate attendance.

8. Pace of work - We expect you to be reasonably industrious and to not waste time. Some things must be done with all due speed. One of the main reasons that you must read the experiments before you come to class is so that you will know before class when timing or speed of work is important. However, we would much rather have you spend whatever additional time in the lab that you require than to have you misuse time by going through motions that you do not understand or for which you do not understand the reason. Lab partners usually have to compromise on pace.

9. Part of the basis for your grade includes attendance, class participation, attitude, and cooperation - with fellow classmates, instructors, and lab support personnel. We, and hopefully you, will try to make this class both meaningful and fun. Your learning is important to us and to you. We want the learning of your lab partner(s) and fellow class members to be important to you also. If it is, you will do well with the percentage of your grade that is based on attitude, cooperation, etc.

10. The integrity of a university degree depends on the integrity of the work done for that degree by each student. The University expects a student to maintain a high standard of individual honor in all scholastic work (*Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents*, Chapter VI,3.(17)). In order to protect the majority of you who do your own work, we require that you know the university stand on scholastic dishonesty. There are several projects and activities that you will accomplish during the semester that are specifically covered by the guidance provided in *UTSA Information* on the subject of "Scholastic Dishonesty," which you should read. If a student is accused of academic dishonesty, the faculty member may initiate disciplinary proceedings through the Division Director, the Dean of the College, and the Student Judicial Affairs Coordinator.

11. You have received a list of lab and safety rules. **KNOW AND OBSERVE THESE RULES.** SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS.

12. The final exam for your section is scheduled for:

Time: _____

Date: _____

To postpone the final exam due to dire circumstances such as personal illness or family emergency, you must follow the "Postponement of Final Examination Procedures" described in *UTSA Information*.

13. If you are, think that you are, or become pregnant during this semester, please notify your instructor of this fact. We will provide you with a list of the organisms that will be used during this lab (or during the remainder of the lab), which you should provide to your doctor. Your doctor can then advise you about additional precautions, if any, that you should take.

14. Cell phones, pagers, and other signaling devices brought into the lab will be turned off or set on silent mode during class AND will be kept in your backpack, not on your person, to prevent possible contamination of your cell phone.