

# MICRB 106

## Elementary Microbiology

### Sample Syllabus

### Description

This course is an introductory survey course of Microbiology. This course serves as a gateway to a whole host of different disciplines in the field of Microbiology. In addition to the basic science of living things and microbes in particular the course also includes an exploration of Metabolism, Genetics, Immunology, Epidemiology, Virology, and Biotechnology. Each of these areas are covered by other entire courses or even academic majors but we will focus on the basics of each as well as other topics related to microbes and disease.

This course will involve the study of a weekly lesson or two followed by the completion of a weekly quiz and homework assignment. We will also be using the Penn State Canvas system for course communications and grading. Continue on to read the rest of the course information including the syllabus and course policies.

### Textbook

Conwan, Bunn, Microbiology Fundamentals: A Clinical Approach, See current course syllabus for textbook information.

### Course Schedule

Lesson	Topic(s)
1	Introduction to Microbes
2	Chemistry and Cell Biology
3	Prokaryotes & Eukaryotes
4	Growth & Metabolism

5	Genetics
6	Virology
7	Biotechnology
8	Control of Microbes
9	Immunology
10	Infections & Epidemiology
11	Medical Microbiology
12	Medical Microbiology II
13	Environmental & Applied
14	Medical Virology

## Grading

The grades in this class will be based on 400 points. Each lesson we will cover this semester has a quiz that will vary in length between 15 and 30 points each. Some will be longer than others depending on the amount of material covered in a particular lesson.

However, each quiz question is worth 1 point out of the 400 total. Every question is worth exactly the same as any other question, only the length of the quiz each week will vary. Do not think in terms of percentage points here, this will be a point system based on 400 total points.

Students will work on these assignments as an individual and will be responsible for completing them on time. Late assignments will have a deduction, assignments more than a couple of days late will not be accepted. Once we reach the end of the course it will not be possible to go back and complete work that is outdated by weeks or even months. Keep up on assignments to gain maximum points.

- Grades are based on a combination of quizzes where each question is worth one point and various homework assignments

worth a handful of points. Each homework assignment has a specific number of points associated with it.

- All students are expected to complete the weekly quizzes on time. These will be available for at least one week so budget your time accordingly. You are not able to take all your tests at one time and be done. This course is paced so you can progress through at a reasonable speed.

Any questions concerning a particular quiz or homework assignment must be resolved right away. You cannot wait till the end of the semester to correct any problems. Due to time constraints it will be impossible to review all assignments on the last day in the hope of finding one or two points to meet a grade cutoff. You should ask that all grading issues be resolved as they occur during the semester. No exams will be dropped; no extra credit will be accepted. It's impossible to evaluate dozens of book reports or shoebox dioramas.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. Academic integrity is a basic guiding principle for all academic activity at The Pennsylvania State University, and all members of the University community are expected to act in accordance with this principle. Consistent with this expectation, the University's Code of Conduct states that all students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts.

Academic integrity includes a commitment by all members of the University community not to engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty violate the fundamental ethical principles of the University community and compromise the worth of work completed by others.

## **Accommodating Disabilities**

Penn State welcomes students with disabilities into the University's educational programs. Every Penn State campus has an office for students with disabilities. The [Student Disability Resources \(SDR\) website](#) provides contact information for every Penn State campus . For

further information, please visit [Student Disability Resources website](#).

In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: [See documentation guidelines](#) . If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus disability services office will provide you with an accommodation letter. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early as possible. You must follow this process for every semester that you request accommodations.

## **Counseling and Psychological Services**

Many students at Penn State face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. The university offers a variety of confidential services to help you through difficult times, including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, consultations, online chats, and mental health screenings. These services are provided by staff who welcome all students and embrace a philosophy respectful of clients' cultural and religious backgrounds, and sensitive to differences in race, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation.

- [Counseling and Psychological Services at University Park \(CAPS\)](#): 814-863-0395
- [Counseling and Psychological Services at Commonwealth Campuses](#)
- Penn State Crisis Line (Available 24 hrs, 7 days a week): 877-229-6400
- Crisis Text Line (Available 24 hrs, 7 days a week): Text LIONS to 741741

## **Educational Equity / Report Bias**

Penn State takes great pride to foster a diverse and inclusive environment for students, faculty, and staff. Acts of intolerance, discrimination, or harassment due to age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender identity, national origin, race, religious belief, sexual

orientation, or veteran status are not tolerated and can be reported through Educational Equity via the [Report Bias website](#).