List of microbiologists

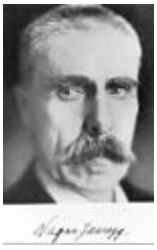
Major contributions to the science of microbiology have spanned the time from the 17th century to the present day. The following is a list of prominent microbiologists who have made significant contributions to the study of microorganisms. Many of those listed have received a Nobel prize for their contributions to the field of microbiology. The others are typically considered historical figures

whose work in microbiology had a notable impact in the field. Those microbiologists who currently work in the field have been excluded unless they have received recognition beyond that of being on the faculty in a college or university.

Microbiologists

Year	Microbiologist		Country	Contribution summary
36BC		Marcus Terentius Varro	Roman	earliest proposal of the germ theory.[1][2][3]
1670s		Antonie van Leeuwenhoek	Dutch Republic (modern-day Netherlands)	Often considered to be the first acknowledged microscopist and microbiologist. Van Leeuwenhoek was the first to observe and experiment with microscopic organisms (animalcules), using simple single-lensed microscopes of his own design.[4]
1860		Ignaz Semmelweis	Hungarian	developed statistical analysis that demonstrated that rigorous hand-washing techniques and rules in the maternity ward significantly reduced the mortality of women giving birth in the hospital setting.[5]
1884	File:Hans Christian Gram.png	Hans Christian Gram	Denmark	Developed the gram-staining technique that is used to identify and classify bacteria.[6]
1898		Kiyoshi Shiga		isolated a cause of bacterial dysentery.[6][7]
1880		Charles Lavaran	France	discovered malaria is caused by a protozoan.[6]
1951		Max Theiler	South Africa	Received the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine "for his discoveries concerning yellow fever and how to combat it"[8]

1870		Joseph Lister	Scotland	created and applied aseptic surgical technique.[6][9]
1765		Lazzaro Spallanzani	Italian	proved that bacteria did not arise due to spontaneous generation by developing a sealed, sterile broth medium.[6][10]
1901		Emil Adolf von Behring	Germany	The Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine "for his work on serum therapy, especially its application against diphtheria, by which he has opened a new road in the domain of medical science and thereby placed in the hands of the physician a victorious weapon against illness and deaths"[11]
1861		Louis Pasteur	French	developed the germ theory of disease, identified yeast as the responsible agent in fermentation, developed pasteurization, proved that bacteria do not arise spontaneously, trained other microbiologists.[6]
1884		Fanny Hesse	German	Discovered the use of agar agar that is used in bacterial culturing.[6][12]
1796		Edward Jenner	English	discovered and applied vaccination techniques against smallpox.[6]
1952		Selman Abraham Waksman	United States	received the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine for the identification of streptomycin; an antibiotic effective against tuberculosis"[13]
1902		Sir Ronald Ross	United Kingdom India	The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine "for his work on malaria, by which he has shown how it enters the organism and thereby has laid the foundation for successful research on this disease and methods of combating it"[14]

1905		Robert Koch	Germany	The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine "for his investigations and discoveries in relation to tuberculosis"[15]
1907		Charles Louis Alphonse Laveran	France	The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine "in recognition of his work on the role played by protozoa in causing diseases"[16]
1927		Julius Wagner-Jauregg	Austria	The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine "for his discovery of the therapeutic value of malaria inoculation in the treatment of dementia paralytica"[17]
1928		Charles Jules Henri Nicolle	France	"The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his work on typhus"[18]
1939		Gerhard Domagk	Germany	The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine "for the discovery of the antibacterial effects of prontosil"[19]
1945		Sir Alexander Fleming	United Kingdom	The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine "for the discovery of penicillin and its curative effect in various infectious diseases"[20]
		Sir Ernst Boris Chain	United Kingdom	
		Howard Walter Florey	Australia	

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