

El Paso Community College

Syllabus

Part II

Official Course Description

SUBJECT AREA	<u>Biology</u>
COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER	<u>BIOL 2421</u>
COURSE TITLE	<u>General Microbiology</u>
COURSE CREDIT HOURS	<u> 4 3 :</u> <u> 3 </u>
	Credits Lec Lab

I. Catalog Description

Principles of microbiology, including metabolism, structure, function, genetics, and phylogeny of microbes. Examines the interactions of microbes with each other, hosts, and the environment. **Prerequisite: BIOL 1306 and 1106 or by Biology placement exam; AND CHEM 1311 and 1111. (3:3). Lab fee.**

II. Course Objectives

LECTURE AND LABORATORY

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Discuss the history of microbiology and identify the importance of microbiology in a variety of fields including modern genetics and molecular biology, industry, agriculture, medicine, public health, and environmental sciences.
- B. Describe and apply in the laboratory the principles of microscopy, bacterial staining techniques, culture methods, criteria for classification, and the collection, handling, and processing of cultures.
- C. Discuss the key steps of microbial metabolism emphasizing energy-yielding pathways and apply these concepts to the identification of microorganisms in the laboratory.
- D. Discuss and apply in the laboratory the basic concepts of microbial genetics, molecular biology, and the applications of recombinant DNA technology.
- E. Describe the characteristics of microbial growth and the applications to the control of microbial populations using physical and chemical agents and their mechanisms of action.
- F. Describe the techniques used in taxonomy and identify the taxa that include bacteria, fungi, protozoa and algae using selected laboratory techniques.
- G. Identify the unique characteristics of viruses, viroids and prions, describe virus structure and replication as well as laboratory techniques used in the cultivation of viruses.
- H. Discuss the mechanisms of microbial pathogenicity, the principles of epidemiology, and the defense mechanisms of the host against infectious disease.
- I. Describe the importance of microorganisms in the environment including the concepts of soil microbiology, nitrogen fixation, bioremediation, use of microorganisms in plant genetic engineering, and water and wastewater treatment processes.
- J. Apply the principles of microbial metabolism, growth, and genetics to the development of industrial applications.

III. THECB Learning Outcomes (ACGM)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Provide examples of the impact of microorganisms on agriculture, environment, ecosystem, energy, and human health, including biofilms.

2. Identify unique structures, capabilities, and genetic information flow of microorganisms.
3. Compare the life cycles and structures of different types of viruses.
4. Discuss how microscopy has revealed the structure and function of microorganisms.
5. Give examples of the range of metabolic diversity exhibited by microorganisms, impact of metabolic characteristics on growth, and control of growth.
6. Describe evidence for the evolution of cells, organelles, and major metabolic pathways from early prokaryotes and how phylogenetic trees reflect evolutionary relationships.
7. Describe the causes and consequences of mutations on microbial evolution and the generation of diversity as well as human impacts on adaptation.
8. Classify interactions of microorganisms on human and non-human hosts as neutral, detrimental, or beneficial.

Learning Outcomes (Lab)

1. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions and utilize scientific tools such as microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data.
2. Use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions in the laboratory.
3. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.
4. Provide examples of the impact of microorganisms on agriculture, environment, ecosystem, energy, and human health, including biofilms.
5. Identify unique structures, capabilities, and genetic information flow of microorganisms.
6. Compare the life cycles and structures of different types of viruses.
7. Discuss how microscopy has revealed the structure and function of microorganisms.
8. Give examples of the range of metabolic diversity exhibited by microorganisms, impact of metabolic characteristics on growth, and control of growth.
9. Describe evidence for the evolution of cells, organelles, and major metabolic pathways from early prokaryotes and how phylogenetic trees reflect evolutionary relationships.
10. Describe the causes and consequences of mutations on microbial evolution and the generation of diversity as well as human impacts on adaptation.
11. Classify interactions of microorganisms on human and non-human hosts as neutral, detrimental, or beneficial.

IV. Evaluation

- A. The type and number of exams will be determined by the instructor. A minimum of four lecture written exams, two laboratory exams and practical exams are recommended. The lecture/lab ratio for grading will be 75% for lecture (3 credit hours) and 25% for laboratory (1 credit hour)

Grading scale:

90-100	=	A
80- 89	=	B
70- 79	=	C
60- 69	=	D
Below 60	=	F

V. Disability Statement (American with/Disabilities Act [ADA])

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024)

VI. 6 Drop Rule

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.