BMOL3401
Applied and Medical Microbiology
Session 2, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2021
Department of Molecular Sciences

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Notice
Some on-campus classes have moved online for the first two weeks of Session, before returning to campus in Week 3. If you are studying a unit outside of the primary Session 2 timetable, please contact your teaching staff team for further details.

Some classes/teaching activities cannot be moved online and must be taught on campus. To find out if you are enrolled in one of these classes/teaching activities, you can check to see if your unit is on the list of units with mandatory on-campus classes/teaching activities.

Your Unit Convenor will provide more information via an iLearn announcement when your iLearn unit becomes available.

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/130924/unit_guide/print
## General Information

**Unit convenor and teaching staff**  
Sasha Tetu  
sasha.tetu@mq.edu.au

**Credit points**  
10

**Prerequisites**  
130cp at 1000 level or above including BMOL2401 or CBMS215 or CBMS202

**Corequisites**

**Co-badged status**

**Unit description**  
Applied and Medical Microbiology examines the microbial world and how it interacts with our own. A key focus will be the role of microorganisms in human health and disease, covering topics ranging from the role of the human microbiome and the body's natural defences in protecting against microbial disease to epidemiology and the pathogenesis of infectious microorganisms. This unit covers medically important bacteria, fungi and viruses as well as antimicrobial agents, microbial resistance and susceptibility testing. Topics in applied microbiology include biotechnology, synthetic biology, food and water microbiology. In the hands-on laboratory sessions students gain skills in the current tools and techniques used in medical and applied microbiology laboratories. This unit is especially valuable for students majoring in biomolecular sciences, biology, and medical sciences.

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at [https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates](https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates)

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

**ULO1:** Explain principles of how microorganisms colonise different niches, and how they respond to their chemical, physiological and physical environment, in complex communities.

**ULO2:** Demonstrate key practical skills in working with microorganisms, including being able to apply and adapt methods to identify microorganisms and the use of good microbiological practices.
ULO3: Integrate ideas, discuss and communicate results effectively for verbal and written presentation including sourcing appropriate microbiology literature to support scientific data.

ULO4: Work cooperatively in a team through engagement, exercising initiative, and with accountability in order to maximise the achievement of goals.

ULO5: Aquire knowledge and understanding of how microbiology concepts apply to diverse areas such as medicine and health, industry, agriculture and biotechnology.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Practical attendance</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>weeks 2-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical and tutorial work</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>weeks 2-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Semester Test</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbe presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>week 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>exam period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Practical attendance

Assessment Type 1: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 0 hours
Due: weeks 2-12
Weighting: 0%

This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

You are expected to attend and participate in at least 80% of the practical laboratory classes to pass this unit. This is a hurdle requirement.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Demonstrate key practical skills in working with microorganisms, including being able to apply and adapt methods to identify microorganisms and the use of good microbiological practices.

• Work cooperatively in a team through engagement, exercising initiative, and with accountability in order to maximise the achievement of goals.
Practical and tutorial work

Assessment Type 1: Lab book
Indicative Time on Task 2: 20 hours
Due: weeks 2-12
Weighting: 20%

Pre-practical exercises, performance in the practicals, tutorials and post-practical exercises and laboratory record keeping will be used to calculate the final practical mark. The tasks are designed to encourage you to engage with practical material and develop useful workplace skills including: planning and time management, safe working practices and good record keeping.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Demonstrate key practical skills in working with microorganisms, including being able to apply and adapt methods to identify microorganisms and the use of good microbiological practices.
• Integrate ideas, discuss and communicate results effectively for verbal and written presentation including sourcing appropriate microbiology literature to support scientific data.
• Work cooperatively in a team through engagement, exercising initiative, and with accountability in order to maximise the achievement of goals.

Mid Semester Test

Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: week 7
Weighting: 15%

Mid Semester Test

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Explain principles of how microorganisms colonise different niches, and how they respond to their chemical, physiological and physical environment, in complex communities.
• Acquire knowledge and understanding of how microbiology concepts apply to diverse
areas such as medicine and health, industry, agriculture and biotechnology.

**Microbe presentation**

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation  
Indicative Time on Task ²: 12 hours  
Due: week 8  
Weighting: 10%

Students will prepare and present a short report on a well studied microorganism.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain principles of how microorganisms colonise different niches, and how they respond to their chemical, physiological and physical environment, in complex communities.
- Integrate ideas, discuss and communicate results effectively for verbal and written presentation including sourcing appropriate microbiology literature to support scientific data.
- Work cooperatively in a team through engagement, exercising initiative, and with accountability in order to maximise the achievement of goals.

**Final Examination**

Assessment Type ³: Examination  
Indicative Time on Task ²: 32 hours  
Due: exam period  
Weighting: 55%

The final exam will require students to apply terminology and concepts learnt in the lecture and practical components to answer a variety of questions of a critical thinking nature.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain principles of how microorganisms colonise different niches, and how they respond to their chemical, physiological and physical environment, in complex communities.
- Acquire knowledge and understanding of how microbiology concepts apply to diverse areas such as medicine and health, industry, agriculture and biotechnology.
1 If you need help with your assignment, please contact:
   - the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
   - the Learning Skills Unit for academic skills support.

2 Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

**Delivery and Resources**

**Lectures**

The expectation is that you will engage with lecture material and carry out the additional readings and/or viewing of associated material which is provided with certain lectures.

**Attending live lectures is highly recommended.** While these lectures will be scheduled for recording this is not guaranteed and if there are technical issues with recordings the affected lecture(s) will not be re-recorded.

Lectures will include questions and discussion sessions and participation is highly encouraged.

Looking over lecture slides or recordings are NOT a suitable substitute to attending the lectures. Students tend to perform poorly if they do not engage with lectures throughout the term and this will also impact your ability to prepare for and understand material in practical and tutorial sessions.

**Practicals and tutorials**

Practical classes involving both practical skill-focussed activities and small group discussions/tutorials are designed to develop microbiology laboratory skills, safety practices and critical and analytical thought. Pre-practical exercises are designed to make sure you are ready for the practical work and have grasped the relevant theory and safety practices necessary.

**Self-Study**

The unit expectation is that you will spend time outside formal instruction reviewing notes taken in class, reading assigned materials (textbook sections and other referenced papers or articles) and exploring other sources of information on applied and medical microbiology. To self-assess your degree of understanding and to practice problem solving skills you are expected to attempt problems from the lectures, textbook and other resources.

**Required and Recommended Texts and Materials**

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/130924/unit_guide/print
Practical Manual – information outlining each laboratory session will be available on iLearn for download prior to each session. Please download and complete any preparatory activities before you arrive for your session.

You will be expected to bring a copy of practical manual notes, a lab coat, closed shoes and lab notebook to each practical.


Interactive lectures and laboratory practical sessions are both integral components of the unit. A comprehensive understanding of material covered in each of these course components will greatly assist you in the final exam, which covers ALL components of the unit.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy (Note: The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of
Results
Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support
Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills
Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment
- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

Student Enquiry Service
For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support
Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help
For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.