

MB 230 Laboratory Syllabus - Winter 2020

LAB SECTIONS: Weds. 10-11:50am; Fri. 12-1:50pm
Lab Room: Nash 304

Introduction to MB 230 Lab

The experiments in this manual have been selected to teach some of the basic techniques and organisms of microbiology. This course is appropriate for any student who wishes an introduction to the science of microbiology.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE in lab is crucial! Students are allowed one lab absence. If more than one lab session is missed, you will receive a failing grade (F) for the entire MB 230 course.

Regular attendance is vital because all labs build upon prior weeks' work. Each lab requires coordination of many people and reagents, so **there is no way to make up a missed lab**. You cannot receive credit for the pre-lab and post-lab quizzes for a missed lab session.

Tardiness: Students are expected to be on time and participate fully during the scheduled lab time. Arriving more than 15 minutes late to lab, or arriving more than five minutes late twice, will be considered an absence.

Attending a different MB 230 lab section: Students are allowed to miss one (and only one) laboratory session. If your one absence is for a legitimate, documented reason (such as a health emergency with a doctor's note, or attending an academic conference with a note from your research supervisor or academic advisor), then you may be allowed to attend a different MB 230 lab section in order to prepare the week's experiments and to be allowed to turn in the post-lab questions for the lab. Note: attending other MB 230 lab sections is possible **only with prior permission of your lab instructor and is subject to availability of open seats**. Email requests to your instructor as soon as you are aware of a time conflict with your scheduled lab time.

It is critical to understand that even if you attend another lab session during a week when you miss your lab session, **this does not allow another absence from your regular lab session. There is no circumstance, including family emergencies, athletic commitments, etc, that allows you to miss your regular lab session more than once and still pass the course.**

LATE WORK

In general, lab work may not be turned in late. No credit will be awarded for late pre-lab quizzes or the lab safety quizzes, because their purpose is to prepare you for the lab. The laboratory results pages and final exam take place during the last lab session, and cannot be turned in late. Note that attendance is required at the last lab session, and missing it would count as an attendance, and also result in losing all points for your laboratory results section and lab final. Post-lab quizzes may be turned in late, but your score will be reduced by 1/3 of the original score per day.

FORMAT

Each laboratory period begins with a lead-in lecture with explanations and demonstrations for

that period's exercises. However, these lead-in lectures are not meant to replace your own preparations. **Read the exercises before coming to lab!**

On some exercises you will work independently and on others you will work in pairs or in small groups of students. See specific experiments for detailed descriptions of experimental formats.

Every time you use your microscope, you should write your name on the microscope sign-in sheet (inside microscope cabinet) and have your TA check your microscope and bench before leaving lab.

Please ask questions at any time! The lab instructor and the teaching assistants will circulate and be available for help during the entire lab period.

LAB ATTIRE

Lab coats and safety goggles are not required. However, many reagents can produce permanent stains on your clothes and caution should be exercised to avoid this. To protect your belongings from such stains or microbial contamination, store your coat and belongings under your workbench. Only your MB 230 lab manual and lab supplies should be left on the workbench's surface during the laboratory period.

You will be working with open flame. Do not wear loose-fitting clothing, especially cloth bracelets or sleeves with dangling material. Long hair should be tied back.

Closed-toe shoes are **REQUIRED**; sandals and other such shoes are **NOT** allowed. No shorts are allowed. Full-length pants are recommended and capris length (below the knee) are acceptable.

Double-check your belongings at the end of the lab period to make certain you have collected everything. The Microbiology Department will not be responsible for any items brought to lab.