

***MICROBIOLOGY FOR HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONALS
(BIOL 215 and BIOL 215L)
FALL 2026 -- Dr. Pryor***

Lectures (MSB11):
T Th (9:55am – 11:10am)

Labs (LSF 210):
T (12:45pm - 3:45pm)
or W (12:30pm - 3:20pm)
or Th (12:45pm - 3:45pm)



INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Greg Pryor
E-mail: GPRYOR@fmarion.edu
Phone: (843) 661-1403
Office: MSB 301D
Office hours: Open door policy. Or please make an appointment for individualized office hours.

OBJECTIVES:

This course is designed to provide an overview of microbiological principles and laboratory techniques, with an emphasis on healthcare.

BOOKS:

There is no required textbook or lab manual; the lab procedures are available as free PDFs on the course website.

COURSE WEB SITE:

A course web page is located at: <http://people.fmarion.edu/gpryor> (click on the appropriate links). The syllabus, review materials, exam and lab practical grades, and some extras will be posted at this site.

IN THE CLASSROOM:

It is important to attend lectures and take your own notes; lecture notes will NOT be available. You are allowed 6 excused absences before being dropped from the course. Attendance will be recorded.

IN THE LABORATORY:

The laboratory exercises will include hands-on experimentation. Specific guidelines for laboratory procedures are provided in the PDFs available for free on my website. Attendance is required for every lab.

GRADING AND EVALUATION:

Your grade in this course will be based on lecture and laboratory grades combined (/550 points).

The lecture grade (out of **400 points**) is based on 4 exams (**100 points each**). All exams will include multiple choice questions based on lectures and readings. The final exam will *NOT* be cumulative!

The lab grade (out of **150 points**) is based on 2 lab practicals (**50 points each**) and a lab report (**50 points**). Attendance in lab is important, and points will be deducted if you are late or absent!

Make up exams are given only for excused absences, if arrangements are made before or within one week after the exam is given.

Overall grading scale:	90 - 100% A	75 - 79% C+	60 - 64% D
	85 - 89% B+	70 - 74% C	< 60% F
	80 - 84% B	65 - 69% D+	

SCHEDULE FOR LECTURE EXAMS, LAB PRACTICALS, AND LAB REPORT *:

Exam 1 (100 pts): Tuesday, **Sept 15**, during regular class time. Location: IN CLASSROOM.
Exam 2 (100 pts): Thursday, **Oct 8**, during regular class time. Location: IN CLASSROOM.
Exam 3 (100 pts): Thursday, **Nov 5**, during regular class time. Location: IN CLASSROOM.
Exam 4 (100 pts): Thursday, **Dec 10**, 3:00 to 5:00pm. Location: IN CLASSROOM.

Lab practical 1 (50 points): **Oct 13**, during your regular lab period. Location: LSF 210.
Lab practical 2 (50 points): **Dec 1**, during your regular lab period. Location: LSF 210.

Lab report (50 points): **Nov 17**, due during your regular lab period.

LECTURE TOPICS:

Introduction to Microbiology
Microbial Cell Structure and Growth
Bacterial Diseases
Control of Bacterial Growth

Structure and Infection Cycle of Viruses
Viral Diseases
Parasitic and Fungal Diseases
Immune Response to Microbial Attack

* Infections of the Respiratory, Digestive, Genitourinary, Circulatory, Lymphatic, and Nervous Systems will be included in the above discussions.

NEED HELP?

If you need help in this course, please see me after class or contact me via email or phone. If you require academic counseling or services, call the Office of Counseling and Testing at (843) 661-1840.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

In accord with the FMU Student Handbook guidelines, any evidence of cheating or plagiarism will result in the loss of all points on that exam or assignment and appropriate disciplinary action, and may result in suspension or expulsion from Francis Marion University.