WELCOME!

Contact Information
Instructor: Dr. Upal Roy
Office: BRHP 2.115
Meeting times and location: As per assigned location
Phone: (956)-882-5731
E-mail: upal.roy@utrgv.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday 10-12 pm or by appointment.

Course Description
This course will introduce students to the microbial species that cause human disease. Bacteria, viruses, fungi, and protozoa will be covered. Current topics will also be discussed, such as antibiotic resistance, public health threats, and biofilms. This syllabus also has three laboratory sessions integrated into the syllabus and laboratory attendance is mandatory. There will be a service-learning component of this course where the student will get the opportunity to go in the community and practice the application of their knowledge in a real-life scenario. This also will initiate the process of the lifelong learning experience and share knowledge with others.

Learning Environment:
The objective of this course is to motivate student for critical thinking and understand the importance of the pathogen that causes different kinds of diseases in human. Each session will be a collaborative learning approach with active participation from student and instructor. We may also adopt a flipped classroom approach to promote more classroom discussion and interaction. Finally, we will try to build a community within the classroom who cares about the role of Medical Microbiology and its application in the real world. This will only happen with the interested student like you. Our learning environment will also provide the knowledge to the student so that they can identify the need in their community and try to find an answer for it. In this regard, we may find a community partnership to answer some of the current needs of the community.
Learning Outcomes
After successfully completing this course, students will be able to
1. Read, discuss, and analyze material related to Medical Microbiology.
2. Identify, discuss, and employ adequate vocabulary relevant to the subject area.
3. Demonstrate competency in basic concepts.
4. Apply course material in practical situations.
5. Explain biological processes relevant to Medical Microbiology.
6. Take advanced courses pertaining to the subject-matter.

Service learning project:
This will be done in collaboration with different community partners like Brownsville Children’s Museum, Valley AIDS clinics etc. to understand the need of the community, identify them and suggest a possible answer for them. The student will be able to spend up to 6 hrs on any of these projects. At the end of the project, they will get an opportunity to reflect on the matter that they have learned through that process.

Textbook:
P R Murray, K S Rosenthal, and M A Pfaller. *Medical Microbiology* 8th Edition (w/ Student Consult Online Access) ISBN13: 978-0323086929. It is highly recommended that all students should have access to textbooks within two weeks of the first class.

Important recommendations:

- Attend all lectures.
- Read the corresponding chapter(s) in the textbook ahead of every lecture.
- Take an active role in your learning process-participate and ask questions.
- Be courteous to your fellow colleagues during the lecture.
- Refrain from engaging in distracting conversations with people around you, texting, or any activity that will distract you or your classmates from the lecture.
- Check Blackboard regularly for important announcements/assignments/lecture slides.
- Feel free to set up an appointment with the instructor if you have any comments, questions, or concerns regarding the class or the material.
- Be warned that the lecture doesn't cover everything in the chapter. That does not mean that what wasn't said during class won't be on the exam.
- Read about current scientific research in Medical Microbiology and feel free to share it with the class (upon instructor’s approval).

Evaluation Breakdown
Grading policy: A= 90-100 B= 80-89 C= 70-79 D= 60-69 F= 0-59. UTRGV’s grading policy is to use straight letter grades (A, B, C, D, or F).

*Dates subject to change*

*Service Learning Project* - This will include the working on the SLP project, perform it on the day of presentation which will have 7% of the total grade and student will also reflect on that project in form of learning experience from that work in the form of presentation, assignment or write-up (3% of total grade).

**Exam format and requirements:**
1. Exams may be composed of multiple choice (please bring your own scantron sheet, form 882-E) and/or essay questions or, debate presentations or, open book essay questions.

2. Unless otherwise stated, your work area should be clear. No cell phones and no water bottles on your workspace, keep them in your purse or your backpack.

3. NO MAKEUP EXAM WITHOUT A LEGITIMATE EXCUSE. In the event of a legitimate and documented absence from an exam (e.g. illness on the day of the exam with a doctor's note, proof of being hospitalized), you must consult with the instructor 24 hours prior to the exam. Absences without a valid reason will result in a grade of zero for the missed exam.

4. When exams are administered, as soon as the first student is finished with his/her exam, no one will be admitted into the testing room.
5. If you arrive late for an exam, you will not be given any additional time to complete the exam.

6. At the end of the exam, you must return your exam copy when you turn in your scantron.

7. If you have to leave the class for some reason and come back, you have to leave the phone in the class unless it is an emergency.

**Extra Credit**
Please make sure you come to every class and participate in all in-class activities. Students are advised not to ask for extra credit during the semester unless instructor decides to do the same. The individual student will not be given any extra credit. No extra credit will be given for laboratory performance and attendance.

**Calendar of Activities**
The UTRGV academic calendar can be found at http://my.utrgv.edu at the bottom of the screen, prior to login. Tentative class schedule and important dates for exam and quizzes are included on a separate sheet.

**Fall 2018 Term (August 27 – December 13)**
- April 2 (Mon.) Registration Begins
- Aug. 22 (Wed.) Payment Due
- Aug. 24 (Fri.) Waitlist Ends
- Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive a 100% refund
- Aug. 27 (Mon.) Fall classes begin
- Aug. 30 (Thurs.) Last day to add or register for Fall classes
- Aug. 31 (Fri.) Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive an 80% refund
- Sept. 3 (Mon.) Labor Day Holiday. No classes.
- Sept. 10 (Mon.) Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive a 70% refund
- Sept. 12 (Wed.) Census Day (last day to drop without it appearing on the transcript)
- Sept. 17 (Mon.) Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive a 50% refund
- Sept. 24 (Mon.) Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive a 25% refund
- Nov. 14 (Wed.) Last day to drop (DR grade) a class or withdraw (grade of W)
- Nov. 22 – Nov. 24 (Thurs. – Sat.) Thanksgiving Holiday. No classes
- Dec. 6 (Thurs.) Study Day. No classes.
- Dec. 7 – Dec. 13 (Fri. – Thurs.) Final Exams
- Dec. 14 – Dec. 15 (Fri. – Sat.) Commencement Exercises

**This syllabus represents the current course plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to be changed to enhance the class learning opportunity. Any changes made will be updated in the syllabus and communicated to the students.**

**UTRGV policies:**
The UTRGV disability accommodation, mandatory course evaluation statement and sexual harassment statement are required on all syllabi. Additional policy statements are optional, such as those covering attendance, academic integrity, and course drop policies.
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time, but are not retroactive. Students who suffer a broken bone, severe injury or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services. **Brownsville Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at ability@utrgv.edu. **Edinburg Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.

MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD:
Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (http://my.utrgv.edu); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available:

ATTENDANCE:
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and may be dropped from the course for excessive absences. UTRGV’s attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for the observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY:
As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE:
In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “responsible employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware of this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to
provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

**COURSE DROPS:**
According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

**STUDENT SERVICES:**
Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students should visit the Students Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by email (ucentral@utrgv.edu) or telephone: (888) 882-4026. In addition to financial aid, U Central can assist students with registration and admissions.

Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to an instructor’s office hours. University Resources include the Learning Center, Writing Center, Advising Center and Career Center. The centers provide services such as tutoring, writing help, critical thinking, study skills, degree planning, and student employment. Locations are:

- **Learning center:** BSTUN 2.10 (Brownsville) or ELCTR 100 (Edinburg)
- **Writing center:** BLIBR 3.206 (Brownsville) or ESTAC 3.119 (Edinburg)
- **Advising center:** BMAIN 1.400 (Brownsville) or ESWKH 101 (Edinburg)
- **Career center:** BCRTZ 129 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 2.101 (Edinburg)

**Study Tips**
You can use your own notes, flash cards, videos and/or other visual aids, and team study groups. Additionally, you might find it useful to read ahead of time, and after every lecture again skim through the book chapter. Lecture slides will be uploaded regularly to help you in your learning process. Please be warned, do not use lecture slides as your sole source of learning material but as a guide. You are welcome to come and see me during office hours to clear any doubts. Remember, it is your responsibility, the student, to find other materials to help you in your learning process.