Faculty of Science
Department of Biology

Course: BIOL3120 3.0 – Immunobiology
Course Webpage: see Moodle

Term: Fall 2013
Class Schedule: Wednesdays 7-10pm

Prerequisite: SC/BIOL 2020 4.0; SC/BIOL 2021 4.0; SC/BIOL 2040 4.0 or SC/BIOL 2020 3.0; SC/BIOL 2021 3.0; SC/BIOL 2040 3.0; SC/BIOL 2070 3.0

Course Instructor: Dr. Tanya Da Sylva
Office: 118A Farquharson
Office hours Wednesdays 2:30 – 5:30pm, or by appointment
Email: dasylva@yorku.ca

Emails must include your full name, student number and BIOL3120 in the subject line. Expect an average response time of 48 hours. Email will not routinely be replied to on weekends or holidays.

Course Description:
By completion students will understand the biological and chemical mechanisms by which the human body protects itself against foreign pathogens and relate this understanding to processes of disease.

Learning Objectives of the course:
Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to:

• Use current and historical research in immunology to support discussions and explanations of the immune response
• Discuss the role of, and relationships between, cells of the hematopoietic system in the immune response
• Explain the major components of the mammalian immune response; distinguishing between and describing the interactions of the innate and adaptive immune branches and the cellular and humoral branches of immunity.
• Describe and discuss the generation of diversity and clonal selection in the adaptive immune system.
• Explain the development, activation and effector responses of B and T cells
• Relate knowledge of the development and mechanisms of the immune response to the understanding of disease processes, immune therapy and the use of immunological mechanisms and methods in experimental systems.

Course Text/Readings:


Additional readings may be assigned or recommended during the course.
**Evaluation:**

Weekly short write-ups 9%

Peer question bank activity 5%

Quizzes (via Moodle) 4%

Midterm 1 (Oct. 2, 2013) 22%

Midterm 2 (Nov. 13, 2013) 25%

Cumulative Final Exam (TBA) 35%

*Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles

**Accommodations:**

York senate policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: [http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=68](http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=68) “York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations and adaptations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs”

Students who feel that there are extenuating circumstances that may interfere with the successful completion of their exams or other course requirements are encouraged to discuss their concerns with Dr. Da Sylva as soon as possible. Students with learning, mental health, physical, sensory and medical disabilities who require accommodations in teaching style or evaluation methods should discuss the matter with Counselling and Disability Services (CDS - N110 Bennett Centre; [http://www.yorku.ca/cds/](http://www.yorku.ca/cds/)) and the Course Director (Dr. Da Sylva) early in the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Please note: you are not required to disclose the nature of your condition. If you are registered with CDS, Dr. Da Sylva will work with CDS to ensure all reasonable accommodations are met.

**Grading and Policies for Missed Tests**

**Grading:** The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (for a full description see the York University Undergraduate Calendar – [http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2012-2013/academic/grades/index.htm](http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2012-2013/academic/grades/index.htm))

**Missed Midterm/Exam – General Policies:** Students must have a documented urgent reason for missing a course exam, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by appropriate supporting documentation (e.g., attending physician’s statement).

- Missing a midterm/exam due to weather will be excused ONLY if the University closes/cancels classes. In all other cases, **it is YOUR responsibility to get to class on time.** Transit and/or traffic issues are never an excuse to miss exams. Plan to be at exams early.
• You MUST contact (email) your course director (dasylva@yorku.ca) within TWO days (48 hours) of missing the test (the sooner the better).

• Valid and appropriately detailed documentation supporting the events (typically medical or emergency related) preventing your attendance must be submitted to the Course Director, Dr. Da Sylva, within ONE week of the missed test.

• Religious accommodations must be arranged at least 3 weeks prior to the midterm/exam (see general course policies below for guidelines).

• **IMPORTANT:** If you miss a test due to illness you **MUST see a Physician within 24 hours of the missed test – normally on the same day** - so that the Physician can confirm you are too ill to attend the test based on medical examination. Valid documentation for medical situations consists of an “Attending Physician’s Statement” from the petitions package [http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attend_physician_statement.pdf](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attend_physician_statement.pdf) A note that simply says you were seen in the clinic will not be accepted. Any documentation should cover the date of the missed test.

• Contact your instructor to determine the appropriate documentation required for other circumstances.

• If appropriate documentation is NOT provided within ONE week, a zero will be assigned on the missed test.

• **NOT all situations will be accommodated,** meaning that a zero will be assigned on the missed test.

**Midterms:** There will be no make-up midterms. Students with acceptable documentation will have the weight of the midterm added to their final exam. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

**Final Exam:** *It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you are available to sit for examinations during the entire exam period.*

• If you miss the final exam for a valid reason (e.g. medical emergency, death of an immediate family member) you **must request deferred standing and notify the course director within 48 hours of missing the exam.**
  • See [http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/exams/deferred/index.htm](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/exams/deferred/index.htm) for additional information.
  • To request deferred standing you **must complete and submit a Deferred Standing Agreement Form** (see [http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/services/forms.htm](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/services/forms.htm)) along with supporting documentation to your Course Director within ONE week of the missed exam.
    • Requests submitted after this time will be denied and the student must formally petition
• Doctor’s notes are NOT sufficient for missed final exams; you MUST have your doctor fill out the Attending Physician’s Statement included in the petitions package (please make sure you are using the current version of the Attending Physician’s statement form – no other versions will be accepted). ([http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/petitions/petition_package.pdf](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/petitions/petition_package.pdf)).

• If the Course Director approves the deferred standing request the date and time of the deferred exam is at the discretion of the course director. Students who miss the deferred exam will have to formally petition.

• If the Course Director denies the deferred standing request you must submit a petition to the Faculty through the Office of the Registrar. An academic committee will decide whether or not permission to write will be granted based on the situation and evidence presented. Denied petitions will result in a zero on the final exam. See [http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/petitions/academic/](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/petitions/academic/) for information regarding academic petitions.

**Incomplete/Late Course Work Policies:**

Extensions on course work deadlines (short write ups, peer question bank and quizzes) will not be granted.

• Short write ups are due on the dates indicated at 11:55pm through Moodle – this is the deadline for submission, not for starting the assignment. All late submissions will receive a zero grade. All students will have their lowest grade dropped from the calculation of their mark.

• Peer question bank creation and participation will be graded as outlined and due in two parts – question creation due Nov. 18th and question participation/completion due by Dec. 1st. Students who fail to complete the assignment will receive a zero grade. Partial marks may be given for partial completion at the discretion of the course director.

• Four quizzes will be completed through Moodle and due on the dates indicated at 11:55pm. Quizzes will not be open past this time and all missed quizzes will receive a mark of zero. All students will have their lowest grade dropped from the calculation of their mark.

**Academic Honesty**


Note (from the Senate Policy): “Academic honesty requires that persons do not falsely claim credit for the ideas, writing or other intellectual property of others...”

ANY suspected violations of academic honesty will be taken seriously and immediately referred to the Dean’s Office.

York has numerous resources on academic honesty that you should read and be familiar with. Before completing any course work I suggest taking the academic integrity tutorial found at [http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity/](http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity/).
Quotations are used sparingly in biology and should not be used in your weekly short answer or peer question bank submissions. Students often struggle with paraphrasing referenced material. The “Beware! Says Who?” pamphlet has excellent descriptions of plagiarism and instructions on how to avoid plagiarism, including examples of paraphrasing.

http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/beware-document.htm

Before submitting any assignment you must read the Academic Integrity Checklist and ensure your assignment meets the standards outlined http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity/AIf orm.pdf

Additional Information:
1) You will be responsible for material presented in class and associated textbook sections. The textbook is your resource and will help you understand this material. It contains many of the visuals presented in the lectures. Pay careful attention to the Figures and to the questions and guidelines for study at the end of each chapter.

2) Audio recording (ONLY audio) of the lecture is permitted. Recordings can only be shared with students enrolled in the course and section the recording was made of. Therefore recordings CANNOT be uploaded to public websites or otherwise shared publicly. Students in violation of these policies may have legal action taken against them.

3) The midterms will consist predominantly of multiple choice but may include short answer, fill-in, matching, calculating and drawing type questions.

4) Your comprehensive final will be given in a three hour block during the Fall exam period and will have the same type of questions as the midterm and may have essay questions. It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you are available to sit for examinations during the entire exam period. Under no circumstances will makeup exams (midterm or final) be provided because of conflict with vacation plans or work conflicts.

5) All assignment/test grades will be posted to Moodle when available. Do not email asking when grades will be posted or for your grade; these emails will not be responded to.

6) It is your responsibility to earn your grade. Individually adjusting a student’s grade without academic merit is unethical. All requests for grade “bumping” will be ignored.

General course policies for students
All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee webpage (Policies, procedures and regulations) - http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/index-policies.html and all students should read the following http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate/committees/ascp/documents/CourseInformationForStudentsAugust2012.pdf

• York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
• Ethics review process for research involving human participants
• Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities
• Student conduct standards
• Religious observance accommodation