Prokaryotic Diversity

MCB 6937, Summer C 2018

Instructor
Brent C. Christner, xner@ufl.edu Microbiology and Cell Science, MCB 1252, (352) 392-1179
Office hours: W 1100-1200
Preferred methods for communication with the instructor regarding the course is through email with the subject “MCB 49346937”

Delivery Method/Meeting time
Online

Credits and Prerequisites
Three. Undergraduates require MCB 3020 or MCB 3023 with minimum grades of C.

Course Description
This course is an introduction to the diversity of Bacteria and Archaea. Discussions will provide a conceptual and historical framework for understanding their 1) origin and evolution; 2) morphological, metabolic, and molecular characteristics; 3) genetic and physiological diversity; 4) importance in human/animal/plant health; and 5) roles in elemental cycling.

Course Objectives/Goals/Learning Outcomes
The specific objectives of this course are to expose students to the following topics:

- Origin, evolution, and genetic diversity of microbial life;
- Physiological diversity of metabolic and bioenergetic pathways;
- Microbial species and speciation;
- Phylogenetic and functional analysis of (meta)genomic data;
- Characterization of uncultivated microbial lineages (microbial “dark matter”); and
- Linkage between microbial diversity, function, and ecology;

**Course Material and Assignments**

**Assignments:** Instructions for and submission of assignments will be through Canvas (http://elearning.ufl.edu/)

**Exams:** There will be 2 exams and a cumulative final exam. Each exam will consist of multiple choice (40%), short answer (30%), and essay (30%) questions.

**Written assignment (for undergraduate students):** All students are required to submit a research paper that focuses on a specific topic in microbial diversity. Submit your research paper topic through Canvas by **23 May 2017**. The paper is due on **7 June 2017** and should be submitted through Canvas. Length should be 5 full double-spaced pages (1 inch margins) using 12-pt Times New Roman font. Each student must choose a research topic and submit a paragraph description thorough Canvas by **23 May 2017**. I am available during my scheduled office hours if you need help selecting an article. The paper is due on **7 June 2017** should be submitted through Canvas.

**Participation:** Students are expected to participate in all class/online discussions.

**Scientific literature:** Scientific research papers will be assigned and discussed in this course. These materials will be made available to students through the Canvas e-Learning site (http://elearning.ufl.edu/).
**Required Textbooks**
Readings will be assigned from *Brock Biology of Microorganisms* (BBOM; Madigan, M.T., J.M. Martinko, K.S. Bender, D.H. Buckley, and D.A. Stahl., Pearson). Any of the following BBOM editions are acceptable for this course: 15\textsuperscript{th}, 14\textsuperscript{th} or 13\textsuperscript{th}.

There are also supplemental readings of scientific research papers, which will be available for download from Canvas. Refer to the course schedule for the dates when specific articles will be discussed in lecture.

**Weekly Course Schedule**

*Tentative course calendar (Subject to change)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Readings from BBOM\textsuperscript{†} 15\textsuperscript{th}/14\textsuperscript{th}/13\textsuperscript{th} eds.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8 May (M)</td>
<td>Introduction and historical context</td>
<td>1 / 1 / 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 May (T)</td>
<td>Historical context</td>
<td>1 / 1 / 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10 May (W)</td>
<td>Molecular microbial diversity: The new paradigm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>13 / 12 / 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>11 May (Th)</td>
<td>Microbial evolution</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>13 / 12 / 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Reading Material</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>12 May (F)</td>
<td>Species and speciation</td>
<td>13 / 12 / 16&lt;br&gt;&lt;sup&gt;9&lt;/sup&gt;Ward (2006)&lt;br&gt;&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;Fraser et al. (2009)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>15 May (M)</td>
<td>Bioenergetics: Unity in diversity</td>
<td>3 / 3 / 4</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>16 May (T)</td>
<td>Ecological diversity</td>
<td>20 / 19 / 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>17 May (W)</td>
<td>Overview of the <em>Bacteria</em> and <em>Archaea</em> I</td>
<td>16 &amp; 17 / 14, 15, &amp; 16 / 17, 18, &amp; 19</td>
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<td><em>EXAM I</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>19 May (F)</td>
<td>Proteobacteria and chemolithoautotrophy</td>
<td>16 / 15 / 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>22 May (M)</td>
<td>Pelagibacter: a proteobacterium that dominates the biosphere</td>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;5&lt;/sup&gt;Giovannoni et al. (2005)&lt;br&gt;&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;Carini et al. (2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>23 May (T)</td>
<td>Even more about the Proteobacteria!</td>
<td>WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT TOPIC DUE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>15 &amp;16 / 14 &amp; 15 / 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>24 May (W)</td>
<td>Anoxygenic photosynthetic bacteria</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>14 &amp;15 / 13 &amp; 14 / 13 &amp; 17</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>25 May (Th)</td>
<td>Oxygenic photosynthetic bacteria</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
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<td>14 &amp;15 / 13 &amp; 14 / 13 &amp; 17</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>26 May (F)</td>
<td>Firmicutes &amp; Actinobacteria</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 / 15 / 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>30 May (T)</td>
<td>Bacteroidetes</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 / 15 / 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>31 May (W)</td>
<td>Spirochetes</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>15 / 14 / 18</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>1 June (Th)</td>
<td>Planctomycetes &amp; Chlamydia</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 / 15 / 18</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>2 June (F)</td>
<td>Deinococci</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
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<td>16 / 15 / 18</td>
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EXAM II
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>5 June (M)</td>
<td>The bacterial ‘Candidate Phyla Radiation’ (CPR)</td>
<td>Brown et al. (2015)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hug et al. (2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>6 June (T)</td>
<td>Deep-branching bacteria I</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>7 June (W)</td>
<td>Deep-branching bacteria II</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT DUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>8 June (Th)</td>
<td>Hyperthermophilic archaea I</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>9 June (F)</td>
<td>Hyperthermophilic archaea II</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Huber et al. (2002)</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>12 June (M)</td>
<td>Methanogens</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>13 June (T)</td>
<td>Halophilic archaea</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>14 June (W)</td>
<td>The archaeal ‘TACK’ superphylum</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Week 6</td>
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<td>Guy and Ettema (2011)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Lecture/Activity</td>
<td>Supplemental Readings</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 June (F)</td>
<td>Review</td>
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† Numbers indicate chapters in BBOM (15th ed. / 14th ed. / 13th ed., respectively). Note that some lectures have supplemental readings from journal articles, listed below.
[Exam Administration - ProctorU]

There in order to maintain an appropriate standard of academic integrity, your identity will be authenticated and your course assessments will be proctored online by ProctorU. You will take your exam electronically through the course website in Canvas, but your exam will be proctored via web camera online by ProctorU.

First, you are required to register through the www.ProctorU.com website at the outset of the semester. Once you’ve set up your account with ProctorU you will be able to schedule your exam times for this course. The costs of using ProctorU for this course are covered by your university tuition and fees. Additional fees are not required in this process so as long as you schedule your exam times at least 72 hours ahead.

If you schedule your exam within 72 hours of the start time you may be subject to a late registration fee. Be advised this feature is completely optional and you will be charged an additional cost per exam for this feature. Remember, as long as you schedule your exams at least 72 hours out from your start time your ProctorU exam costs are covered with no additional costs to you. are no additional fees for this course.

Evaluation of Learning/Grades

Overall grading percentages:

Exam I 25%
Exam II 25%
Final exam 25%
Written assignment 20%
Class and online participation 5%

[Materials and Supplies Fees]

There are no additional fees for this course.

Grading Policy

A 93-100%
A- 90-92%
B+ 87-89%
B 83-86%
B-  80-82%
C+  77-79%
C   73-76%
C-  70-72%
D+  67-69%
D   63-66%
D-  60-62%
E   Below 60%

Additional information on grades and grading policies:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Class Attendance and Make-Up Policy
Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work
in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

Written assignment: The penalty for late turn in of the research paper is deduction of 10
percentage points per day.

Students Requiring Accommodations
Exams in this course take no more than 60 minutes. All students will be given double
that amount of time, two hours, to complete each exam.

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the
Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing
appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation
letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation.
Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the
semester.

Campus Resources
Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking
clear career and academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.
These resources include:
Health and Wellness

- U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx, 392-1575;
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) at the Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
- For emergencies call: University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). http://www.police.ufl.edu/

Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml.
- Library Support, http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

Class demeanor

Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all. Contact the instructor immediately if you experience any problem which prevents you from performing satisfactorily in this class.

Netiquette guide for online courses

It is important to recognize that the online classroom is in fact a classroom, and certain behaviors are expected when you communicate with both your peers and your instructors. These guidelines for online behavior and interaction are known as netiquette.
University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Additional comments regarding academic integrity:

Students are encouraged to discuss material with each other from the course, help each other understand concepts, study together, and even discuss assessment questions with each other once the quiz window is closed. However, the following is considered academic dishonesty, and I expect that no student will ever do any of the following:

- Have another person complete a quiz in this course
- Copy another student’s quiz in this course
- Collaborate with anyone during a quiz in this course
- Discuss the questions and answers of a quiz with other students while the quiz window is still open
- Manipulate and/or distribute any materials provided in this course for any purpose (including course lecture slides).
- Use any materials provided by a previous student in the course

A research paper in your own words is required for partial fulfilment of this course and all of the following are considered plagiarism (from http://www.plagiarism.org):
- Turning in someone else’s work as your own.
- Copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit.
- Failing to put a quotation in quotation marks.
- Giving incorrect information about the source of the information.
- Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source.
- Copying so many words or phrases from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not.

Plagiarized work is easily detected and university regulations on academic misconduct will be strictly enforced.
Software Use

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

**Microsoft Office 365 Software is free for UF students**
http://www.it.ufl.edu/gatorcloud/free-office-365-downloads/

**Other free software is available at:**
http://www.software.ufl.edu/

To check for availability of the media and technical requirements, contact the UF Computing Help Desk at (352)392-HELP(4357).

University of Florida Complaints Policy and Student Complaint Process

Most problems, questions and concerns about the course will be resolved by professionally communicating with the instructor.

The University of Florida believes strongly in the ability of students to express concerns regarding their experiences at the University. The University encourages its students who wish to file a written complaint to submit that complaint directly to the department that manages that policy.

If a problem really cannot be resolved by communicating with the instructor or the TAs you can contact

- Residential Course:  


University of Florida Complaints Policy and Student Complaint Process

The University of Florida and most instructors believe strongly in the ability of students to express concerns regarding their experiences at the University. Most problems, questions and concerns about courses can be resolved by professionally communicating with the instructor. Please try to meet your instructor in person, make an appointment to call, or try to set up a remote meeting through Skype or other media.

If this does not help the University encourages the students who wish to file a written complaint to submit that complaint directly to the department that manages that course. If a problem really persists and cannot be resolved by communicating with the instructor and the department, contact… for
Online Course:  http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process

This said, professionalism is a two-way-street. Unprofessional behavior of students includes, among other things: lack of communication, blaming other people or external factors, lying, affecting others negatively in a group or in the class, not accepting criticism and not being proactive in solving problems or seeking help. Furthermore, faculty often have family and other obligations to tend to. Over the weekend, replies to your inquiries or questions maybe delayed.

If a student is lacking professionalism repeatedly, the instructor has the rights to file formal complaint against the student through the Dean of Student office.