

CLS 428: CLINICAL MYCOLOGY

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Clinical Mycology. 1 cr. This course will be taught 100% online. It will focus on the study of and identification of the fungi of medical significance. Identify clinical signs, symptoms, treatment and epidemiology associated with human mycotic disease. Examine specimen collection and transportation. Explore laboratory methods used to detect and identify the fungi.

TEXTBOOK AND HELPFUL WEBSITES:

Students are required to complete all assigned text readings. Lectures provide an overview of materials which are to be supplemented with the text.

Required Text: Kern & Blevins, Medical Mycology, A self-Instructional Text, 2nd ed.

Reference Texts

- 1) Fisher & Cook, Fundamentals of Diagnostic Mycology
- 3) Forbes, Sahm, Weissfeld, Bailey & Scott's Diagnostic Microbiology 11th ed.

Web Resources

<https://drfungus.org/knowledge-base-category/fungi-descriptions/>
<https://mycology.adelaide.edu.au/>
<http://www.cdc.gov>

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Gain an appreciation of the importance of fungal infection in human health and disease.
2. Define general terms used in mycology.
3. Develop a working knowledge of laboratory techniques and procedures pertaining to specimen collection, staining and media used in the identification of fungi.
4. Use appropriate safety protocol when in the laboratory.
5. Identify fungi of medical importance.
6. Distinguish common contaminate fungi from those of medical importance.
7. Utilize given case history and pertinent information to identify the causative fungus.

Lifelong Learning

It is imperative students understand the importance of becoming lifelong learners. Changes are taking place quite regularly within the world of microbiology including bacteriology, mycology, parasitology and virology. For example, microbes have undergone and will likely continue to undergo name changes. In addition, we are seeing increased resistance to antibiotics and other

chemotherapeutic agents occurring. Antibiotics and other treatments that are effective today may not be effective in the near future, thus the need for referring to Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) guidelines. Lectures may mention antibiotics that have been used to treat various infections that were at one time effective, but things change thus the need to consult CLSI guidelines. The way organisms are identified within many clinical laboratories has also undergone transformation with the advent of increasing technologies e.g. MALDI-TOF. Thus, information that is true today may not be tomorrow. Change is constant. It is therefore the student's responsibility to become a lifelong learner and stay well informed of such changes. During your clinical practicums and throughout your career identification, susceptibility testing, etc., in the clinical lab will require you to follow institutional protocols, to refer to guidelines established by the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI), and to become a lifelong learner. Materials presented in lecture and laboratory are not a substitute for hospital/clinical protocols, CLSI guidelines, professional expertise, etc.

COURSE ACTIVITIES/ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING:

Safety:

Safety is imperative in the clinical laboratory. This information will be highlighted at the beginning of the class.

Assignments:

Various laboratory and/or other quizzes/assignments will be given to reinforce pertinent topics and increase understanding of clinically relevant fungi.

Quizzes/Exams:

1. Quizzes
2. Practical Final Exam
3. Comprehensive written final exam

Unknowns:

Photomicrographs will be provided by the instructor for unknowns covering pertinent topics covered in class e.g. opportunists, yeasts, superficial/dermatophytes, etc. Students will be required to provide a diagnosis based on microscopic morphologies to the appropriate Canvas Discussion Board. Each unknown is worth 5 points.

DERIVATION OF COURSE GRADE:

Professionalism	5%
Laboratory (Unknowns, discussion, assignments, etc.)	20%
Quizzes	25%
Lecture Final exam	25%
Practical Laboratory Final Exam	25%

GRADING SCALE:

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

Plus or minus grades may be used at the discretion of the instructor.

ATTENDANCE:

It is the students' responsibility to regularly log on to the learning management system to participate and learn. Attendance to laboratories is mandatory.

Missed assignments are only excused with written documentation (doctor's excuse, printed obituaries, coaches' note for games, etc.). I expect to hear from you before the possibility of you missing an exam, quiz, or an assignment due date.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Academic Honesty & Misconduct

Academic honesty is a core principle of learning and scholarship. When you violate this principle, you cheat yourself of the confidence that comes from knowing you have mastered the targeted skills and knowledge. You also hurt all members of the learning community by falsely presenting yourself as having command of competencies with which you are credited, thus degrading the credibility of the college, the program, and your fellow learners who hold the same credential.

All members of the learning community share an interest in protecting the value, integrity, and credibility of the outcomes of this learning experience. We also have the responsibility to censor behaviors that interfere with this effort. The following behaviors will be subject to disciplinary action:

Plagiarism - presenting someone else's words, ideas, or data as your own work.

Fabrication - using invented information, falsifying research or other findings.

Cheating - misleading others to believe you have mastered competencies or other learning outcomes that you have not mastered. Examples include, but are not limited to:

1. Copying from another learner's work
2. Allowing another learner to copy from your work
3. Collaborating on an assessment (graded assignment or test) without permission from the instructor
6. Taking a test for someone else or permitting someone else to take a test for you

Academic Misconduct - other academically dishonest acts such as tampering with grades, taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of an assessment, or selling or buying products such as papers, research, projects or other artifacts that document achievement of learning outcomes.

Academic dishonesty is NOT ACCEPTABLE. UWSP subscribes to the definitions of academic dishonesty provided by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. Academic misconduct in the University of Wisconsin System is defined by UWS Chapter 14. The complete text of the chapter is available to you from the Dean of Students or you can visit <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf#page=11> for more information.

ADA STATEMENT:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students are encouraged to register with UWSP Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DACT) for assistance with accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to work with DATC to document permanent or temporary disability in order to determine eligibility and receive reasonable accommodations. The college cannot assume responsibility for providing accommodations or services to students who have not identified themselves as having a qualifying disability. Contact DACT at datctr@uwsp.edu, 715-346-3365, Room 609 Albertson Hall, 900 Reserve Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481.

FACE COVERINGS:

- At all UW-Stevens Point campus locations, the wearing of face coverings is mandatory in all buildings, including classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other instructional spaces. Any student with a condition that impacts their use of a face covering should contact the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center \(Links to an external site.\)](#) to discuss accommodations in classes. Please note that unless everyone is wearing a face covering, in-person classes cannot take place. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors. Failure to adhere to this requirement could result in formal withdrawal from the course.

Other Guidance:

- Please monitor your own health each day using [this screening tool \(Links to an external site.\)](#). If you are not feeling well or believe you have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to class; email your instructor and contact Student Health Service (715-346-4646).
 - As with any type of absence, students are expected to communicate their need to be absent and complete the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus.
- Maintain a minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from others whenever possible.
- Do not congregate in groups before or after class; stagger your arrival and departure from the classroom, lab, or meeting room.
- Wash your hands or use appropriate hand sanitizer regularly and avoid touching your face.
- Please maintain these same healthy practices outside the classroom.

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION:

Lecture materials and recordings are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus, schedule, course content, assignments, etc. Any announcements (verbal or written), announcement postings to the learning management system, or announcements via email, etc. are considered official addendums to this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to know what changes have been made. It is the student's responsibility to check the learning management system and/or emails for course announcements.