
MICR*3220 - Plant Microbiology

Fall 2023 Course Outline

Section: 01

Credits: 0.50

Land Acknowledgement: Guelph

The University of Guelph resides on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron people and the treaty lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. We recognize the significance of the Dish with One Spoon Covenant to this land and offer respect to our Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Métis neighbours. Today, this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and acknowledging them reminds us of our important connection to this land where we work and learn.

Calendar Description

In this course the interaction between plants and microorganisms will be studied. Topics include molecular plant-microbe interactions, plant defenses, bacterial ice nucleation, interaction among plant microbes, root nodulation, mycorrhizae, wood decay, and decomposition of plant litter.

Prerequisite(s): BIOL*1070, BIOL*1090

Department(s): School of Environmental Sciences

Lecture Schedule

MonWedFri 2:30pm-3:20pm in ROZH*106 (9/7 to 12/15)

Instructor Information

Paul Goodwin
Professor

Learning Resources

Suggested Resources

Plant Pathology, by G.N. Agrios [electronic resource]

Fortress Plant: how to survive when everything wants to eat you, by D Walters [electronic resource]

Plant Surface Microbiology, by A. Varma [electronic resource]

Plant Microbe Symbiosis: Fundamentals and Advances, by NK Arora [electronic resource]

Campus Resources

If you are concerned about any aspect of your academic program: Make an appointment with a Program Counsellor (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/uaic/programcounsellors/>) in your degree program. If you are struggling to succeed academically: There are numerous academic resources offered by the Learning Commons (<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/using-library/spaces/learning-commons/>) including, Supported Learning Groups for a variety of courses, workshops related to time management, taking multiple choice exams, and general study skills.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Describe examples of interactions of microbes with different types of plant tissues.
2. Evaluate examples of plant-microbe interactions to recognize similarities and differences between the various types of interactions.
3. Evaluate examples of plant-microbe interactions to integrate the ecological, molecular, physiological and cellular aspects of plant-microbe interactions.
4. Recognize the historical impacts of plant-microbe interactions.
5. Apply the concepts and examples from the course to describe and evaluate a recent primary research article concerning an aspect of a plant-microbe interaction.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Topics:

Introduction

Types of microbes

Ecological and evolutionary concepts of plant microbiology

Phylloplane microbiology

Leaf and stem microbiology

Disease resistance

Root microbiology

Vascular tissue microbiology

Seed and fruit microbiology

Plant debris microbiology

Assessment Breakdown

Description	Weighting (%)	Due Date
First mid-term	30%	Friday, October 6
Second mid-term	30%	Friday, November 3
Final exam	40%	TBD

Assessment Details

Midterm

Midterm 1

30%

In class (ROZ 106) Friday October 6th

Course Learning Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Midterm 2

30%

In Friday's class (ROZ 106) November 3rd

Course Learning Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Exam

Final Exam

40%

Date is set by registrar.

Course Learning Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Final Exam

Date: Dec 4

Time: Mon 8:30am-10:30am

Location: TBA *Please see Web Advisor closer to the date of scheduled final for location.*

To understand rules and regulations regarding Examinations students are encouraged to read Student's Responsibilities (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/examinations/>)

If the student is unable to meet the final exam requirements due to medical, psychological or compassionate circumstances they are encouraged to review Student's Responsibilities in the Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-consideration-appeals-petitions/>) section of the Academic Calendar.

Last Day to Drop Course

The deadline to drop Fall 2023 courses without academic penalty is the last day of classes: December 01

After this deadline, a mark will be recorded, whether course work is completed or not (a zero is assigned for missed tests/assignments). This mark will show on the student's transcript and will be calculated into their average.

Standard Statements for Undergraduate Courses

Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-misconduct/>) is outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability. Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 10 days in advance, and no later than the first business day in November, March or July as appropriate for the semester. Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time. For students at the Guelph campus, information can be found on the SAS website. (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas/>)

Accommodation of Religious Obligations

If you are unable to meet an in-course requirement due to religious obligations, please email the course instructor within two weeks of the start of the semester to make alternate arrangements.

See the Academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Accommodations of Religious Obligations (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-accommodation-religious-obligations/>).

Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all undergraduate students except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in the Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/dropping-courses/>).

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

Health and Wellbeing

The University of Guelph provides a wide range of health and wellbeing services at the Vaccarino Centre for Student Wellness (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/>). If you are concerned about your mental health and not sure where to start, connect with a Student Wellness Navigator (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/navigators/>) who can help develop a plan to manage and support your mental health or check out our mental wellbeing resources (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/shine-this-year/>). The Student Wellness team are here to help and welcome the opportunity to connect with you.

Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The Academic Calendars (<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/?index>) are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration. (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-consideration-appeals-petitions/>)