

Pathology 430/826: The Molecular Basis of Disease
Winter Term 2017 Course Outline

(Last Updated 2017 February)

Course Coordinators and Instructors

Course coordinator:

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Course TA:

Course TA: Alison Michels <am64 (at) queensu.ca>

Instructors:

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Course Description and Schedule

The course will cover five human disease areas, integrating, in each case, the genetic, biochemical, physiologic, anatomic and environmental etiologic factors that play roles in the progression of the disease from its inception to death or recovery. The objective is to provide an appreciation of the manner in which biologic processes relate to pathobiological processes in human diseases. The course will illustrate that each disease is not the result a unique genetic or environmental alteration but rather is the result of evolving interactions of endogenous and exogenous factors.

1. The organization of the course will involve introductory talks by teaching faculty on each of the topic areas followed by student presentations of papers chosen by the faculty to illustrate specific pathobiological issues.
2. The organization of each session will either involve introductory talks by the teaching faculty followed by 2-3 student presentations.
3. The instructors will assign the papers for presentation to the individual students. These papers will be posted in pdf format on the departmental website (contact Kevin Kell at <kellk (at) queensu.ca>).
4. The length of each student presentation should not exceed 20 minutes, leaving 15-20 minutes for questions and discussion.
5. Student attendance at all sessions will be mandatory.
6. At each of the student presentation sessions, the students who are not presenting the papers will be expected to arrive with 5 questions relating to the papers that are to be delivered at that session. These questions will facilitate and stimulate discussion of the

presentation. Each set of questions will be allocated 5% of the course marks (course total 5% x 4 sets of questions = 20%).

Course Requirements and Evaluations

Each student will be responsible for the following:

- 1 oral presentation that contributes 25% to the final mark.
- 1 mini presentation that contributes 10% to the final mark
- 1 term paper (10 pages/double spaced/at least 1 figure and 15 references) that contributes 45% to the final mark.
- 4 sets of 5 discussion questions that contribute 5% x 4 = 20% of the final mark

Presentations

Students will present articles that have been assigned to them by the instructors. In their presentations, students should present and discuss the salient points of the articles, conduct a critical appraisal, relate the articles to the broader issues of the theme being addressed and engage in a discussion with the entire group. Students are advised not to get “sidetracked” by large amounts of data but should instead provide examples of the most important data and an overall data summary. Each presentation should be approximately 20 minutes in length. Instructors will provide oral and/or written feedback to the students regarding their presentations.

Presentation Schedule

Posted at the Path 430 web site. www.path.queensu.ca/path430

Term Papers

Each paper must not exceed ten double-spaced pages in length, not including references. At least one figure and 15 references should be provided. The choice of topics for the papers is at the instructors' discretion and the paper titles will be distributed to students by the course coordinator.

All graduate students will be given the same term paper title (different from the undergraduate paper) and will write a 12 page double spaced paper (not including references) with at least two figures and 25 references.