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INNOVATOR DEFENDER CHALLENGER
ADVENTURER TRAILBLAZER DEFENDER VISIONARY
VISIONARY ADVENTURER TRAILBLAZER CHALLENGER DEFENDER VISIONARY

Syllabus

MBIO 4410: Virology

(Winter 2021)



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COURSE DETAILS

Course Title & Number:	Virology (MBIO 4410)
Number of Credit Hours	3CH
Pre-Requisites:	MBIO 3010 or MBIO 3011, and 3410 or 3411; or permission of instructor

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor(s) Name & Preferred Form of Address:	Professor Kevin Coombs
Office Hours or Availability:	Due to COVID physical distancing policies there are no in person office hours. Please email to arrange meetings.
Office Phone No.	Due to COVID physical distancing policies there are no in person office hours. Please email to arrange meetings.
Email:	Email: kevin.coombs@umanitoba.ca I will usually be able to return e-mails the same day, or early the next day, generally within 24 hours.
Contact:	Due to COVID physical distancing policies there are no in person office hours. Please email to arrange meetings.
Instructor(s) Name & Preferred Form of Address:	Professor David Levin
Office Hours or Availability:	Due to COVID physical distancing policies there are no in person office hours. Please email to arrange meetings.
Office Phone No.	Due to COVID physical distancing policies there are no in person office hours. Please email to arrange meetings.
Email:	Email: david.levin@umanitoba.ca

I will usually be able to return e-mails the same day, or by the next business day.

Contact:

Due to COVID physical distancing policies there are no in person office hours. Please email to arrange meetings.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

U of M Course Calendar Description

A comprehensive examination of fundamental properties of viruses, virus taxonomy, and the different ways in which viruses replicate. The ways viruses cause disease and experimental methods used in virology also will be examined. May not be held with MBIO 4411, or for credit by students who have already taken MMIC 7010. Prerequisites: MBIO 3010 or MBIO 3011 (C); and MBIO 3410 or MBIO 3411 (C); or permission of instructor.

General Course Description

This is a three credit hour, upper level undergraduate course that will examine current methods of virology research, explore the different ways in which many human and animal viruses carry out their replication and describe how viruses are used in bioengineering, in vaccine development and other contemporary areas of virology. Students will also engage in a critical analysis of a contemporary virology paper to gain an appreciation for how to analyze and present scientific ideas. The majority of the course will consist of didactic lectures that, because of the current COVID situation, because of network issues with large classes, because some students are engaged in work studies and because students are residing in multiple time zones, will be offered as recorded lectures.

Course Goals

This is an introductory upper-level undergraduate course. Participants are expected to have a good understanding of cell biology, biochemistry, and microbiology. The course will deal comprehensively with fundamental properties of viruses, the different ways in which viruses replicate and cause disease, and experimental methods in virology. The majority of the course will be devoted to animal viruses, particularly those that cause human disease, but consideration is also given to bacteriophages and plant viruses.

There are 4 main goals of this course:

1. To survey and understand fundamental experimental methods used in contemporary virology;
2. To survey and appreciate the different ways in which viruses of diverse families undertake their replication and to be able to compare and contrast these different replicative mechanisms;
3. To introduce students to how viruses are used in various ways including their role in bioengineering, cancer and vaccines;
4. Students to undertake a directed library research analysis of a contemporary scientific manuscript to gain experience in critical evaluation of the scientific literature.

Course Learning Objectives

Students will gain an appreciation for how contemporary virology research is performed, the strengths and weaknesses of various methods used to study viruses, be able to compare and contrast how various human viruses carry out their replication (*i.e.* how the various viral genomes and proteins are processed) and understand their role of viruses in biomedicine, bioengineering, and in vaccine development.

COURSE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY

There is no required course textbook. Lecture material will be drawn from:

1. **Fields Virology**, 6th edition, Knipe *et al.*, 2013, ISBN-13: 978-1-4511-0563-6
2. **ICTV Virus Taxonomy 9th Report**, King *et al.*, 2012, ISBN 978-0-12-384684-6
3. Recent research articles pertinent to specific subjects

Lecture Notes/Materials:

Lecture materials for this course will be posted a minimum of 3 days prior to the lecture date on UMLearn. Usually, each weeks' lectures will be posted the weekend prior to that week. A number of lectures will be pre-recorded and available for download by students when most convenient for them.

Using Copyrighted Material

Please respect copyright rules and regulations. Instructors and students will use copyrighted content in this course. The instructors have ensured that the content used is appropriately acknowledged and is copied in accordance with copyright laws and university guidelines. Copyrighted works, including those created by each instructor, are made available for private study and research and must not be distributed in any format without permission. Do not upload copyrighted works to any other learning management system (except UM Learn), or any website, unless an exception to the *Copyright Act* applies or written permission has been confirmed. For more information, see the University's Copyright Office website at <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright/> or contact um_copyright@umanitoba.ca.

Course Technology

All enrolled students will be expected to have access to the internet and have an active University of Manitoba email account, UMLearn login access, and Zoom account access.

You can set up these accounts by going to:

UofM email account: <https://signum.umanitoba.ca/>

UMLearn: <https://universityofmanitoba.desire2learn.com/d2l/login>

Zoom video conferencing: <https://zoom.us/signin>

Course material will be delivered synchronously (live) online using Zoom videoconferencing software on some days of the scheduled lecture. Exceptions will be provided before hand. Lecture PowerPoint materials from each instructor for most lectures also will be recorded and posted on UMLearn before each lecture. All course materials (both paper and digital) are for the student's private study and research.

Please respect the copyrighted content of this course, including content developed by individual instructors. Do not distribute materials in any format to anyone without permission.

Students are encouraged to ask questions regarding content during online class time and to seek clarification by email when necessary. Interactive question and answer sessions will be used in class to generate discussion and reinforce concepts. The University requires all students to activate and use an official University email account. All communication between the Instructors and you as a student must use your U of M email account for security purposes.

Cell phones should be silenced and any other distractions minimized during lecture time.

Required textbook – There is no required course textbook.

Supplementary readings – Some electronic reprint citations that can be downloaded free of charge will be provided prior to a few pertinent lecture.

Recommended or required materials (e.g. lab equipment, art supplies, computers, etc.) – There is no lab component to this course and no other required material.

As this is a remote learning course and instructors are using UM Learn, refer to the home page of the course for Browser requirement statement and UM Learn support. Also refer to the self-register UM Learn tutorial that prepares you for remote learning called: Learning Online. This self-register course in UM Learn is open to all U of M students and is available in English and Mandarin.

No specific software, other than capacity to download and view PowerPoint material, is required for this course.

EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES

WE INSTRUCTORS EXPECT YOU TO:

- Participate in live Zoom lectures, which will be held many Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30- 9:45am, as noted.
- Obtain and use your University of Manitoba email account for all communication between yourself and the university. All communication must comply with the Electronic Communication with Student Policy:
http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html
- Follow and use these policies around Class Communication and Academic Integrity
- We will treat you with respect and would appreciate the same courtesy in return. See [Respectful Work and Learning Environment Policy](#).

Student Accessibility Services:

The University of Manitoba is committed to providing an accessible academic community. [Students Accessibility Services \(SAS\)](#) offers academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology and exam accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental illness, learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services
 520 University Centre
 Phone: (204) 474-7423
 Email: Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

Recording Synchronous Sessions/Online Lectures

Apart from lectures, most of which will be pre-recorded, the in-class Zoom lectures will not be recorded.

Material presented in this course is copyrighted, either as noted within each lecture, or by {Dr. Kevin Coombs or Dr. David Levin, 2021}. No audio or video recording of this material, lectures, or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without permission of either Dr. Kevin Coombs or Dr. David Levin. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant’s private study and research, and must not be shared. Violation of these and other Academic Integrity principles, will lead to serious disciplinary action.

EXPECTATIONS:

YOU CAN EXPECT ME TO: In this section, communicate in a narrative or bullet point format what students can expect of you as an instructor. For example:

- Return corrected exams within five days, and corrected Term Paper assignment within 2 weeks;
- I will respond to e-mails within 24 hours.

COURSE SCHEDULE

This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and/or based on the learning needs of the students but such changes are subject to [Section 2.8 of ROASS](#).

Date	Module	Topic
Jan. 19	General methods in virology	Nature of viruses, Introduction to virus morphology, classification and taxonomy – This is a compulsory in-class Zoom meeting
Jan. 21		Virus assay, isolation, detection, cultivation and host relationships
Jan 26		Proteins, antigenic structure and capsid architecture
Jan 28	Replication of various virus types	ss(+) RNA viruses I: Picornaviruses, the prototype ss(+) RNA virus
Feb. 2		ss(+) RNA viruses II: Alphaviruses & Flaviviruses
Feb. 4		Viral Controversies: Cell entry
Feb. 9		ss(+) RNA viruses III: Coronaviruses
Feb 11		ss(-) RNA virus (Rhabdo-, Paramyxo- and Filo-viruses)
Feb. 16		Segmented ss(-) RNA viruses (Influenza)

Feb. 18	Replication of various virus types	Segmented ds RNA viruses (Reovirus)
Feb 23		ss RNA and ds RNA Phages (Levin)
Feb. 25		ss DNA viruses: ssDNA Phages (Levin)
Mar. 2		ds DNA viruses I: Poxvirus and Papoviruses
Mar. 4		ds DNA viruses II: Adenovirus and Herpesvirus
Mar. 9		ds DNA viruses III: Bacteriophage T4 (Levin)
Mar. 11		In class Mid-term Exam
Mar. 16	Replication of various virus types	Retroviruses I
Mar. 18		Retroviruses II
Mar. 23		Hepatitis viruses
Mar. 25		ds DNA viruses II: Bacteriophage I Lytic/Lysogenic Switch (Levin)
Mar. 30		Student research papers due
Apr. 1	Viral usages in biomedicine, bioengineering and vaccinology	Vaccines
Apr. 6		Lysogeny and Latency: Genetic Recombination in Viruses (Levin)
Apr. 8		Baculovirus (Levin)
Apr. 13		Viruses and cancer
Apr. 15		Unusual viruses (viroids, prions and Giants)

Final Exam to be set by Registrars Office.

Voluntary Withdrawal

Students should refer to the [Registrar’s Office](#) and Important Dates web pages for more information concerning i) the last day to drop the class and receive 100% refund; and, ii) the last day to withdraw with no refund. Students who did not drop the course by the deadline would be assigned a final grade. Withdrawal courses will be recorded on official transcript.

<http://umanitoba.ca/registrar/important-dates-deadlines>

If a student is considering a voluntary withdrawal, they are encouraged to first contact the course coordinator to discuss student’s progress and strategies for improvement prior the withdrawal date.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Student assessment is based upon three components, dates of which are indicated above in the COURSE SCHEDULE. These three components and their contributions to students' final grades are:

Mid-term exam	30%
Term Paper	30%
Final exam	<u>40%</u>
	100%

Research Paper

Research papers consist of a written essay (about 5000 words [~15 pages], excluding references and essential figures/tables). The object of the research topic is for each student to choose a complex (or controversial) aspect of contemporary virology and, through critical analysis of the topic, gain an understanding of both the topic area, and the ways in which contemporary virological research is conducted and interpreted. The research paper should consist of a fairly extensive Introduction to introduce the reader to the topic, followed by an analysis of a single research article, chosen from a reputable journal (*ex.* Cell, Nature, Science, Journal of Virology, Virology, PLoS Pathogens), and published during 2020 or 2021. The typed double-spaced essays are to be submitted to Dr. Coombs by e-mail on or before March 30, 2021 as either a Word document or as a pdf. Late papers will still be accepted, but a penalty of 2 points per day late will be imposed (out of the 30 points the paper is worth). The essay should take the form of a published research paper, with Introduction, indicating the source of the paper you are critiquing (plus authors' goals), sufficient (but abbreviated) Methods to enable the reader to understand how experiments were performed, Results/Discussion, and References. Do not include a copy of the paper you are critiquing, but be sure to reference it and include appropriate Tables/Figures (plus appropriate citations!) **Your paper should not be a reiteration of text that appears in the journal article. That constitutes plagiarism. In addition, representative important experimental evidence (Figures and/or Tables) that authors use to support interpretations should be included in your paper and carefully explained and evaluated, with each piece of data appropriately cited.**

Plagiarism: "To plagiarize is to take ideas or words of another person and pass them off as one's own. In short, it is stealing something intangible rather than an object. Obviously it is not necessary to state the source of well known or easily verifiable facts, but students are expected to acknowledge the sources of ideas and expressions they use in their written work, whether quoted directly or paraphrased. This applies to diagrams, statistical tables and the like, as well as to written material, and materials or information from Internet sources." (University of Manitoba Calendar)

Potential Research Paper Topics (you may pick anything else related to viruses)

- Biology and epidemiology of Hanta- (or Henipa-) viruses
- Role of *E1a* protein in Adenovirus replication
- Regulation of adenovirus oncogenesis
- Mechanism(s) of virus entry
- Regulation of Herpesvirus latency
- Role of *small (or large) T antigen* in polyomavirus replication **or** oncogenesis
- Role of *nef (or tat or...)* protein in HIV replication
- Virus assembly
- Regulation of genome packaging in Influenza virus **or** Reovirus

Transcription of *Mononegavirales* mRNA
 Nature of *prion*
 Regulation of lysogeny in λ phage
 Regulation of hepadnavirus transcription
 Viral factors involved in apoptosis, autophagy or unfolded protein response
 Gene therapy

Grading

Letter Grade	Percentage out of 100	Grade Point Range	Final Grade Point
A+	90-100	4.25-4.5	4.5
A	80-89.9	3.75-4.24	4.0
B+	75-79.9	3.25-3.74	3.5
B	70-74.9	2.75-3.24	3.0
C+	65-69.5	2.25-2.74	2.5
C	55-64.9	2.0-2.24	2.0
D	50-54.9	Less than 2.0	1.0
F	Less than 50		0

Referencing Style

Any standard biomedical referencing style is acceptable. Most such acceptable styles use either an alphabetical list which is referred to in-text as either a number, or by the "Author, date" convention; or are listed both in-text and in the Reference List in order of citation (1, 2, 3 ...). The most important consideration is to be consistent. If in doubt, you may use the same style that your chosen article uses, or consult the course instructor. **Do not forget to include your chosen paper as one of the listed citations. Each and every data figure or table that you use from your chosen paper must be separately cited by the convention you have chosen within each figure's legend.**

Assignment Feedback

Feedback on all exams and the Term Paper will be both formative (*i.e.*, comments) and summative (*i.e.*, with a numerical grade). The Mid-Term exam will be returned within five days, and the Term Paper will be returned within two weeks of submission.

Assignment Extension and Late Submission Policy

The Term Paper is to be submitted by e-mail to Dr. K. Coombs prior to midnight (CST) on March 30, 2021. Late papers will still be accepted, but a penalty of 2 points per day late will be imposed (out of the 30 points the paper is worth).

Academic Integrity

Each student in this course is expected to complete their coursework and programs of study with integrity by making a commitment to the six fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage. <http://umanitoba.ca/student-supports/academic-supports/academic-integrity>

Academic integrity involves referencing the work of others that you have used and completing your assignments independently unless otherwise specified.

You must do your own work during exams. All work is to be completed independently. Plagiarism, duplicate submission, cheating on quizzes, tests, and exams, inappropriate collaboration, academic fraud, and personation are in violation of the Student Discipline Bylaw and will lead to serious [disciplinary action](#). Visit the [Academic Calendar](#), [Student Advocacy](#), and [Academic Integrity](#) web pages for more information and support.

Sharing of notes and other materials, such as assignment and exam questions that were provided by the instructor is prohibited, unless otherwise stated. This means that you are not allowed to upload the instructor's intellectual property to a note-sharing or tutoring website without explicit permission

LEARNER SUPPORT

Writing and Learning Support

The Academic Learning Centre (ALC) offers writing and learning supports to help you throughout your academic program. These supports are offered online during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Make an appointment with an ALC writing tutor who can give you feedback at any stage of the writing process, whether you are just beginning to work on a written assignment or already have a draft. The ALC also has an English as an Additional Language (EAL) specialist available to work with students on improving their English-language academic writing skills.

Consult an ALC learning specialist or attend an academic skills workshop to improve your time management, learning strategies and test-taking strategies. Get support in select courses by making an appointment with an ALC content tutor. The ALC also offers peer-facilitated study groups called Supplemental Instruction (SI) for certain courses that students have typically found difficult. In SI study groups, students ask questions, compare notes, discuss content, solve practice problems, and develop new study strategies in a group-learning format.

In addition to one-to-one and group sessions, you can also find writing and study tip sheets and videos on the ALC website.

Academic Learning Centre services are free for U of M students. For more information, please visit the Academic Learning Centre website at: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>

Contact the Academic Learning Centre by calling 204-480-1481 or emailing academic_learning@umanitoba.ca. Bannatyne students can contact the Bannatyne Student Services office at 204-272-3190.

University of Manitoba Libraries (UML)

Research begins at [UM Libraries](#). [Learn at the Libraries](#) is a great place to start, with information for students on academic writing, how to search the library, evaluating resources, and writing citations. As the primary contact for all research needs, your [liaison librarian](#) can play a vital role when completing academic papers and assignments. Liaisons can answer questions about locating appropriate resources or managing citations, and will address any other concerns you may have regarding the research process. Liaisons can be contacted by email or phone, and are also available to meet with you online. When working remotely, students can also receive help online through [Ask Us!](#) chat. For further detail about the libraries' services and collections, [visit the Libraries' web site](#). Regularly check our [COVID-19 Update](#) page for available library services and access to resources for Fall 2020

For 24/7 mental health support, contact the Mobile Crisis Service at 204-940-1781.

Student Counselling Centre

Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as individual, couple, and group counselling. *Student Counselling Centre:*

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html>

474 UMSU University Centre or S211 Medical Services Building

(204) 474-8592

Student Support Case Management

Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team.

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html>

520 UMSU University Centre

(204) 474-7423 (Student Support Intake Assistant)

University Health Service

Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. Note that due to fire displacement, UHS is unable to provide in-person medical care on the Fort Garry Campus until October, 2020.

University Health Service <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/>

(204) 474-8411 (Business hours or after hours/urgent calls)

Health and Wellness

Contact our Health and Wellness Educator if you are seeking information on health topics, including physical and mental health concerns, alcohol and substance use harms, or sexual violence. You can also access peer support from a *Healthy U* peer health educator.

Health and Wellness Educator

<https://umanitoba.ca/student/health-wellness/welcome-about.html>

britt.harvey@umanitoba.ca

469 UMSU University Centre

(204) 295-9032

Sexual Violence Resource Centre

Contact SVRC if you have experienced sexual violence or are seeking information about how to help somebody else. SVRC provides inclusive, survivor-centred, trauma-informed services, such as consultation, referrals, safety planning, and a range of on-site supports, including counselling by Klinik.

Sexual Violence Resource Centre

<https://umanitoba.ca/student-supports/sexual-violence-support-and-education>

svrc@umanitoba.ca

537 UMSU University Centre

(204) 474-6562 (Sexual Violence Intake and Triage Specialist)

Student Services at Bannatyne Campus

Contact SS@BC to access a full range of resources and supports for learners at the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences. Services are provided through a one-stop hub that includes a range of supports for personal and academic success, including counselling, mental health consultation, and spiritual care.

Student Services at Bannatyne Campus

<https://umanitoba.ca/student-supports/student-services-bannatyne-campus>

bcss@umanitoba.ca

S211 Medical Services Building

(204) 272-3190 (Intake and Triage Specialist)

All students are required to respect copyright as per Canada's *Copyright Act*. Staff and students play a key role in the University's copyright compliance as we balance user rights for educational purposes with the rights of content creators from around the world. The Copyright Office provides copyright resources and support for all members of the University of Manitoba community.

Visit <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright> for more information.

Your rights and responsibilities

As a student of the University of Manitoba you have rights and responsibilities. It is important for you to know what you can expect from the University as a student and to understand what the University expects from you. Become familiar with the policies and procedures of the University and the regulations that are specific to your faculty, college or school.

The [Academic Calendar](http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/academiccalendar.html) <http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/academiccalendar.html> is one important source of information. View the sections *University Policies and Procedures* and *General Academic Regulations*.

While all of the information contained in these two sections is important, the following information is highlighted.

- If you have questions about your grades, talk to your instructor. There is a process for term work and final **grade appeals**. Note that you have the right to access your final examination scripts. See the Registrar's Office website for more information including appeal deadline dates and the appeal form <http://umanitoba.ca/registrar/>
- You are expected to view the General Academic Regulation section within the Academic Calendar and specifically read the **Academic Integrity** regulation. Consult the course syllabus or ask your instructor for additional information about demonstrating academic integrity in your academic work. Visit the Academic Integrity Site for tools and support <http://umanitoba.ca/academicintegrity/> View the **Student Academic Misconduct** procedure for more information.
- The University is committed to a respectful work and learning environment. You have the right to be treated with respect and you are expected to conduct yourself in an appropriate respectful manner. Policies governing behavior include the:

Respectful Work and Learning Environment

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/230.html

Student Discipline

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/student_discipline.html and,

Violent or Threatening Behaviour

http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/669.html

- If you experience **Sexual Assault** or know a member of the University community who has, it is important to know there is a policy that provides information about the supports available to those who disclose and outlines a process for reporting. The **Sexual Assault** policy may be found at: http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/230.html More information and resources can be found by reviewing the Sexual Assault site <http://umanitoba.ca/student/sexual-assault/>

For information about rights and responsibilities regarding **Intellectual Property** view the policy: https://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/235.html

For information on regulations that are specific to your academic program, read the section in the Academic Calendar and on the respective faculty/college/school web site <http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/>

Contact an **Academic Advisor** within our faculty/college or school for questions about your academic program and regulations <http://umanitoba.ca/academic-advisors/>

Student Advocacy

Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns.

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy/>

520 University Centre

204 474 7423

student_advocacy@umanitoba.ca