

MEDICAL HISTOLOGY SYLLABUS

The course is composed of four blocks:

Block I, General Histology, is a study of the basic tissues and structures in Histology; the basic building blocks for the study of tissues and organs.

Blocks II, III, & IV studies the advanced structure and function of organs and organ systems, utilizing the basic structures from Block I.

LECTURES

General histology will begin with a description of the structure and function of the basic tissues (Block I) and then proceed into a presentation of the structure and function of organs and organ systems (Blocks II, III, IV). Structure-function will be emphasized in all lectures. **The student should prepare for each lecture by reading the pertinent material in the textbook (Histology, A Text and Atlas, 5th Edition, Ross and Pawlina).**

CLINICAL-PATHOLOGIC CORRELATIONS

Clinical-Pathologic Correlation sessions are presented throughout the course. These correlations serve two purposes: [1] allows the student to understand the pathologic and clinical relevance of the study of histology, [2] introduce the student to clinical faculty of the Pathology Department and other departments. Material presented in these sessions will not appear in the examinations.

LABORATORY

In **Block I** the laboratory periods will utilize microscopes to study glass microscopic slides in the loan sets in accordance with directions in the histology syllabus. Also, the Virtual microscopy collection will be made available to augment the classical approach to the study of histology. In **Blocks II, III, & IV**, laboratory study will use the assigned Virtual Microscopy Slides available on the website exclusively. The student should review the web page image library, read the directions in the on- line histology syllabus as well as review pertinent lecture material in preparation for each laboratory period. Each laboratory session will begin with a small group session using video imaging systems to review the material on glass and/or virtual slides, which the student is to study during the laboratory period.

The student may find that it is not possible to always complete a laboratory assignment during the allotted time. In such cases, it is the student's responsibility to complete the laboratory assignment outside the regular laboratory period. Attendance is not mandatory in the laboratory, but it is strongly encouraged.

TEACHING MATERIALS (provided by the Department)

- a. A loan set of 100 microscope slides is issued with each microscope to a pair of students for use during the course. **Each pair of students will be held responsible for the safe-keeping of all microscope loan slides issued for use during the course and will be charged the replacement cost for each broken, damaged, or lost slide.**
- b. Virtual Microscopy Slides, presented on the Histology website. These represent glass microscopic slides which have been scanned at extreme resolution to form a digital virtual image which can be moved, manipulated, and searched at varying magnifications, just as in a microscope.
- c. Histology image library and image quizzes on the histology web site: Images for a particular block will be available for study throughout that block. Students may access the histology material on the web through “teaching resources” on the Department of Structural and Cellular Biology’s web site.
- d. Electron micrographs: In addition to the electron micrographs present on the Departmental web site, various electron micrographs illustrating fine structural features of cells and tissues will be on display in the hallway outside the teaching laboratories.

SMALL GROUP SESSIONS

Small group sessions are held during a block to help students distinguish and differentiate tissues, which microscopically appear quite similar. The students find these sessions to be of great value in preparation for examinations.

REVIEW SESSIONS

Review sessions, which are presented by the Histology Faculty, are held the day before each block examination in the main lecture hall. Students find these sessions to be quite valuable.

EXAMINATIONS

Medical Histology is taught in four blocks. At the end of each block, **written and practical examinations** will be given. **The two components will be weighted equally to determine the block grade.** The course is cumulative in that basic material presented in

previous blocks, that is relevant to the current block material, is considered fair game for examinations.

Each **image based examination** consists of: **projected images** of light microscopic sections or electron micrographs. The multiple choice format related to these images may be simple identification or questions related to function. The number of projected images will be dependent upon the content of each block. Also all the **written examinations** will be of the objective type. Questions will cover material presented in lecture, laboratory and review sessions. The format of the questions will follow USMLE guidelines. **The written portion of each examination will consist of 50 questions.**

Each block grade is weighted equally in determining the final grade.

IMPORTANT: Students are not required to pass each examination, but must have an over-all passing average (70%) on the examinations at the end of the course. **Furthermore, an average grade of 70% on the practical examinations is required in order to pass the course.** Any student who conditions or fails all of the written examinations will automatically fail the course regardless of the practical grades.

Absence from examinations. The only excused absences are those certified by the Student Health Service or the Office of Student Affairs. A student who misses an examination with an excused absence will be rescheduled for a date and time to be designated by the course director.