

Biology of Cancer 2017 EXMD504
Thursday 4:05 – 5:50 pm
Macdonald-Harrington Building (815 Shebrooke West) Room G-10
Ivan Topisirovic & Marc Fabian, Course Examiners
Office Hours: 10:00am-12:00pm
Office E-445, 3755 Ch. Côte Ste-Catherine
Lady Davis Institute, Jewish General Hospital
Department of Oncology, McGill University Tel: 514-340-8222 ext 23146
e-mail: ivan.topisirovic@mcgill.ca e-mail: marc.fabian@mcgill.ca

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see <http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity> for more information).

L'université McGill attaché une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site <http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity>).

In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' rights, students in the course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. The nature of the course is outlined: This is a multidisciplinary course that covers all aspects of cancer biology. The course outline with the subjects to be presented by each lecturer is handed out. Students are warned that the course covers an extensive amount of information on cancer; thus students require an extensive background in science such as immunology, molecular biology and biochemistry. This course is designed for graduate students, especially those working on some aspect of cancer research, in order to expand their information on cancer biology. Please note that this course is not primarily designed for undergraduate students who are more accustomed to the lectures presenting all the subject information. Accordingly, handouts and references to other reading material on the subject is an important aspect of the course. Cancer Handbook online is a suggested text for the course and is available through the McGill library: www.cancerhandbook.net. The chapters of the online book are updated regularly so that material will always be current. The other reference text would be The Biology of Cancer, by Robert A. Weinberg, which is also available via McGill library.

There are multiple lecturers and much of the course presentation is based on recent advances in the field of cancer biology. There are multiple lecturers that have been chosen because they are widely recognized for expertise in the area of the topics they will cover. We feel that this is advantageous over choosing fewer lecturers, as inevitably they would have to cover areas outside of their expertise, thereby weakening the value of the course and its ability to bring students to a current level of knowledge. The lecturers are not obligated by McGill to provide notes; and there is certainly no obligation that all information needed for the exam must be contained within such notes. Nonetheless, we

will try to make the most of the lecture material available via Experimental Medicine web site.

Attendance and attention is expected of all participants of the course. This is taught as a graduate course and was designed especially for those working on some aspect of cancer in order to expand their information on cancer biology. Analysis and extraction of essential information from spoken and written communications is a part of becoming a successful independent researcher or any other successful career path. Therefore there should be a significant investment of time whether or not comprehensive notes are provided. Despite the extensive subject matter and time investment required for this course, we have had to restrict the course to 100 students, down from levels of 115. This is a tribute to the utility of the course.

The course will have two multiple-choice examinations. The final examination will consist of about 70 questions and cover all lectures. Previously, the mean score of students over the past 20 years has been about 73%. Less than 2% achieve A+, about 10% achieve A-, and most students achieve B- or better. The midterm examination accounts for 30% of the final mark.

The questions are in English so that good comprehension is essential when approaching the multiple choice questions, which at times can seem confusing in spite of efforts to make all questions straightforward. Examples of multiple-choice questions will be provided. If you have a disability please contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss your situation. It would be helpful if you contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 514-398-6009 before you do this. In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

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Despite the extensive subject matter and time investment required for this course, we have had to restrict the course to 140 students. This is a tribute to the utility of the course.

The course will have two multiple-choice examinations. Midterm will consist of approximately 40 questions and it accounts for 30% of the final mark. The final examination will consist of about 70 questions and cover all lectures and it will account for 70% of final mark. Previously, the mean score of students over the past 20 years has been about 73%. Less than 2% achieve A+, about 10% achieve A-, and most students achieve B- or better.

Marc Fabian & Ivan Topisirovic

Course Coordinators

Tel: (514) 340-8222 (ext 23146 or 28575)

e-mail: marc.fabian@mcgill.ca

e-mail: ivan.topisirovic@mcgill.ca

Biology of Cancer 2017 EXMD504

***Thursday 04:05 PM-05:55 pm Macdonald-Harrington Building (815 Sherbrooke St W
H3A 0C2) Room MDHAR G-10***

7 Sept.	Pathology of Neoplasia.	Dr. R. Michel
14 Sept.	Dysregulation of gene expression in cancer	Dr. Marc Fabian
21 Sept.	Carcinogenesis – DNA Tumor Viruses	Dr. J. Teodoro
28 Sept.	Epidemiology of Neoplasia	Dr. E. Franco
05 Oct.	DNA Damage, Repair and Cancer	Dr. A. Orthwein
12 Oct.	Use of Immunology to Distinguish Cancer Cells Cancer Markers	Dr. P. Gold
19 Oct.	Stromal-epithelial interactions and Tumor Immunology	Dr. J. Ursini-Siegel
<i>Oct.26 MID-TERM (MULTIPLE CHOICE) EXAM- Room TBD</i>		
02 Nov. cancer	Genetic Aspects of Neoplasia Including Chromosomal Abnormalities	Dr. P. Laneuville
09 Nov.	Inherited Predisposition to Cancer.	Dr. P. Tonin
16 Nov.	Oncogenes and tumor suppressors	Dr. I. Topisirovic
23 Nov.	Hormones and Cancer	Dr. Michael Pollak
30 Nov.	Invasion and Metastases	Dr. P. Brodt

FINAL EXAM: to be determined

Suggested References: The Biology of Cancer, edited by A.Weinberg;
The Cancer Handbook (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/book/10.1002/0470025077>)
Both available @ McGill's e-library.