



# Course Specification

— (Postgraduate)

**Course Title:** The Special Topics

**Course Code:** 591 MBI

**Program:** MSc in Microbiology

**Department:** Botany and Microbiology

**College:** Science

**Institution:** King Saud University

**Version:** V2

**Last Revision Date:** 12 October 2024

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## A. General information about the course:

### 1. Course Identification:

1. Credit hours: (2 (1 + 1))

#### 2. Course type

A. ☐ University ☐ College ☒ Department ☐ Track

B. ☒ Required ☐ Elective

3. Level/year at which this course is offered: (3<sup>rd</sup> Level)

#### 4. Course general Description:

The Special Topics in Microbiology aimed to provide students with the last development in the knowledge in the areas of his/her research field and provide the students with the skills of writing of research paper via analysis of recent published papers in his/her area of research. In addition, the students will learn how to critical appraisal of results and review of literature, express Opinion and Criticize peers, work in individual and in group, communicate his/her data in oral presentations, report writing and to use information media.

#### 5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

None

#### 6. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

None

#### 7. Course Main Objective(s):

Giving the student an in-depth study on one or more topics of microbiology and focusing on the latest developments.

Giving the students methods of search for scientific information and writing reports.

### 2. Teaching Mode: (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	15	100 %
2	E-learning		
3	Hybrid <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traditional classroom</li> <li>E-learning</li> </ul>		
4	Distance learning		



### 3. Contact Hours: (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1.	Lectures	4
2.	Laboratory/Studio	0
3.	Field	0
4.	Seminars	11
5.	Others (specify).....	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

### B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods:

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of PLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and understanding			
1.1	Demonstrate advanced knowledge of the latest developments in microbiology research	K1	Lectures/ Group discussions/ /Oral presentation	Rubric-Based Assessment/ Peer Review Evaluation
1.2	Critically analyze and evaluate recent scientific papers in the field of microbiology	k2		
...				
2.0	Skills			
2.1	Develop scientific writing skills, particularly for research papers, and critically appraise research findings	S3	Group Projects/oral	Rubric-Based Assessment/



Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of PLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
2.2	Effectively present scientific data through oral presentations and reports, while working both independently and collaboratively	S3	Presentation Practice	Peer Review Evaluation
3.0	<b>Values, autonomy, and responsibility</b>			
3.1	Demonstrate ethical responsibility in conducting and presenting research	V2	Group Projects/oral Presentation Practice	Rubric-Based Assessment/ Peer Review Evaluation

### C. Course Content:

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1.	Scientific Research Paper	1
2.	Guidelines for Scientific Writing	2
3.	Summarize a Research Article	2
4.	Writing a critical review	2
5.	Special Topic/topics in Microbiology	2
6.	Special Topic/topics in Microbiology	1
7.	Latest development in the special topic/topics	1
8.	Latest development in the special topic/topics	1
9.	Methods of research for scientific information	1
10.	Short seminar	2
Total		15

### D. Students Assessment Activities:

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	Assignments 1	4	15
2.	Assignments 2	7	15





No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
3.	Flash talk (short seminar)	9 & 11	10
4.	Assignments 3	12	20
5.	Assignments 4	13	40

\*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

## E. Learning Resources and Facilities:

### 1. References and Learning Resources:

Essential References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recent editions of core textbooks in microbiology and related fields that cover advanced topics in microbial research.</li> <li>Specialized textbooks focusing on experimental techniques in microbiology and critical analysis of microbiological research.</li> </ul>
Supportive References	Databases( PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science and GenBank)
Electronic Materials	Software and Tools (Tools for referencing such as EndNote or Zotero and Statistical software like SPSS or R)
Other Learning Materials	Recent Published papers in the field of study

### 2. Educational and Research Facilities and Equipment Required:

Items	Resources
<b>facilities</b> (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.)	Smart Rooms
<b>Technology equipment</b> (Projector, smart board, software)	Blackboard LMS, ZOOM, Other distant Learning applications
<b>Other equipment</b> (Depending on the nature of the specialty)	

## F. Assessment of Course Quality:

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of teaching	Students	In direct: Questionnaire "Course Evaluation Survey
Effectiveness of students' assessment	Program faculty	Review of graded work, rubrics evaluation, analysis of exam and quiz results
Quality of learning resources	Faculty, students	In direct: Questionnaire "Course Evaluation Survey (CES)" and "learning resources survey"



Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved	Faculty, program reviewers	Direct assessment (tests, assignments), indirect assessment (surveys, feedback), exam results
Other	-	-

**Assessor** (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

**Assessment Methods** (Direct, Indirect)

### G. Specification Approval Data:

<b>COUNCIL /COMMITTEE</b>	Committee for Evaluation and Academic Accreditation for Microbiology Graduate Studies
<b>REFERENCE NO.</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	20/10/2024

