



575 Biology of Viruses

ADDENDUM TO SYLLABUS FOR GRADUATE CREDIT:

Graduate credit options for 575 complements the course lectures with more in-depth investigation of virology via exposure to both primary literature and seminars. Madison is fortunate to host a large number professors who visit campus and present the most recent discoveries by their labs. Many times these seminars build on material that is covered in class and reinforce course concepts. In very rare situations where another obligation cannot be avoided and conflicts with the Thursday seminar to prevent attendance, an alternative requirement can be developed that will require at least a similar level of commitment. This will include replacing the 910 seminars with reading three papers chosen by the instructors. These would substitute as the material needed for the write ups. The write-ups are longer here than they are for the seminar-based option, given that one does not have to attend all the seminars. In this case, to fulfill the graduate credit requirements, students must:

- Based on the seminars, prepare 3 summary papers.
- Whereas the normal option prepares write-ups based on the Thursday seminar series, this alternative requires 3 summary essays based 3 papers.
 - Dr. Mehle will provide the appropriate papers for those that cannot attend seminar.
 - The student picks 3 papers to read and summarize.
 - Papers can be found [here](#). Note that there are 5 papers; you only need to choose 3, or a combination of papers and seminars that gets you to 3 total write-ups. I have also included commentaries that accompanied some of these papers. *The commentaries are to help you understand the paper, while your write-up should still be on the primary paper with the data.*
 - The essays should be 4-6 page double-spaced summaries that provide a quick introduction to the topic, frame the questions being addressed, describe the experimental approaches and results, and then address the major conclusion.
 - This is not meant to be a verbatim recounting the seminar or paper, but a bigger picture overview. In the same vein, it is not expected that students become experts in all of the details of these specialized areas, but rather that the summary demonstrate the student has learned the larger concepts that were presented. Ideally, the seminars or papers will be tied back to the material learned in class, reinforcing the topics. Very broadly, the summaries should address: the background information needed to understand the topic; what is the main question the paper/speaker is addressing?; what experiments and approaches did they use to address this question; what answer did they get; what conclusions were reached; how has this changed what we know about the topic.
 - It is much easier to spread these assignments throughout the semester instead of waiting until the last three seminars.
 - Grades for the summaries will be either Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. A Satisfactory grade requires completion of the assignment, clear writing, and a report that demonstrates an understanding of the material that was presented. Dr. Mehle is available to discuss the seminars and help answer questions that arise from the seminars that cover material not necessarily presented in the normal course lectures. The summaries must be Satisfactory to receive honors credit.