MICR464: Medical Microbiology and Immunology (Semester I)

Convenor: Assoc. Prof. Matloob Husain

Overview: The immune response is important in protecting the host from infection and cancer. This paper will analyse the interaction between the host immune system, microorganisms, and neoplasia. In particular, it will examine the challenge faced by the host, the host's response to infection and cancer, and how we can harness the power of the immune response for treatment and prevention of infectious diseases and cancer.

Structure: This is a tutorial-based course with focus on self-directed learning and will have four 3-week modules. As per the timetable below, each module will cover a critical and relevant topic in the field and will have an internal assessment worth 25% of the total grade.

Tutorials are held on Wednesdays at 9:00 AM in Room 208 and start on 3rd March 2021.

Module I Bruce Russell	The role of immunology in severe malaria pathogenesis
March 3	Tutorial 1
March 10	Tutorial 2
March 17	Assessment
Module II Matloob Husain	**Antiviral host factors and research tools to identify them**
March 24	Tutorial 1
March 31	Tutorial 2
April 14	Assessment
Module III Jo Kirman	**Innate immunological memory**
April 21	Tutorial 1
April 28	Tutorial 2
May 5	Assessment
Module IV Alex McLellan	**SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccines: mode of action and efficacy**
May 12	Tutorial 1
May 19	Tutorial 2
May 26	Assessment

Assessments: Each module will use either oral or written assessments, e.g., individual interviews, experimental design, grant proposals, press releases. Each instructor will provide clear instructions and expectations during the tutorials. The objectives of these assessments are to help you critically evaluate a topic, formulate your own ideas, acquire grant writing and experimental design abilities, strengthen communication skills, and manage workloads to meet deadlines. Many of these attributes are needed to successfully carry out your current and future research projects and also in the workforce in general tasks.