

**Year 2 Block 7**  
**Microbiology and Infectious Diseases**

**Course Description and Goals:**

This block of the second year curriculum covers the basic principles of microbiology and infectious diseases, and the pharmacology of drugs used in the treatment of infectious diseases. Faculty from the Departments of Internal Medicine (Division of Infectious Diseases), Microbiology and Pharmacology teach in the block. By the end of the block students will be able to identify the basic characteristics and properties of bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites including their structures, chemical composition, metabolism and replication; and demonstrate knowledge of: the diseases they cause in humans, the mechanisms by which they cause disease and any differences in manifestation based on age, gender or ethnicity, and the ways in which these diseases can be prevented and treated; how these diseases are diagnosed, the laboratory tests used to identify the causative agents and determine the appropriate treatment; and the drugs used in the treatment of infections by bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites and the pharmacology of each of these drugs. The block uses a combination of lectures, conferences and workshops, and computer aided instruction to teach and reinforce key concepts.

**Block Director:**

Walter Long, Ph.D.  
Department of Microbiology and Immunology  
215-707-4984; [walter.long@temple.edu](mailto:walter.long@temple.edu)

**Clinical Advisor:**

Bennett Lorber, M.D.  
215-707-3536; [Bennett.Lorber@temple.edu](mailto:Bennett.Lorber@temple.edu)

**Evaluation of Student Performance and Examination Policies:**

Students will be evaluated during the course by two internal examinations, covering material in the first and second parts of the course respectively, and a NBME web-based final comprehensive exam, covering microbiology and immunology. Course grade is determined as follows: Exam 1 (37%), Exam 2 (36%), NBME exam (20%), Conference/Workshop attendance (7%).

A score of 70% is considered a PASS grade. Scores below this will be considered a FAIL grade. Based on medical school policy: Honors and High Pass are: H for the top 12 +/- 4%; HP for the next 20 +/- 5% of the class.

**Disability accommodation:**

Any student needing an accommodation must contact Dr. Sterling at (215) 707-4613 to discuss the specific situation. Temple University Disability Resources and Services can be contacted at (215) 204-1280.