



Course: Immunology

Course Coordinator: Tamara Gulic, , Ph.D., Assistant Professor

Course Collaborators:

Department: Department of Physiology, Immunology, and Pathophysiology

Study program: University Integrated Undergraduate and Graduate Study of Dental Medicine
(in English)

Study year: Second

Academic year: 2023./24.

Number of ECTS credits: 3

SYLLABUS

Course description (a brief description of the course, general instructions, where and in what form the lessons are organized, necessary equipment, instructions for attendance and preparation for classes, student obligations, etc.):

Course information (basic description, general information, teaching overview, required equipment, and preparation, etc.

Immunology is a mandatory course in the study of Dental Medicine, it is listened to during the 2nd year of study. The course is carried out in a continuous during the two weeks. The course consists of 20 hours of lectures and 10 hours of seminars, which totals 30 class hours, the value equivalent to 4 ECTS credits.

The main aim of this course is to introduce students to the normal and pathological function of the immune system. The student will acquire the basic knowledge in: 1) the role of the immune system: a) maintenance of homeostasis in the whole organism and oral cavity, and b) etiopathogenesis of local and systemic disorders and disorders in the organism, with the focus at the oral cavity. 2) possibilities of using immunological methodology in modern diagnostics. 3) possibilities of using modern biotechnological methods in immunotherapy. The planned outcome of the course is to acquire the knowledge in the field of basic immunology and immunopathophysiology, and to acquire the ability to vertically upgrade the knowledge in clinical subjects that follow.

Course content:

Overview of Immunity. Tissue Cells and Organs of the Immune System. Major Histocompatibility Complex Molecules. Immune Recognition. Innate Immunity. NK cells. Cellular Immunity, Lymphocyte B and T, Activation and collaboration of immune cells, Antigens and antibodies, Structure, and function of immunoglobulins. Complement. Immunotolerance. Immune Response Regulation. Major Histocompatibility genes and antigens. Autoimmune disease. Immunological Hypersensitivity. Immunodeficiency. Mucosal Immunity (especially of the oral cavity and teeth (caries, gingivitis, periodontitis, ulcerations, candidiasis, AIDS)). Vaccination.

Class organization:

The course consist of lectures and seminars. The seminars continue thematically on the material covered in the lecture. Throughout lectures and seminars, the student actively discusses immune mechanisms with the lecturer. Students are obligated to regularly attend and actively participate in all forms of classes. The teacher/course coordinator continuously evaluates student participation throughout seminars (demonstrated knowledge, understanding, the ability to set up a problem, concluding, etc.). Consultations



are held in agreement with students during and after the immunology classes.

Assigned reading:

Abbas A.K, Lichtman A.H., Pillai S. Basic Immunology. Functions and Disorders of the Immune System. Fifth edition. Elsevier, 2016.

Optional/additional reading:

1. Abbas A.K, Lichtman A.H., Pillai S. Cellular and Molecular Immunology. International Edition. Eighth edition. Elsevier, 2015.
2. Murphy K, Weaver C: Janeway's Immunobiology 9th edition, Garland Science, New York and London, 2017.

COURSE TEACHING PLAN:

The list of lectures (with topics and descriptions):

Lecture 1: Organization of Immune system. Immune cells and immune tissue

Learning outcomes:

- To describe the role of immune reaction. To understand the features of immune reactions.
- To name and explain the classification of adaptive immunity according to the mode of acquisition and executive mechanisms (humoral and cellular immunity).
- To describe the anatomy and function of lymphatic tissues (bone marrow, thymus, lymphatic system, lymph nodes, spleen, and regional lymphatic systems).
- To describe the morphological, physical, and biological properties of cells of the immune system.
- To name the subtypes of T and B lymphocytes and to describe their function.
- To describe the basic features and function of NK cells.
- To understand the importance of non-specific immunity in initiating an immune response. To explain the importance of antigen presenting cells.
- To describe and explain the phases of the immune response.
- To understand the term lymphocyte clone.

Lecture 2: Innate immunity

Learning outcomes:

- To describe the development and the mechanisms for non-specific immunity (anatomical, physiological, cellular, inflammatory obstacles).
- To name the cellular receptors for molecular pattern recognition and their function in non-specific immunity.
- To explain the process of phagocytosis, name the subtypes of phagocytic cells and explain the biological properties and function of phagocytic cells.
- To understand the role of NK cells.
- To understand the importance of innate immunity in initiating an immune response. To explain the function of antigen presenting cells.
- To describe classical, lectin, and alternative complement activation pathways.
- To describe the biological role of the complement.

Lecture 3: Antigen presentation. Major histocompatibility molecules.

Learning outcomes:

- To describe the system of tissue antigens, their classification, structure, and function of MHC group I and II antigens, and distribution in the organism.
- To understand the term of processing and displaying antigens by MHC molecules.
- To describe the structure of the receptor for the T lymphocyte antigen.
- To understand the MHC gene structure (polygeny and polymorphism).
- To describe the role of the MHC gene in determining immunoreactivity characteristics (in controlling the

response to individual antigens, in the appearance of autoimmune diseases, in the appearance of high alloreactivity).

To explain the processing of another's antigen and the mechanism of its binding to MHC class I and II molecules

To explain the basic principles of immune recognition. To explain the significance of the first and second signals during the activation of naive T lymphocytes.

To explain the principle of clonal selection in the thymus.

Lecture 4: Lymphocytes receptors. Antigens and antibodies.

Learning outcomes:

To describe the term antigen, classification of antigens, antigen determinant (epitope), and its forms.

To define the term immunogenicity, the factors that affect the antigen immunogenicity.

To describe the structure of antibodies, their heterogeneity and antigenic determinants, the primary structure of paratopes.

To describe the course of clone specialization of B lymphocytes for a particular bone marrow specificity.

To describe the structure of the receptor for the B lymphocyte antigen.

To understand the concept of antigen recognition by MHC molecules.

To describe the processes of T lymphocyte development and the role of the thymus in them.

To describe the processes of B lymphocyte development and selection in the bone marrow.

Lecture 5: T Cell-Mediated Immunity

Learning outcomes:

To explain the mechanisms and main features of T Cell-Mediated Immunity.

To understand the role of adhesion and costimulation molecules in the activation of T lymphocytes.

To understand and explain the process of naive T lymphocytes differentiation into effector cells.

To describe cytokine secretion as a mechanism to enhance T lymphocyte-mediated immunity.

To explain the kinetics of the immune response mediated by T lymphocytes.

To describe the characteristics and to explain the executive roles of cytotoxic T lymphocytes and the mechanism of target-cell killing.

To explain macrophage activation by sensitized T lymphocytes of TH1 subtype.

To explain the activation and function of T lymphocytes of the TH17 subtype.

Lecture 6: Humoral Immunity

Learning outcomes:

To describe the structure and the function of the B lymphocyte receptor.

To describe the morphology of B lymphocyte differentiation, plasma cell, and memory cell formation.

To explain the antibody production kinetics in the primary and secondary immunoreaction, distribution throughout the body, and the dynamics of antibody degradation.

To explain and understand the process and significance of affinity maturation of B lymphocytes in secondary lymphatic organs.

To explain the functions and biological properties of different antibody classes.

To explain the effector mechanisms of humoral immunity: neutralization, opsonization, phagocytosis, ADCC reaction, complement activation.

Lecture 7: Immunity to infections

Learning outcomes:

To explain the concepts of parasitism, pathogenicity, virulence and infection.

To describe the peculiarities of immunoreaction (non-specific and specific immunity) to pathogenic microorganisms.

To explain the characteristics of specific immunity in infections, specific active immunity acquired naturally, and artificially induced, the concept and principles of vaccination and forms of specific passive immunity (naturally acquired and artificially induced).

To describe the basic characteristics of viruses, bacteria, unicellular and multicellular parasites, and the infections caused by these.

To explain the features of humoral and cellular immunity that occurs during viral and bacterial infections, and infections with unicellular and multicellular parasites.

Lecture 8: Mucosal Immunity



Learning outcomes:

- To describe the immunity of the digestive system and other mucous membranes.
- To explain the basic mechanisms by which the immune system provide immediate protect after pathogens invasion through mucosal tissue.
- To describe the lymphocyte subtypes involved in mucosal immunity.
- To explain the role of IgA in mucosal immunity.
- To understand the tolerance to microorganisms that are normally present in our body cavities and break of tolerance.

Lecture 9: Immunologic Tolerance and Autoimmunity. Hypersensitivity

Learning outcomes:

- To explain the term autoimmunity and main mechanisms for autoimmunity occurrence.
- To explain the pathogenic mechanisms of autoimmunity and the mechanisms of tissue and organ damage by antibodies, antigen-antibody complexes, and T lymphocytes.
- To name the autoimmune diseases and their classification.
- To define the term allergy, to name the classification of immunologic hypersensitivity, and to describe their main characteristics.
- To describe IgE-class antibodies and receptors for the Fc fragment of IgE, to describe target cell degranulation, as well as secretion and function of mediator substances (primary and secondary mediators).
- To describe atopic reactions and principles of their treatment.
- To explain the immune diseases caused by antibodies.
- To explain hypersensitivities caused by immunocomplexes and local (Arthus reaction) and generalized (serum sickness) form.
- To explain cell-dependent hypersensitivity features, tuberculin response, and contact hypersensitivity.

Lecture 10: Immunodeficiencies and AIDS

Learning outcomes:

- To define immunodeficiency and its classification.
- To explain primary immunodeficiencies and disorders of their immune effectors (deficiency of B lymphocytes, T lymphocytes, phagocytes, complement system, and associated T and B lymphocyte deficiencies).
- To explain secondary immunodeficiencies and the reasons for their occurrence.
- To describe the structure and biological behavior of HIV, the way of transmission, the mechanism by which it causes AIDS, AIDS (incubation, seroconversion, symptoms, and the course of the disease).
- To describe the possible effects on the immunoreaction intensity (immunosuppression, immunostimulation).
- To explain immunosuppression, mechanisms of inducing specific (suppression of immunoreaction by antigen, antibodies, antilymphocyte serum, monoclonal antibodies) and non-specific (corticosteroids, cytostatics) immunosuppression.

Lecture 11: Vaccination

Learning outcomes:

- To explain immunostimulation procedures by vaccination for protection against infection.
- To name the properties of vaccines and their types.
- To explain vaccination by weakened pathogens.
- To explain vaccination by conjugated vaccines.
- To explain vaccination against bacterial toxins.
- To explain vaccination by recombinant, alive viral, and DNA vaccines.
- To describe the methods of genetic engineering in methods of preparing antitumor vaccines and enhancement of antitumor immune response.
- To name the types of adjuvants and to explain the principles of their action.
- To describe non-specific immunostimulation and immunomodulation procedures by combined immunosuppression and immunostimulation.



The list of seminars with descriptions:

Seminar 1: Organization of Immune system. Immune cells and immune tissue

Learning outcomes:

- To name the main lymphatic organs and tissues, describe microscopic structure and histological changes in their structure after immunization.
- To describe the concepts of lymphatic cells maturation and activation.
- To name the lymphocytes subtypes, the main leukocyte differentiation markers on different immune cell subtypes and to describe their function.
- To name the main T and B lymphocyte subtypes and to define their function.
- To define the basic characteristics and function of NK cells.
- To explain the process of phagocytosis, list the subtypes of phagocytic cells, and define the biological properties and function of phagocytic cells.
- To name the antigen presenting cell subtypes, to explain the specific function of each subtype.
- To understand and describe the phases of the immune response.

Seminar 2: Antigen Presentation and Major Histocompatibility Complex Molecules

Learning outcomes:

- To describe the system of tissue antigens, their classification, structure, and function of MHC group I and II antigens, and distribution in the organism.
- To understand the term of processing and displaying antigens by MHC molecules.
- To describe the structure of the receptor for the T lymphocyte antigen.
- To understand the MHC gene structure (polygeny and polymorphism).
- To describe the role of the MHC gene in determining immunoreactivity characteristics (in controlling the response to individual antigens, in the appearance of autoimmune diseases, in the appearance of high alloreactivity).
- To explain the processing of another's antigen and the mechanism of its binding to MHC class I and II molecules
- To explain the basic principles of immune recognition. To explain the significance of the first and second signals during the activation of naive T lymphocytes.
- To explain the principle of clonal selection in the thymus.

Seminar 3: T Cell-Mediated Immunity

Learning outcomes:

- To explain the mechanisms and main features of T Cell-Mediated Immunity.
- To understand the role of adhesion and costimulation molecules in the activation of T lymphocytes.
- To understand and explain the process of naive T lymphocytes differentiation into effector cells.
- To describe cytokine secretion as a mechanism to enhance T lymphocyte-mediated immunity.
- To explain the kinetics of the immune response mediated by T lymphocytes.
- To describe the characteristics and to explain the executive roles of cytotoxic T lymphocytes and the mechanism of target-cell killing.
- To explain macrophage activation by sensitized T lymphocytes of TH1 subtype.
- To explain the activation and function of T lymphocytes of the TH17 subtype.

Seminar 4: Immunity to infections.

Learning outcomes:

- To define the principles of primary and secondary response to viral infection. Kinetics of IgM and IgG antibody responses.
- To understand and explain the principles of the acute and chronic response to viral infection.
- To define the principles of primary and secondary response to bacterial infection.
- To understand the principles of immune exhaustion and the disease shift to a chronic trend.

Seminar 5: Anaphylactic reaction

Learning outcomes:

- To define the term anaphylactic hypersensitivity.
- To define, name and describe the immune effector mechanisms involved in anaphylactic hypersensitivity (cells, primary and secondary mediators).
- To define and explain systemic disorders that occur as a result of anaphylactic hypersensitivity.



To explain the mechanisms of immune hypersensitivity to penicillin.

Students' obligations:

Students are obligated to regularly attend and actively participate in all forms of classes. A student may be absent to 30% of all forms of classes only for justified reasons with the presentation of a credible certificate (medical certificate or similar).

Assessment (exams, description of written / oral / practical exam, the scoring criteria):

ECTS grading system

Student grading is conducted according to the current University of Rijeka Studies and studying regulation. Student work and achievement are assessed and graded during the course, which is the basis for the final grade. Student work and competencies are evaluated during classes with a maximum of 50% and up to 50% at the final exam. Students are graded according to the ECTS (A-E) and numerical system (1-5). Grading, according to the ECTS system, is conducted according to the absolute redistribution, as well as according to the graduate grading criteria.

I. Adopted knowledge during the course (up 50 points)

During classes, acquired knowledge will be evaluated by two midterm exams (MTE) comprising 50 questions, which will take place on **February 5th, 2024 (First midterm exam)**, and on **February 10th, 2024 (Second midterm exam)**. On tests for the acquisition of minimum conditions, students cannot earn additional grade points. With a positive test result (more than 50%), a student can earn the minimum number of grade points (12,5+12,5=25) and can access the Final exam. The first test (**First midterm exam**) includes the material of lectures P1-P5, and seminar S1-S2. The second test (**Second midterm exam**) includes the material of lectures P6-P11, and seminar S3-S5.

A student may obtain up to 25-grade points on each midterm exam:

Correct answers	Grade points		Correct answers	Grade points
48,49,50	25		31	17
45,46,47	24		30	16
42,43,44	23		29	15
39, 40,41	22		28	14
36,37,38	21		26,27	13
34,35	20		25	12,5
33	19			
32	18			

II. Final exam (up to 50-grade points)

Students who obtained 25-50 grade points during classes are obligated to access the final exam at which they may obtain additional grade points. The final exam consists of a multiple-choice questions test and an oral part.

- **Students who obtained less than 25-grade points during classes or were absent for more than 30% of classes** are not allowed to access the Final exam (insufficient F).
- Students can obtain 25-50 grade points at the final exam. The final exam consists of an oral and a written



part, where students are expected to show at least 50% of knowledge, skills, and competencies. A student who demonstrates at least 50% of knowledge, skills, and competencies at the written and the oral part of the exam is credited with points according to the achieved result, which is added to the grade points obtained during classes.

At the written part of the final exam, a student can obtain **25-45 grade points** according to the table:

Correct answers	Grade points	Correct answers	Grade points
49,50	45	35	33
47,48	44	34	32
46,45	43	33	31
44	42	32	30
43	41	31	29
42	40	30	28
41	39	29	27
40	38	28	26
39	37	27	25
38	36	25,26	24
37	35	0-24	0
36	34		

At the oral part of the final exam, a student can obtain 1-5 grade points that are divided into 5 categories (1, 2, 3, 4, 5).

The points obtain in the written and oral part are added up.

A STUDENT MUST SUCCESSFULLY PASS BOTH THE WRITTEN AND ORAL PART OF THE FINAL EXAM.

III. The final grade (maximum of 100-grade points)

The final grade represents the sum of all grade points obtained during classes and at the final exam. It is based on the absolute redistribution according to the following scale:

90-100 grade points	A	excellent (5)
75-89,99 grade points	B	very good (4)
60-74,99 grade points	C	good (3)
50-59,99 grade points	D	sufficient (2)
less than 50-grade points	E	insufficient (1)

Other important information regarding to the course:

Course content and all information regarding the course, including exam dates, can be found on the SharePoint platform of the Department of Physiology and Immunology on the following website: https://spp.uniri.hr/ss_medri/katedre/427 - can be accessed via an AAI address and on MERLIN 2023/2024.



COURSE SCHEDULE (for the academic year 2023/2024)

Date	Course type		Time	Place	Lecturer
	Lecture	Seminar			
30.01. 2024.	L1		8,30-10,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Doc. dr. sc. Tamara Gulić
30.01. 2024.	L2		10,30-12,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Doc. dr. sc. Tamara Gulić
31.01. 2024.		S1	8,30-10,00	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Doc. dr. sc. Ljerka Karleuša
31.01. 2024.	L3		10,30-12,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Prof. dr. sc. H. Mahmutefendić Lučin
01.02. 2024.	L4		8,30-10,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Prof. dr. sc. Zlatko Trobonjača
01.02. 2024.	L5		10,30-12,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Prof. dr. sc. H. Mahmutefendić Lučin
02.02. 2024.		S2	8,30-10,00	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Doc. dr. sc. Ljerka Karleuša
02.02. 2024.	L6		10,30-12,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Prof. dr. sc. Pero Lučin
05.02. 2024.		Midterm exam 1	09,00-10,00	<i>Seminar hall</i>	
05.02. 2024.		S3	12,30-14,00	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Doc. dr. sc. Ljerka Karleuša
06.02. 2024.	L7		8,30-10,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Prof. dr. sc. H. Mahmutefendić Lučin
06.02. 2024.	L8		10,30-12,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Prof. dr. sc. Pero Lučin
07. 02.2024.		S4	08,30-10,00	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Prof. dr. sc. Zlatko Trobonjača
08.02. 2024.	L9		8,30-10,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Doc. dr. sc. Tamara Gulić
08.02. 2024.	L10		10,30-11,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Doc. dr. sc. Tamara Gulić
09.02. 2024.	L11		8,30-9,15	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Prof. dr. sc. Pero Lučin
09.02. 2024.		S5	9,30-10,45	<i>Seminar hall</i>	Prof. dr. sc. Zlatko Trobonjača
12.02. 2024.		Midterm exam 2	12,00-13,00	<i>Seminar hall</i>	
13.02. 2024.		Final exam		<i>Seminar hall</i>	

List of lectures, seminars and practicals:

	LECTURES (topics)	Teaching hours	Place
L1	Organization of the immune systems. Immune cells and immune tissues.	2	<i>Seminar hall</i>
L2	Innate immunity.	2	<i>Seminar hall</i>
L3	Antigen presentation. Major histocompatibility molecules.	2	<i>Seminar hall</i>
L4	Lymphocyte receptors. Antigens and antibodies.	2	<i>Seminar hall</i>
L5	T-cell mediated immunity	2	<i>Seminar hall</i>
L6	Humoral immunity	2	<i>Seminar hall</i>
L7	Immunity to infections	2	<i>Seminar hall</i>
L8	Mucosal immunity	2	<i>Seminar hall</i>
L9	Immune tolerance and autoimmunity. Hypersensitivity.	2	<i>Seminar hall</i>



L10	Immunodeficiencies and AIDS.	1	Seminar hall
L11	Vaccination.	1	Seminar hall
Total number of lecture hours		20	
SEMINARS (topics)		Teaching hours	Place
S1	Organization of the immune systems. Immune cells and immune tissues.	2	Seminar hall
S2	Antigen presentation. Major histocompatibility molecules.	2	Seminar hall
S3	T-cell mediated immunity.	2	Seminar hall
S4	Immunity to infection.	2	Seminar hall
S5	Anaphylactic reaction.	2	Seminar hall
Total number of seminar hours		10	

FINAL EXAM DATES					
1.	13. 02. 2024.		3.	26. 06. 2024.	
2.	29. 02. 2024.				

	Lectures	Seminars	Practicals	Total
Total number	11	5	/	15
On-line	0	0	/	0
Percentage	0	0	/	0

Course teaching plan by teaching units for the academic year 2023/2024

Schedule of lectures

MATERIAL
L1: Organization of the immune systems. Immune cells and immune tissues. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Chapter (ch.) 1
L2: Innate immunity. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 2
L3: Antigen presentation. Major histocompatibility molecules. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 3
L4: Lymphocyte receptors. Antigens and antibodies. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 4
L5: T-cell mediated immunity T. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 5 and 6



L6: Immunity to infections. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 7 and 8
L7: Immunity to infections. Abbas A.K, Lichtman A.H., Pillai S. Cellular and Molecular Immunology 8 th edition, Ch. 16
L8: Mucosal immunity. Murphy K, Janeway's Immunobiology 8 th edition, Ch. 12
L9: Immune tolerance and autoimmunity. Hypersensitivity. Abbas et al: I Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 9 and 11.
P10: Immunodeficiencies and AIDS. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 12
P11: Vaccination. Murphy K, Janeway's Immunobiology 8 th edition, Ch. 16 (697-712)

Schedule of seminars

MATERIAL
S1: Organization of the immune systems. Immune cells and immune tissues. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 1 and material discussed in the Lecture 1
S2: Antigen presentation. Major histocompatibility molecules. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 3 and material discussed in the Lecture 3
S3: T-cell mediated immunity. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 5 and 6 and material discussed in the Lecture 5
S4: Immunity to infection. Immunopathogenesis of HBV infection. Abbas et al: Cellular and Molecular Immunology 8 th edition, Ch. 16 and material discussed in the Lecture 7
S5: Anaphylactic reaction. Abbas et al: Basic Immunology 5 th edition, Ch. 9 and 11 and material discussed in the Lecture 9