

HISTOLOGY COURSE 2023/24

Information and rules of the course for students of the 5-year DDS program

1. The course consists of lectures (e-learning) and laboratories covering the topics presented in the lectures.

- **lectures** in the form of e-learning are sequentially posted on the Pegaz remote teaching platform of the university, logging via Central Login of the Jagiellonian University
- **laboratories** (in the microscopic lab rooms of the Department of Histology): under the teacher's supervision, the student uses a light microscope and watches electron micrographs learning how to identify and correctly interpret the microscopic images of tissues and organs. The safety rules of the laboratories are described elsewhere.

2. Participation in laboratories is obligatory.

The student should get credit for every lecture by correctly answering short MCQ quizzes presented after each part of the lecture on the Pegaz platform.

During the laboratories the student should have the knowledge concerning the topics of the laboratory, verified by a short quiz or questions. In case of insufficient results, a short supplementary exam can be required to get the laboratory credit. Getting credit for the course requires credits for all laboratories.

Maximum four laboratory absences are allowed. **Students who exceed the allowed number of four laboratory absences fail to get the course credit with all consequences resulting from the JU MC study rules.**

3. Three mid-semester MCQ exams with 60% pass level:

- The cell (40 questions)
- The tissues (60 questions)
- Histology of the oral cavity, salivary glands and dental organ (40 questions)

will be held according to the syllabus.

In order to get the credit and to be allowed to take the final exam, student has to achieve a total score from all three exams no lower than 50% of the maximal total score 140, i.e. **70 and at least one mid-semester exam with the score $\geq 60\%$ (pass level)**. Students with lower total scores will have to take “the last chance exam” in June, before the final exam. The exam (40 questions, pass level 60%) will cover the material of all three mid-semester exams. Students who fail will not be allowed to take the final exam in June and, according to the general rules of studies at the Jagiellonian University, they will take the final exam only once, in September, under the condition that they repeat and pass the retake of “last chance exam”. **Students who fail do not get the credit and, if allowed (Dean’s decision), must repeat the course.**

4. **The final exam, held in June, is the ultimate basis for the completion of the course.**

In order to get the course credit and to be allowed to take the final exam, the student has to:

- not exceed the limit of laboratory absences,
- get credit for all laboratories
- get credit for all lectures (e-learning)
- collect the required number of points from the mid-semester exams
- get at least one mid-semester exam with the score $\geq 60\%$

The final exam, covering the whole material of the course consists of two parts:

- (a) the practical (laboratory) part: identification of tissues/organs and their specific structures in 13 microscopic slides/micrographs and 2 electron micrographs. This part is evaluated on the pass/fail basis (pass level 9 pts).
- (b) the theoretical part (MCQ, 100 questions, 60% pass level). Grades obtained will count as the final exam grades.
- Students who passed a mid-semester exam with the score >90% will have 2 bonus points added to the exam score.
 - Students who showed excellent performance at the laboratory part (result 14-15) and passed the theoretical part with the score 1 or 2 points short of the higher grade, will have their grades elevated by 0.5.

Students who fail any part of the exam will be allowed to retake it in September. The above bonus points and grade elevations can be applied **only in case of passed theoretical exam and are not valid for the retake exam.**

Histology requires continuous learning. Participation in a lab (analysis of microscopical slides and electron micrographs) without at least basic knowledge of its subject makes no sense, since you will not know what you are looking at and nothing will remain in your memory. An attempt to learn a large material in a short time (a common “stop and go” way of learning – lazy weeks followed by hectic work just before mid-semester test or exam) usually leads to disastrous results. Moreover, knowledge gained in such a way is very unreliable - you forget almost all in a short time (some students call it "LPF-type learning": Learn-Pass-Forget).

To provide motivation for continuous learning, starting from the lab devoted to epithelial tissue, the lab will begin with a short MCQ type quiz (10 questions, 5 minutes) covering the basic problems of the subject. An average of $\geq 85\%$ during the year will result in elevation of the grade by 0.5 at the final exam (if passed).

6. All decisions concerning the course are in the competence of the Course Coordinator.

The recommended textbook:

Mescher: Junqueira's Basic Histology: Text and Atlas. 14th ed., 2015 or later

Berkovitz, Holland: Oral Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, 4th ed., 2009

Website of the department: www.histologia.cm-uj.krakow.pl

contains a histological atlas (Review of slides) and is the site where announcements for students and results of exams are posted.

Rules of good academic behavior ☺

In the Jagiellonian University academic community, there are certain behavioral norms that are expected to be followed during lectures, seminars, and laboratory sessions. These include being punctual, avoiding loud conversations, whistling or singing, and refraining from demonstrative yawning.

It is also considered impolite to engage in activities such as eating or having conversations on smartphones during class. Additionally, it is generally not acceptable to wear caps unless it is for religious reasons or due to medical indications.