

Tutorial letter 201/1/2018

Medical Microbiology

BMI2603

Semester 1

Department of Life and Consumer Science

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

This tutorial letter contains information to assist you
in preparing for the exam.

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Dear Student,

1 INTRODUCTION

I trust that you have been studying hard and that you are feeling confident approaching the upcoming examination. This tutorial letter will provide some more information regarding the examination and is essentially the **exam guidelines** that are always provided to you. The exam guidelines are being sent out early to ensure that you have plenty of time to prepare for the upcoming exam.

Once I am finished marking all the assignments I will determine if an answer guide or memo is something that needs to be sent to all students. For the memo or answer guide keep a look out on myUnisa and make sure you get your email notifications via your *myLife* email when announcements are posted. I will post the memo or answer guide on *myUnisa* under the additional resources tab if I determine it is necessary to supply you with one. Also please remember your assignments count towards your final mark (30% of the final mark to be exact) so make sure you prepare the answers and take your time to really work hard on the assignments. Assignment 2 counts more than assignment 1 so it is essential that you work hard at preparing the answers and ensuring they reach Unisa. I have designed the assignments in such a way that they help you prepare for the exam. Remember if you are struggling to answer questions with your textbooks and study guide in front of you it's going to be even harder to answer questions in the exam room when you will only be using the knowledge you have gained over the semester. Rather identify areas where you need to enhance your study notes while doing your assignment than in the exam room because then it's too late!

If at any stage while you are studying you have any questions or require assistance with problems regarding this module, I am available to assist you. My email address is masebtm@unisa.ac.za.

You are encouraged that you answer questions using your own words and understanding even when you are addressing the assignment questions. This will allow you to answer questions in the exam much simpler because you have already built a better way of understanding the general concepts.

2 ASSESSMENTS: GENERAL NOTES

In Tut101 I explained how each assessment (assignments and exams) contributes to your year mark, please revisit that section to refresh your memory. The important message is everything you do counts towards your final mark. So do please work hard and devote a good deal of time to all assignments and preparation for the exam.

For BMI2603 you will write an exam for your summative assessment, you are reminded to consult myUnisa to determine **when, what time and where** you are writing the examination to ensure that you allow yourself sufficient time to prepare for the assessment and that you arrive on time for the examination. Continuously check myUnisa to ensure that you have the correct dates, times and venues as these may change. If you cannot locate these details, please e-mail Exams@unisa.ac.za or send an SMS to 43584 and state your enquiry.

You will only be granted a supplementary examination if you achieved 40% or higher in the examination and have not passed the module when the year marks were factored into the final mark. A final module mark below 50% means you have failed the module and a final module mark above 75% is a distinction mark.

Furthermore, take note that if you are writing a supplementary exam, your year mark is not factored in. Only the examination mark will be taken into consideration as your final mark.

3 COMPILATION AND TIME ALLOCATION OF THE SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Exam guidelines **BMI2603**

3.1. Introduction

This Tutorial letter serves the purpose of providing you with useful Examination Guidelines to follow as you prepare for the upcoming examination. You are assured that the summative assessment (examination) you are preparing for, is not a deliberate attempt to fail you. It has been put in place for you to confirm your competence of the module and how well you have mastered the outcomes of the module. You are encouraged to prepare yourself for the upcoming assessment opportunity as this will be your key to successfully completing the module.

3.2. Outcomes of the module

Please visit TUT letter 101 for the outcomes of this module.

3.3. Format of the summative assessment

This is a formal sit-down examination.

3.4. Compilation of the summative assessment

The question paper you will be writing during the MAY/JUNE 2018 examination period will consist of short question of 4 marks each and long questions which will be between 10-20 marks each. The following are broad guidelines for the examinations. Once you have revised the whole study guide make sure you have touched base on the following topics:

- Different terminologies
- Morphology, structural characteristics, replication strategy, pathogenesis, clinical manifestation diagnostic procedure, treatment, prevention and control of *Staphylococcus aureus*, Retroviruses, *Vibrio cholera*, *Candida albicans*, *Plasmodium falciparum*, *Schistosoma hematobium*, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, Hepatitis viruses, Malarial parasites, Prions
- Therapeutic agents (antiviral agents, viral agents, antifungal agents and parasitic agents)
- Antibiotic resistant strains may adversely affect success of treatment of infectious diseases.
- Identification procedures for fungal, bacterial, parasitic and viral agents
- Replication strategy of viruses as per Baltimore classification system

- Factors that may promote the development of a novel human viral disease

PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) in this assessment.

3.5. Time allocation during the summative assessment

The question paper must be completed within 2 hours. You will not be given extra time to complete the paper. You are advised to allocate enough time to each section in order to complete all the questions in the question paper. You will lose a lot of marks if your answers are not well thought through and motivated.

3.6. Use of previous examination papers

It is advisable that you use previous examination papers for **BMI2603** to test yourself. Example questions such as those in previous examination papers may not necessarily be asked in the examination. These questions only serve as a guide to determine if you have prepared well enough to successfully complete the summative assessment. Previous examination papers will also assist you in testing your competence in answering different types of questions. Remember that the type of questions may be applied to different aspects of the work you have studied and will not only be applied to the particular piece of work used in the example question.

4 RELEASE OF EXAM RESULTS

Unisa will officially release the examination marks during JULY 2018. Marks may be also released earlier if the assessment and moderation process has been fully completed and signoff is granted before the official Unisa release date. Marks will not be released telephonically or via any other method of communication without the official signoff by the Executive Dean.

5 CONCLUDING REMARKS

Feel free to contact me if you are “struggling” to grasp certain concepts. You will be required to explain where you are encountering difficulties or where you are getting confused. The idea is not to provide a broader solution for a broader query, but to guide you to better understand the concepts. In order to contact me you can call or email me, but I find email easier for a number of reasons, therefore it is the preferred method to reach me.

Best of luck

Dr.TM Masebe