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DETAILED SYLLABUS
FOR
DISTANCE EDUCATION

B.Sc. (Microbiology)
(SEMESTER SYSTEM)

B.Sc. Microbiology

COURSE TITLE: B.Sc. (Microbiology)
DURATION : 6 SEMESTERS
MODE : SEMESTERS

FIRST SEMESTER

COURSE TITLE	Paper Code	MARKS				
		THEORY		PRACTICAL		TOTAL
		INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	
History and Scope of Microbiology	BMB/S/110	40	60			100
Diversity of the Microbial World	BMB/S/120	40	60			100
Elements of Biochemistry.	BMB/S/130	40	60			100

SECOND SEMESTER

COURSE TITLE	Paper Code	MARKS				
		THEORY		PRACTICAL		TOTAL
		INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	
Biophysics, and Instrumentation.	BMB/S/210	40	60			100
Biomathematics and Biostatistics	BMB/S/220	40	60			100
Viruses and Bacteria	BMB/S/230	40	60			100

THIRD SEMESTER

COURSE TITLE	Paper Code	MARKS				
		THEORY		PRACTICAL		TOTAL
		INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	
Algae and Cyanobacteria	BMB/S/310	40	60			100
Fungi and Protozoa	BMB/S/320	40	60			100
Microbial Physiology and Metabolism Research Methodology	BMB/S/330	40	60			100

FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE TITLE	Paper Code	MARKS		
		THEORY	PRACTICAL	TOTAL

		INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	
Genetics and Molecular Biology	BMB/S/410	40	60			100
Concepts of Ecology	BMB/S/420	40	60			100
Immunology	BMB/S/430	40	60			100

FIFTH SEMESTER

COURSE TITLE	Paper Code	MARKS				TOTAL
		THEORY		PRACTICAL		
		INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	
Medical Microbiology	BMB/S/510	40	60			100
Plant Pathology	BMB/S/520	40	60			100
Soil and Food Microbiology	BMB/S/530	40	60			100

SIXTH SEMESTER

COURSE TITLE	Paper Code	MARKS				TOTAL
		THEORY		PRACTICAL		
		INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL	
Industrial Microbiology	BMB/S/610	40	60			100
Sewage and Pollution Microbiology	BMB/S/620	40	60			100
Microbial Genetics and Biotechnology	BMB/S/630	40	60			100

B.Sc. Microbiology

SEMESTER I

History and Scope of Microbiology

Course Code: BMB/S/110

The Syllabus for History of Science shall be same as for other B.Sc. (H) Courses.

Important discoveries in the physical, chemical and biological sciences (plants and animals) – A historical account.

Importance of science (physical, chemical and biological) in human society. The scope of Microbiology.

The first microscopic observation; Leeuwenhock's contributions and the microscope ; Spontaneous generation versus biogenesis; The germ theory of disease; -The pure culture concept; Immunization; Paitow's and Koch's contribution and other – widening horizons; growth of organisms. Microbiology in science; Microbes and fermentation; Microbiology in human welfare, industry, medicine, agriculture and environmental sanitation. Importance of Microbiology in Molecular biology and Biotechnology; Present status of Microbiology; Microbiology and human society.

Diversity of the Microbial world

Course Code: BMB S120

A broad outline describing various types of microorganisms (viruses, bacteria, algae, fungi and protozoa); Microscopic observations of some important members of bacteria, algae, fungi, and protozoa to elaborate the various shapes and thallus range in these groups. The virus studies should be undertaken using electron microscopic and diagrammatic photographs. Detailed studies of life cycle patterns in bacteria, algae, fungi and protozoa. The study should include history, classification, occurrence, cell structure, cytology, reproduction, life cycle patterns and importance of each group. Basic physiological factors of growth (pH, temperature, nutritional requirements) should also be discussed with reasons. Each group should be covered in such a way that representative members of all classes are discussed.

Elements of Biochemistry

Course Code: BMB/S/130

Introduction to biochemistry – Historical background and molecular logic of living systems.

Cell Chemistry – Building blocks and macromolecules, sugars, fatty acids, amino acids, nucleotides; polysaccharides, lipids, proteins and nucleic acids.

Enzymes – Structural and functional proteins; Primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary structures of proteins; Enzymes, classification and nomenclature; Coenzymes and cofactors; Allosteric effects; Active sites; Multienzyme complexes.

Intermediary metabolism of sugars – Glycolysis, alcoholic fermentation, pentose phosphate shunt, reversal of glycolysis, tricarboxylic acid cycle, generation of high energy bonds, oxidative phosphorylation – chemiosmotic theory.

Nucleic acids – History and structure of DNA and RNA; Nucleotides, nucleosides, organization of DNA – double helix structure, RNA structure and types, replication, transcription, translation; Operon theory.

SEMESTER II

Biophysics and Instrumentation

Course Code: BMB/S/210

Biophysics

Cell – as a dynamic system (type, structure and function), cell wall, plasma membrane, nucleus, plastids, mitochondria, endoplasmic reticulum, golgi complex, lysosomes, ribosomes.

Life and the laws of thermodynamics, thermodynamic potentials, Maxwell – Boltzmann statistics. Transport of solutes and ions, Transport, equations (Planck – Henderson Nernst – Plank equations), Membrane transport, Active transport in biomembranes, coupling of transport processes, Onsager's equations, membrane potential, water potential, osmotic pressure, cell turgor.

Radiation Biology – General account

Electrophysiology and excitable cell, electrochemical potentials in neurons.

Instrumentation

A basic understanding of principles and working of various instruments used in biological sciences.

Microscopy – Principles and use of light microscope, fluorescent microscope, phase contrast, dark field, electron microscope TEM and SEM.

Sterilization & Disinfection – Dry and wet sterilization and chemical disinfectants.

Osmosis and measurement of osmotic pressure in microbes.

Chromatography – Paper and the thin layer chromatography.

Electrophoresis.

Fundamentals of X-ray crystallography, X-ray diffraction.

Auto-radiography and its biological applications.

Biomathematics and Biostatistics

Course Code: BMB/S/220

Biomathematics

Revision of 10 + 2 Syllabus, Taylor's theorem, Functions of more than one variable, Differentiation and integration, Differential equations (Linear separable and exact), Vector – spaces and Matrices, System of linear equations with constant coefficients, Rate of chemical reactions (First and second order). Radio – active decay, Vector analysis gradient. Curl and divergence, Path integrals, Stokes and Gauss's theorem, Differential equations (oscillations, chemical reactions) Maxwell's equations, diffusion (Fick's first and second law Euler's and Bernoulli's hydrodynamic equation, Heagen Poisson's Law.

Biostatistics:

Revision of biostatistics syllabus from 10 + 2 with examples from biology and microbiology. Descriptive statistics incorporating graphic and tabular description, of data, measures of central tendency and dispersion, introduction to probability, and distribution, sampling theory and errors, tests of significance.

Viruses and Bacteria

Course Code: BMB/S/230

Virology

Introduction: The science of virology, virology as a biological science, origin of virological knowledge, general methodology of virus teaching and research; Nature and structural morphology of virus (Explain RNA/DNA viruses).

Origin and Nature of Viruses : Viruses as independent genetic systems, theories of virus origin : The regressive theory of circus originy viruses and the genetic elements of cell, RNA viruses and cellular RNA, virus origin and the origin of the cell.

Classification and nomenclature of ciruses: Systematic virology (Family names only), ciruses of various vertebrates and their hosts; Statistical methods in virological studies.

Introduction in animal cell biology animal viruses : Adsorption and entry into the cell, animal virus multiplication, RNA/DNA and retroviruses; Effects of animal cruises on host cell and organisms; Animal virus transmission and control.

Bacterial viruses : general properties, multiplication and their importance.

Plant viruses : general account of plant ciruses and their transmission.

A general account of important human, animal and plant viral diseases.

Bacteriology

Introduction – General account

Classification – Systems of classification

Cell Organisation – Cell size and arrangement;

anatomy-surface layers, capsul, appendages (flagella, axial filament, and pili), cell wall of Cram positive and Cram negative bacteria, function of bacterial ocell wall; effects of antibiotics and enzymes on cell wall. Protoplast and spheroplasts. Plasma membrane structure, chemical composition & function, measosomes, cytoplasm & cytoplasmic inclusion, ribosomes, bacterial chromosomes and plasmid.

Endospore- structure and chemical composition.

Growth – requirements of growth-physical & chemical, culture media; growth of bacterial cultures-bacterial cell civision, generation time, phases of growth; measurement of bacterial growth-direct microscopic Count, optical density measurement and cell dry weight.

Reproduction – Asexual and sexual, methods of genetic recombination in bacteria – conjugation, transformation, & transduction. Role of episomes and plasimids as genetic engineering tools.

Pathology- A general account of plant & animal bacterial diseases.

Economic Importance – Role in agriculture, industry, pharmaceuticals, beverages, dairy & food; bacterial pollution- a general account.

SEMESTER III

Algae and Cyanobacteria

Course Code: BMB/S/310

Algae- general characteristics and systematic position of major taxa with evolutionary tendencies among them (with regard to their vegetative structure, asexual and sexual reproduction.)

Cyanobacteria – a general account with reference to Nostoc and Anabaena.

Chlorophyceae – Chlamydomonas, Volvox, Oedogonium, Chara, Acetabularia.

Xanthophyceae – a general account (Vaucheria)

Phaeophyceae – a general account

Rhodophyceae – a general account

Economic importance of algae

Habitat, Morphology, Cell wall and Sheath, Protoplasmic Structure, Gas Vacuoles, Pigments and Photosynthesis, Akinetes, Heterocysts, Gliding Movement, Asexual Reproduction, parasexuality in Cyanobacteria, Anaerobic Metabolism, Obligate Photoautotrophy, Symbiosis.

Crococcales, Chamaesiphonales, Pleurocapsales, Nostocales, Stigonematales.

Fungi and Protozoa

Course Code: BMB/S/320

Fungi – general characteristics and systematic position of major taxa with evolutionary tendencies among them (with regard to their vegetative structure, asexual and sexual reproduction.) and economic importance.

Morphology and life history of the following taxa- Myxomycetes, Saprolegnia, Achlya, Synchytrium, Phytophthora, Puccinia, Sclerotinia, Rhizopus, Saccharomyces, Candida, Aspergillus, Penicillium, Claviceps, Neurospora, Puccinia, Ustilago and Agaricus.

A general account of Deuteromycetes with emphasis on Fusarium and Colletotrichum.

Parasexual mechanism in fungi.

Fungal – animal and human diseases- a general account

Outlines of classification of animal kingdom.

Protozoa

Detailed classification with special emphasis on the following taxa – Amoeba, Trypanosoma, Plasmodium, Euglena and Paramecium.

Microbial Physiology and Metabolism

Course Code: BMB/S/330

A general account of microbial Physiology – an overview of metabolic processes.

Chemistry of microbial cell (bacteria, virus, algae & fungi).

Physiology of growth – microbial nutrition and growth dynamics in solid, liquid, batch, continuous and chemostat cultures, Kinetics of cell growth, synchronous growth. Physiology of sporulation, Biomass conservation. Effect of physical & chemical factors on growth of microbes.

Transport mechanisms in microbes-mechanism of nutrient transport across the membrane. isolation and characterisation of transporting proteins, galactosidase & galactose transport in E coli. Molecular basis of transport mechanisms.

Autotrophic CO₂ fixation –a general account. Bacterial photosynthesis and eukaryotic photosynthetic mechanism.

Heterotrophic CO₂ assimilation- a general account.

Carbohydrate Metabolism- aerobic and anaerobic respiration. Fermentation mechanism in different micro-organisms. Difference between fermentation & anaerobic respiration. Types of fermentations and their industrial applications.

Electron transport mechanism and oxidative phosphorylation in microbes- a general survey.

Inorganic nitrogen assimilation. Role of microbes in nitrogen cycle in nature; Nitrification and denitrification. Nitrogen fixation. nitrogenase and modern aspects of biological nitrogen fixation by auto and heterotrophic nitrogen fixation.

Secondary metabolites – a general account, microbial vitamins, hormones, toxins, bacteriocins with a comment on their applications.

SEMESTER IV

Genetics and Molecular Biology

Course Code: BMB/S/410

History of Genetics: Pre and Post Mendelian concepts

Asexual and sexual reproduction.

Cell division – Mitosis, Meiosis, Cell cycle.

Chromosome structure – Organisation and Morphology, special types of chromosome – Lampbrush and polytene chromosome.

Mendel's Laws of Inheritance.

Deviations from Mendelian Laws:

Allelic interactions: Incomplete dominance.

Codominance, over dominance, Lethal genes.

Nonallelic interactions : Epistasis, complimentary genes, inhibitory and duplicate genes.

Chromosome theory of inheritance; Linkage and crossing – over, gene mapping, mechanism of recombination.

Concept of multiple alleles and pseudo – alleles, Cis – trans complementation; Fine structure mapping.

Chemical Basis of Heredity – Evidence for the DNA and RNA as gene; material, Watson – Crick model of DNA structure Z – DNA.

DNA replication – mode and mechanism of DNA replication.

Gene – Protein relationship – One gene – One enzyme and one gene – one Polypeptide concept. Colinearity of genes and proteins, protein synthesis: Transcription and Translation, genetic code.

Regulation of gene expression in prokaryotes and eukaryotes.

Mutation and Repair of DNA – Classification of mutation, physical & chemical mutagens, molecular basis of mutation, damage and repair of DNA.

Sex determination and Sex – linked Inheritance.

Variations in the number and structure of chromosomes – Haploidy, polyploidy, chromosomal aberrations.

Quantitative inheritance and maternal effect.

Cytoplasmic inheritance and maternal effect.

Evolution – The genetic mechanism.

Concepts of Ecology

Course Code: BMB/S/420

Historical developments and the significance of ecology as a synthetic science, environmental science, and microbial ecology.

General concepts of ecology – Definitions of Ecology and eco – systems, components of ecosystems, levels of organisation of biosphere, energetics, trophic levels, food chains and food webs, ecological pyramids, synecology and autecology.

Microorganisms in their natural environments.

terrestrial environment

aquatic environment

air/atmosphere

animal as an environment microbial population of alimentary tract, skin & rumen.

Structure and development of microbial communities and ecosystems. (Succession of microflora in decomposing plant materials).

Biological Interactions:

microbe – microbe interactions

microbe – plant interactions

Microbe – animal interactions.

Biogeochemical cycling and applied aspects of microbial ecology:

Role of microorganisms in cycling of carbon, nitrogen phosphorus, sulphur and iron.

Ecological aspects of biodeterioration and control.

Micro – organisms and pollution problems.

Microbes in mineral recovery.

Microbial population dynamics a general account.

Immunology

Course Code: BMB/S/430

Introduction Historical background. Immunity & Hper – sensitivity, specific & nonspecific immune responses: Immunologic balance, concept of immunisation; Antibody diversity & specificity and Memory.

Organization of the System. Cells and organs of the immune system their structure, development, properties and functions.

Antigens & Hopines. Classification & Properties, adjuvants – a general account.

Antibody and Immnoglobulins. Structure & function, evolutionary aspects, genesis of antibody variability, theories of antibody production, monoclonal antibodies. Hybridoma technology.

Complement System – a general account.

Antigen – Antibody reactions & Immunological methods. Agglutination, precipitation, phagocytosis, cytotoxicity, Immunodiffusion, Immunoclectrophores, ELISA, RIA, FIA. Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay, Radio Immune Assay, Fluorescent Immuno Assy)

Cell Mediated Immum Rewtions. Cell type and effector mechenisms, effector molicules of cell mediated reactions.

Major Histocompatibility gone complex – A general account.

Autoimmunity & Immunoinflammatory disorder – A general account.

Regulation of Immune responsiveness. Immunopotiation immunosuppression, tolerance – A general account.

Immunology in relation to Human Health – An overview, Nonimmuuno – logical and immunologic defences against diseases. Immunity to infection (bacterial diseases, viral infection & parasitic infections). Role of lymphocyte, circulating & secretory antibody in residence to infection, phagocytosis. Cancer and immune responses to tumor. Immunotherapy, transplantation immunity.

SEMESTER V

Medical Microbiology

Course Code: BMB/S/510

Introduction and historical account of Medical Microbiology with important discoveries; a brief account of different patterns of diseases.

Classification of medically important viruses, bacteria, fungi and protozoa, following Bergey's Manual of Systematic Bacteriology.

Study of important viral diseases—influenza, measles and rabies; their symptomatology and clinical diagnosis—A general account of gastroenteritis, common cold, conjunctivitis, Hepatitis virus A & B; and non A non B, oncogenic viruses, Rubella, Arboviruses

Medically important bacterial diseases—a brief account of their symptomatology, clinical diagnosis and antimicrobial therapy—typhoid, cholera, dysentery, tuberculosis, a general account of normal human flora and a brief account of bacterial diseases of the following systems of the body (Respiratory, digestive, urogenital and sexually transmitted diseases), Diphtheria, Medically important anaerobic bacteria.

A general account of important fungal diseases :--

Symptomatology, clinical diagnosis, pathogenesis and antimicrobial therapy in dermatomycosis, candidiasis and aspergillosis.

Important protozoan diseases—an overview, symptomatology, clinical diagnosis, pathogenesis and antimicrobial therapy in malaria, amoebiasis and Kala Azar.

A general account of routinely employed diagnostic in microbial diseases—culture, smear biochemical test antimicrobial testing, introduction to animal inoculation, skin tests and serological tests—precipitation, Immunoelectrophoresis, flocculation-VDRL, agglutination-WIDAL, immunofluorescence, haemagglutination, neutralization and ELISA.

A general concept of antimicrobial therapy—mechanism of action of clinically used antimicrobial drugs under the following heads :--

inhibition of cell wall synthesis e.g. Penicillin.

alteration of cell membrane function e.g. Amphotericin B,

inhibition of protein synthesis e.g. chloramphenicol

inhibition of nucleic acid synthesis e.g. sulphonamides; Drug resistance; general concept of chemoprophylaxis.

Plant Pathology

Course Code: BMB/S/520

Introduction to phytopathogenic microorganisms—an overview of economically important viral, bacterial and fungal plant diseases of Indian field crops.

Methods of studying plant diseases—Symptoms, principles of infection and spread of diseases

Host-parasite relationships (including genetical aspects) disease forecasting, quarantine, causative factors and plant disease control.

Mode of infection and pathogenesis and general account of diseases caused by bacteria, viruses and fungi, studied in IInd year (H). (e.g. Citrus canker, soft rot of potato, bacterial blight and crown gall, T.M.V. *Phytophthora*, *Peronospora*, *Penicillium*, *Claviceps*, *Puccinia* and *Ustilago*).

Defence mechanisms in plants against microbial diseases and prevention of epidemics.

Soil & Food Microbiology

Course Code: BMB/S/530

Soil Microbiology

Introduction and historical background of soil microbiology.

Role of microbes in weathering of minerals and soil formation, components of soil, texture and classification of soils, and soil profile.

Soil microflora—bacteria, fungi, actinomycetes, algae, protozoa, and viruses, role of microorganisms in cycling of carbon, nitrogen phosphorous, sulphur and degradation of pesticides.

Interactions among soil microorganisms : neutralism, symbiosis, proto-cooperation, commensalism, amensalism, parasitism and predation.

Rhizoplane and rhizosphere microflora, plant-microbe interactions, soil-borne plant diseases.

Food and Dairy Microbiology

Important microorganisms in food (meats, poultry, vegetables, dairy products, dehydrated foods)—moulds, yeasts, yeast like fungi, and bacteria.

Principles of food preservation and spoilage of foods.

Food-borne diseases, food poisoning and prevention.

SEMESTER VI

Industrial Microbiology

Course Code: BMB/S/610

Industrial Microbiology

Scope and historical development of industrial microbiology.

Fundamentals of fermentation processes :--

Definition and types of fermentation processes.

Fermentation in tubes, shakes, flasks and fermentors, different parts of a typical fermentor.

Aerobic and anaerobic fermentations

Fermentation equipment and its uses-pH, temperature, oxygen, redox probes, agitation, air filter, automation and computer.

Industrial fermentations, for the production of (organisms, processes, uses) :--

Food and feed yeasts, and baker's yeast

Bacterial insecticides and legume inoculants

Antibiotics-penicillin, streptomycin, tetracyclines

Industrial alcohol, beer, wines, whisky, rum, and brandy

Steroid drugs (steroid transformations)

Vitamin—B₁₂, riboflavin

Organic acids—lactic and citric acid

Enzymes—amylases, cellulases, pectinases, lipases, invertase, glucose oxidase and glucose isomerase

Amino acids-L-glutamic acid, L-lysine

Sewage and Pollution Microbiology

Course Code: BMB/S/620

Sewage Microbiology

Variation in the composition of sewage, kinds of sewerage systems- sanitary, storm and combined sewers

Microorganisms in sewage—fungi, protozoa, algae, bacteria and Viruses

COD and BOD of sewage and pollution problem

Sewage treatment and disposal

Pollution Microbiology

Microbial deterioration of grains, oil seeds, textiles, wood, corrosion of metals.

Persistence and biomagnification of xenobiotic molecules Recalcitrant hydrocarbons, synthetic polymers, alkylbenzyl sulfonates, pesticides.

Microbial interactions with some inorganic pollutants-

Acid mine drainage

Microbial conversions of nitrate
Microbial methylations
Microbial accumulation of heavy metals and radionuclides.

Microbial Genetics and Biotechnology.

Course Code: BMB/S/630

Microbial Genetics

Introduction to microbes as tools in genetics, life cycle of some important microbes (from genetical view point e. g. Viruses, E. coli, Neurospora, Saccharomyces, Chlamydomonas and Paramecium.

Genome Organisation in viruses, bacteria and eukaryotic microbes; extrachromosomal genetic structure, genetic mobile elements.

Basic principles of microbial genetics.

Origin of variations in microbial populations, spontaneous and induced mutations, repair mechanisms and molecular basis of mutations.

Mechanisms of gene transfer—conjugation, transformations, and transduction; genetic recombination and gene mapping.

Biotechnology

Introduction to basic biotechnology—what is biotechnology. Biotechnology as operational method; what cells can do for us?

Microbial screening, selection and strain improvement.

Recombinant DNA technology—basic concepts, basis of restriction endonucleases, purification and analysis of plasmid DNA, construction of recombinant DNA, basic procedures involved in a recombinant DNA experiment, construction of suitable vectors, choice of vectors, principal features of phage lambda vectors, choice of host for recombinant DNA work and examples of the applications of recombinant DNA in microbial Technology.