

**BIO 563 Virology  
(Fall 2025)**

**Text Book: Fundamentals of Molecular Virology, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, by Nicholas H. Acheson**

**Instructor: Yuntao Wu (Phone: 703-993-4299; email: [ywu8@gmu.edu](mailto:ywu8@gmu.edu))**

**Office: PWII, Room 306**

**Class, Tuesday 4:30 pm – 7:10 pm. Online (on black board)**

**Important Dates:**

**Nov. 4, Tuesday, Election Day, No class**  
**Dec. 9, Tuesday, Reading day (No class)**  
**Dec. 16, Tuesday, Final Exam**

**August 26**

**Introduction I:** Dr. Wu and his research in HIV virology

**September 2**

**Introduction II:** Flow cytometry

**September 9**

**Section I:** Introduction to Virology

**September 16**

**Section I:** introduction to Virology

**September 23**

**Section II:** Viruses of bacteria and archaea (Self-Reading).  
Paper Presentation #1

**September 30**

**Section III:** Positive-strand RNA viruses of eukaryotes.  
Paper Presentation #2

**October 7**

**Section IV:** Negative-strand and double-stranded RNA viruses of eukaryotes.  
Paper Presentation #3

**October 14**

**Section V:** Small DNA viruses of eukaryotes.  
Paper Presentation #4

**October 21**

**Section VI:** Larger DNA viruses of eukaryotes.  
Paper Presentation #5

**October 28:**

**Section VII:** Viruses that use a reverse transcriptase.  
Paper Presentation #6

**Nov 4: Election Day, No class**

**November 11**

**Section VIII:** Viroids and Prions.  
Paper Presentation #7

**November 18**

**Section IX:** Host Defenses Against Virus Infection.  
Paper Presentation #8

**November 25**

**Section X:** Antiviral vaccine  
Paper Presentation #9

**December 2**

**Section XI:** Antiviral Agents and viral vector  
Paper Presentation #10

**December 9: Reading week**

**December 16: Final Exam**

**Final Exam: multiple choice**

**Paper Presentation (30%)**

**\* Class participation (20%)**

**Final Exam: multiple choice and short questions (50%)**

**Bonus for class activity: 5%**

**\* Class participation:**

**- For each class attendance: 0.5%. Total: 10 classes x 0.5% = 5%**

Grade will be deducted for late (0.1% deduction) and half class (0.25% deduction)

**- Activity in class: 1.5 % for each class. Total: 10 classes x 1.5 % = 15%**

excluding the first two class. Each student is required to ask at least 1 question to the presenter to earn 2.5%. If good questions are asked, a bonus 0.5% will be awarded

A+: 95-100%

A: 90-94%

A-: 85-89%

B+: 80-84%

B: 75-79%

B-: 70-74%

C+ 65-69%

C: 60-64%

D-: 50-59%

F: < 50%