BIOL1307 - P06 GENERAL MICROBIOLOGY
FALL SEMESTER 2021

Instructor: Paul B. Drummond Ph.D.
Section # and CRN: P06/ 17984 and P86/ 17990
Office Location: E.E. O’Banion Science Building room
Office Phone: 936-261-3175
Email Address: pbdrummond@pvamu.edu
Office Hours: Virtually Monday 5 – 7 pm and Thursday 12 – 2 p.m. in Person
Mode of Instruction: Face to Face

Course Location: Lab: Room 308/ Lecture: Room 123
Class Days & Times: Lecture: Tuesday 7:00 - 8:50 p.m. / Lab: Wednesday 7:00 - 8:50 p.m.
Catalog Description BIOL 1307. General Microbiology. (2-2). Credit 3 semester hours. Morphology and physiology of microorganisms related to health and sanitation; disinfection, growth, and control of those organisms causing common infectious diseases. Laboratory fee required.

Prerequisites: None
Co-requisites: None

Laboratory Manual: Connect for LearnSmart Labs Microbiology – This will be access through your lecture course. Link: https://connect.mheducation.com/class/p-drummond-fall-2021-crn-p06-17984--700---850-pm

Recommended Text(s): Blue / black pens, #2 lead pencils, notebook paper, pocket folder with brads, dividers with tabs, calculator, access to computer / printer, color pencils – red, blue, green, purple.

Student Learning Outcomes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</th>
<th>Program Learning Outcome # Alignment</th>
<th>Core Curriculum Outcome Alignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Demonstrates knowledge of the basic principles and concepts of life at the microscopic level as it pertains to microbes.</td>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Comprehends the theoretical concepts in microbiology so that they may use this as a basis for future studies, whether it is in the area of Nursing or other allied health fields.</td>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Analyze the inter-relationships among the microorganisms and between the microorganisms higher living forms.</td>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Demonstrate the proper techniques and procedures of handling microscopic living organisms, many of which are pathogenic.</td>
<td>Discipline Specific Knowledge</td>
<td>Communication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Major Course Requirements:

Method of Determining Final Course Grade
(Please Note: The Following points are an approximation and subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Grade Requirement</th>
<th>Points per task</th>
<th>Total points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Lecture exams</td>
<td>100 points each</td>
<td>400 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Lab reports</td>
<td>10 points each</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Weekly Lab quizzes</td>
<td>10 points each</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Discussions</td>
<td>20 points each</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Lab Final</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Final Exam</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus points</td>
<td>50 points</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>50 points</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total points</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1000 points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Criteria and Conversion:
A = 100 - 90
B = 89 - 80
C = 79 - 70
D = 69 - 60
F = below 60

Detailed Description of Major Assignments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Title or Grade Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Assignments</td>
<td>This includes activities and quizzes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Exams</td>
<td>Multiple exams including Midterm October 13.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Discussions</td>
<td>Another form of collaboration, where student discuss current topic in microbiology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Laboratory Report</td>
<td>This is the notebook used to document exercises and experiments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Common Comprehensive Final Exam</td>
<td>This exam will be taken in December 2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Procedures or Additional Instructor Policies

Taskstream
Taskstream is a tool that Prairie View A&M University uses for assessment purposes. One of your assignments may be considered an "artifact," an item of coursework that serves as evidence that course objectives are met. More information will be provided during the semester, but for general information, you visit Taskstream via the link in eCourse.

Exam Policy: Students are strongly advised to take all exams at the scheduled time. Plan and schedule your activities so that you can be present to take all exams at the scheduled time. Students with non-valid or unofficial excuses for missing an exam will earn a grade of zero for the missed exam. Students may request a make-up exam with a valid or official excuse. The instructor will schedule the time and place of the make-up exam which will not interrupt the teaching of the class or delay the complete covering of the course topics. Students missing a make-up exam will not be provided a second opportunity to take a make-up for the original exam missed.

Discussion Requirement for online courses: There will be no required face to face meetings on campus (online courses only). However, we will participate in conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course in a true seminar fashion. We will accomplish this by use of the discussion board. Students are required to log-on to the course website often to participate in discussion. It is strongly advised that you check the discussion area daily to keep abreast of discussions. When a topic is posted, everyone is required to participate. The exact use of discussion will be determined by the instructor.
Writing Parameters
Your posts in the discussion area should be substantial original thinking. Each post should be at least one well-developed paragraph (approximately 150 words or more). Use correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar. Always indicate your sources. At least 2 references are required. Include MORE than just the URL; be complete in your citations (use a style). The discussions must be completed by the due dates specified on the syllabus.

Replying to Other Students' Posts
Please read and reply to the posts of at least two other students with at least 65 words for each discussion. Your replies should offer new substantiated ideas or thoughtful questions.

Course Evaluation Methods: The University Academic Catalog grading policy is used. All exams are weighted equally. At least four exams will be given. Exams will be announced at least one week in prior to the administration of the exam. All exams will be cumulative in terms of the information covered. The final exam will be administered according to the University's exam schedule. This schedule is in your registration booklet. Unannounced quizzes may be given to evaluate how well students are learning the covered information.

Course Outline:

<p>| Tentative Examination Schedule (Dependent on the pace that chapters are covered) |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Chapter Title</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CH 1. Introduction, The Main Themes of Microbiology.</td>
<td>1 - 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CH 3. Tools of the Laboratory.</td>
<td>53 - 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk. 1 - Wk. 3</td>
<td>CH 4. Bacteria and Archaea.</td>
<td>80 - 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CH 5. Eukaryotic Cells and Microorganisms.</td>
<td>108 - 139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exam 1 Chapters 1, 3, 4 and 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>CH 6. Viruses and Prions.</td>
<td>140 - 168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CH 7. Microbial Nutrition and Growth.</td>
<td>169 - 196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk. 4 - Wk. 6</td>
<td>CH 8. Microbial Metabolism.</td>
<td>197 - 228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exam 2 Chapters 6, 7 and 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CH 11. Physical and Chemical Control of Microbes.</td>
<td>288 - 315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk. 7 - Wk. 9</td>
<td>CH 12. Antimicrobial Treatment</td>
<td>316 - 346</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>CH 13. Microbe – Human Interactions.</td>
<td>347 - 384</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exam 3 Chapters 11, 12 and 13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>CH 14. Host Defenses I.</td>
<td>385 - 410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk.10 - Wk.13</td>
<td>CH 18. Infectious Diseases Affecting the Skin and Eyes.</td>
<td>497 - 535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CH 20. Infectious Diseases Affecting the Cardiovascular and Lymphatic Systems.</td>
<td>574 - 614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>CH 21. Infectious Diseases Affecting the Respiratory System.</td>
<td>615 - 651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk.14 - Wk.16</td>
<td>CH 22. Infectious Diseases Affecting the Gastrointestinal Tract.</td>
<td>652 - 699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CH 23. Infectious Diseases Affecting the Genitourinary System.</td>
<td>700 - 734</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Discussion 5</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Exam 4 Chapters 14, 18, 20, 21 and 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2</td>
<td>Comprehensive Final Exam (December 10, 2021)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Module</td>
<td>Exercise to Perform</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1. Lab Safety</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Microscopy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3. Scientific Method</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Aseptic Technique</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5. Isolation Methods</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. Environmental Preferences for Microbial Growth</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7. How Enzymes Function</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. Bacterial Staining</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>9. Control of Microbial Growth</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10. Identification of Unknown Bacteria</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Comprehensive Lab Final Exam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Syllabus Modifications:**
The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester and will promptly notify students in writing, typically by e-mail, of any such changes.

**Student Support and Success**

**John B. Coleman Library**
The John B. Coleman Library’s mission is to enhance the scholarly pursuit of knowledge, to foster intellectual curiosity, and to promote lifelong learning and research through our innovative services, resources, and cultural programs, which support the Prairie View A&M University’s global mission of teaching, service, and research. It maintains library collections and access both on campus, online, and through local agreements to further the educational goals of students and faculty. Website: https://www.pvamu.edu/library/; Phone: 936-261-1500.

**Academic Advising Services**
Academic Advising Services offers students a variety of services that contributes to student success and leads towards graduation. We assist students with understanding university policies and procedures that affect academic progress. We support the early alert program to help students get connected to success early in the semester. We help refer students to the appropriate academic support services when they are unsure of the best resource for their needs. Faculty advisors support some students in their respective colleges. Your faculty advisor can be identified in PantherTracks. Advisors with Academic Advising Services are available to all students. We are located across campus. Find your advisor’s location by academic major at www.pvamu.edu/advising. Phone: 936-261-5911

**The University Tutoring Center**
The University Tutoring Center (UTC) offers free tutoring and academic support to all registered PVAMU students. The mission of the UTC is to help provide a solid academic foundation that enables students to become confident, capable, independent learners. Competent and caring staff and peer tutors guide students in identifying, acquiring, and enhancing the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to reach their desired goals. Tutoring and academic support are offered face-to-face in the UTC, in virtual face-to-face sessions (https://www.pvamu.edu/student-success/sass/university-tutoring-center/), and through online sessions (https://www.pvamu.edu/pvplace/). Other support services available for students include Supplemental Instruction, Study Break, Academic Success Workshops, and Algebra Study Jam. Location:
Writing Center
The Writing Center provides well-trained peer tutors to assist students with writing assignments at any stage of the writing process. Tutors help students with various writing tasks from understanding assignments, brainstorming, drafting, revising, editing, researching, and integrating sources. Students have free access to Grammarly online writing assistance. Grammarly is an automated proofreading and plagiarism detection tool. Students must register for Grammarly by using their student email address. In addition, students have access to face-to-face and virtual tutoring services either asynchronously via email or synchronously via Zoom.

Location: J. B. Coleman Library, Rm. 209; Phone: 936-261-3724; Website: https://www.pvamu.edu/student-success/writing-center/; Grammarly Registration: https://www.grammarly.com/enterprise/signup

Academic Early Alert
Academic Early Alert is a proactive system of communication and collaboration between faculty, academic advisors, and PVAMU students that is designed to support student success by promptly identifying issues and allowing for intervention. Academic Early Alerts help students by providing a central location to schedule advising appointments, view advisor contact information, and request assistance. Students who recognize that they have a problem that is negatively affecting their academic performance or ability to continue school may self-refer an Academic Early Alert. To do so, students will log in to PV Place and click on Academic Early Alert on the left sidebar. Phone: 936-261-5902; Website: https://www.pvamu.edu/student-success/early-alert/

Student Counseling Services
The Student Counseling Services unit offers a range of services and programs to assist students in maximizing their potential for success: short-term individual, couples, and group counseling, as well as crisis intervention, outreach, consultation, and referral services. The staff is licensed by the State of Texas and assists students who are dealing with academic skills concerns, situational crises, adjustment problems, and emotional difficulties. Information shared with the staff is treated confidentially and in accordance with Texas State Law. Location: Hobart Taylor, 2nd floor; Phone: 936-261-3564; Website: https://www.pvamu.edu/healthservices/student-counseling-services/

Office of Testing Services
Testing Services serves to create opportunities by offering a suite of exams that aid in the students' academic and professional success. Currently, we administer entrance (HESI A2), college readiness (TSI assessment), Prior Learning (CLEP, DSST), and proctored exams. Location: Wilhelmina Delco, 3rd Floor, Rm. 305; Phone: 936-261-3627; Email: aetesting@pvamu.edu; Website: www.pvamu.edu/testing

Office of Diagnostic Testing and Disability Services
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services. As a federally-mandated educational support unit, the Office of Disability Services serves as the repository for confidential disability files for faculty, staff, and students. For persons with a disability, the Office develops individualized ADA letters of request for accommodations. Other services include learning style inventories, awareness workshops, accessibility pathways, webinars, computer laboratory with adapted hard and software, adapted furniture, proctoring non-standardized test administrations, ASL interpreters, ALDs, digital recorders, Livescribe, and a comprehensive referral network across campus and the broader community. Location: Hobart Taylor, Rm. 1D128; Phone: 936-261-3583; Website: https://www.pvamu.edu/disabilityservices/

Center for Instructional Innovation and Technology Services (CIITS)
Distance Learning, also referred to as Distance Education, is the employment of alternative instructional delivery methods to extend programs and services to persons unable to attend college in the traditional manner. The Center for Instructional Innovation and Technology Services (CIITS) supports student learning through online, hybrid, web-assist, and 2-way video course delivery. For more details and contact information, visit:
Veteran Affairs
Veterans Services works with student veterans, current military and military dependents to support their transition to the college environment and continued persistence to graduation. The Office coordinates and certifies benefits for both the G.I. Bill and the Texas Hazlewood Act. Location: Evans Hall, Rm. 102; Phone: 936-261-3563; Website: https://www.pvamu.edu/sa/departments/veteranaffairs/

Office for Student Engagement
The Office for Student Engagement delivers comprehensive programs and services designed to meet the co-curricular needs of students. The Office implements inclusive and accessible programs and services that enhance student development through exposure to and participation in diverse and relevant social, cultural, intellectual, recreational, community service, leadership development, and campus governance. Location: Memorial Student Center, Rm. 221; Phone: 936-261-1340; Website: https://www.pvamu.edu/studentengagement/

Career Services
Career Services supports students through professional development, career readiness, and placement and employment assistance. The Office provides one-on-one career coaching, interview preparation, resume and letter writing, and career exploration workshops and seminars. Services are provided for students at the Northwest Houston Center and College of Nursing in the Medical Center twice a month or on a requested basis. Distance Learning students are encouraged to visit the Career Services website for information regarding services provided. Location: Anderson Hall, 2nd floor; Phone: 936-261-3570; Website: https://www.pvamu.edu/careerservices/

University Rules and Procedures

Academic Misconduct
Academic dishonesty is defined as any form of cheating or dishonesty that has the effect or intent of interfering with any academic exercise or fair evaluation of a student's performance. The college faculty can provide additional information, particularly related to a specific course, laboratory, or assignment.

You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with the University Administrative Guidelines on Academic Integrity, which can be found on the Academic Integrity webpage. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures. As listed in the University Administrative Guidelines on Academic Integrity, the University Online Catalog, and the Student Code of Conduct, the following are examples of prohibited conduct. This list is not designed to be all-inclusive or exhaustive. In addition to academic sanctions, any student found to have committed academic misconduct that is also a violation of criminal law may also be subject to disciplinary review and action by the Office of Student Conduct (as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct).

Forms of Academic Dishonesty:

1. **Cheating:** Deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not learned, giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations. Examples: unauthorized use of notes for a test; using a "cheat sheet" on a quiz or exam; any alteration made on a graded test or exam which is then resubmitted to the teacher;

2. **Plagiarism:** Careless or deliberate use of the work or the ideas of another; representation of another's work, words, ideas, or data as your own without permission or appropriate acknowledgment. Examples: copying another's paper or answers, failure to identify information or essays from the internet and submitting or representing it as your own; submitting an assignment which has been
partially or wholly done by another and claiming it as yours; not properly acknowledging a source
which has been summarized or paraphrased in your work; failure to acknowledge the use of another's
words with quotation marks;

3. Collusion: When more than one student or person contributes to a piece of work that is submitted
as the work of an individual;

4. Conspiracy: Agreeing with one or more persons to commit an act of academic/scholastic dishonesty;
and

5. Multiple Submission: Submission of work from one course to satisfy a requirement in another
course without explicit permission. Example: using a paper prepared and graded for credit in one
course to fulfill a requirement and receive credit in a different course.

Nonacademic Misconduct
The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights
requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1)
the instructor's ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional
program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual
engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. The Office of Student Conduct will
adjudicate such incidents under nonacademic procedures.

Sexual Misconduct
Sexual harassment of students and employees at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not
be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating the university's sexual harassment policy will
be subject to disciplinary action. In accordance with the Texas A&M University System guidelines, your
instructor is obligated to report to the Office of Title IX Compliance (titleixteam@pvamu.edu) any instance of
sexual misconduct involving a student, which includes sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic
violence, and sexual harassment, about which the instructor becomes aware during this course through
writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. The faculty and staff of PVAMU actively strive to provide a learning,
working, and living environment that promotes respect that is free from sexual misconduct, discrimination,
and all forms of violence. If students, faculty, or staff would like assistance or have questions, they may contact
the Title IX Coordinator at 936-261-2144 or titleixteam@pvamu.edu. More information can be found at
www.pvamu.edu/titleix, including confidential resources available on campus.

Pregnancy, Pregnancy-related, and Parenting Accommodations
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination, which includes discrimination
based on pregnancy, marital status, or parental status. Students seeking accommodations related to
pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, or parenting (reasonably immediate postpartum period) are
encouraged to contact Student Disability Services or the Dean of Students' Office for additional information
and to request accommodations.

Non-Discrimination Statement
Prairie View A&M University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin,
age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity in its programs and
activities. The University is committed to supporting students and complying with The Texas A&M University
System non-discrimination policy. It seeks to establish an environment that is free of discrimination, harassment.
If you experience an incident of discrimination or harassment, we encourage you to report it. If you
would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are
individuals who can meet with you. The Director of Equal Opportunity & Diversity has been designated to
handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies and can be reached at Harrington Science Building,
Suite 109 or by phone at 936-261-1744 or 1792.

Class Attendance Policy (See the University Online Catalog for Full Attendance Policy)
Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Attending all classes supports the full academic
development of each learner, whether classes are taught with the instructor physically present or
via distance learning technologies such as interactive video and/or the internet. Excessive absenteeism,
whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student's course grade being reduced or in the assignment
of a grade of "F." Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class during regular semesters and summer terms. Each faculty member will include the University's attendance policy in each course syllabus.

**Student Academic Appeals Process**

Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to student's rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the University Online Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

**Technical Considerations**

***Minimum Recommended Hardware and Software:***

- Intel PC or Laptop with Windows 10 or later version; Mac with OS High Sierra*
- Smartphone or iPad/Tablet with Wi-Fi*
- High-speed Internet access
- 8 GB Memory
- Hard drive with 320 GB storage space
- 15" monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Most current version of Google Chrome, Safari, or Firefox

*Note: Be sure to enable Java & pop-ups in the Web browser preferences

* Smartphones, Google Chrome books, and Android tablets may not be supported. iPads are the only tablets supported.

**Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:**

- Sending and receiving email
- A working knowledge of the Internet
- Microsoft Word (or a program convertible to Word)
- Acrobat PDF Reader
- Windows or Mac OS
- Video conferencing software

**Netiquette (online etiquette)**

Students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats as directed. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others on discussion boards. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. Do not use ALL CAPS for communicating to others AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETED AS YELLING. Avoid slang terms such as "wassup?" and texting abbreviations such as "u" instead of "you." Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons. Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post, and the message might be taken seriously or sound offensive.

**Video Conferencing Etiquette**

When using Zoom, WebEx, or other video conferencing tools, confirm the visible area is tidy, clear of background clutter, inappropriate or offensive posters, and other distractions. Ensure you dress appropriately and avoid using high traffic or noisy areas. Stay muted when you are not speaking and avoid eating/drinking during the session. Before the class session begins, test audio, video, and lighting to alleviate technology issues.

**Technical Support**

Students should go to [https://mypassword.pvamu.edu/](https://mypassword.pvamu.edu/) if they have password issues. The page will provide instructions for resetting passwords and contact information if login issues persist. For other technical questions regarding eCourses, call the Center for Instructional Innovation and Technology Services at 936-
Communication Expectations and Standards
Emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor, usually in less than 48 hours. Urgent emails should be marked as such. Check regularly for responses.

Discussion Requirement
Online courses often require minimal to no face-to-face meetings. However, conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course can occur in a seminar fashion. The use of the discussion board will accomplish this. The instructor will determine the exact use of discussion boards. **It is strongly suggested** that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application such as Word and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) Grammatical errors can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, copy and paste to the discussion board.

COVID-19 Campus Safety Measures
To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, PVAMU has adopted policies and practices to limit virus transmission.

- **Self-monitoring** - Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely and should not participate in face-to-face instruction.

- **Face Coverings** - Face coverings (cloth face covering, surgical mask, etc.) are recommended in classrooms, teaching laboratories, common spaces such as lobbies and hallways, public study spaces, libraries, academic resource, and support offices, and outdoor spaces where 6 feet of physical distancing is challenging to maintain reliably.

- **Physical Distancing** - Physical distancing should be maintained between students, instructors, and others in course and course-related activities where possible.

- **Personal Illness and Quarantine** - Students required to quarantine are to participate in courses and course-related activities remotely and must not attend face-to-face course activities. Students should notify their instructors of the quarantine requirement. Students under quarantine are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities. Students experiencing personal injury or illness that is too severe for the student to attend class qualify for an excused absence. To receive an excused absence, students must provide appropriate documentation to the Office for Student Conduct, studentconduct@pvamu.edu.