



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2021

Molecular basis of disease 368 (BCM 368)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Qualification | Undergraduate |
| Faculty | Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences |
| Module credits | 18.00 |
| NQF Level | 07 |
| Programmes | BSc Biochemistry BSc Biotechnology BSc Chemistry BSc Entomology BSc Genetics BSc Human Genetics BSc Human Physiology BSc Microbiology BSc Nutrition BSc Plant Science BSc Zoology |
| Prerequisites | BCM 251 and BCM 257 and BCM 261 GS BCM 252 GS. |
| Contact time | 1 practical/tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week |
| Language of tuition | Module is presented in English |
| Department | Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology |
| Period of presentation | Semester 2 |

Module content

Molecular mechanisms behind exogenous and endogenous diseases. Foundational knowledge of the immune system, with innate-, adaptive- and auto-immunity (molecular mechanisms of the maintenance and failure of the recognition of foreign in the context of self in the mammalian body) being some of the key concepts. Molecular pathology and immunobiochemistry of exogenous diseases against viral, bacterial and parasitic pathogens with a focus on the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuberculosis (TB) and malaria. Endogenous disease will describe the biochemistry of normal cell cycle proliferation, quiescence, senescence, differentiation and apoptosis, and abnormal events as illustrated by cancer. Tutorials will focus on immunoassays, vaccines, diagnostic tests for diseases and drug discovery towards therapeutics.



The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.