IMM431 Syllabus, Winter 2026

Course Coordinator: T McGaha, email: tracy.mcgaha@uhn.ca

Lecturer	Email
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Teaching Assistants

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Class Time:
Fridays, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Class will be in person.

Class Location:
check Acorn

Course Goals:
Immunotherapy has generated great excitement and has revolutionized clinical approaches to many diseases. While direct targeting of immune bottle necks has shown promise in a range of clinical pathologies, it is now becoming clear that many other therapeutic approaches owe their efficacy partially through induction of immune reactions. The course will cover general approaches to cellular and biologics-mediated targeting of the immune response in a range of disease states; and clinical management of disease from an immunologic perspective including discussion of adverse reactions to immunotherapy.

Office hours:
Please email course director Dr. Tracy McGaha for an appointment.

Recommended Textbook:
Janeway's Immunobiology: 10th Edition by K. Murphy

Evaluation:

Midterm:
February 23, 2026, 1pm-3pm
Space: TBD
Will cover material from lectures 2-6. The format will be 20 short-answer questions.

Make-up Mid-term Test:
TBD
Exclusively for students with documented illness.

Final exam:
Date, time and location TBA.
The exam will cover material from lectures 7-11. The format will be 20 short-answer questions.

Written Assignment:
April 6, 2026
A 1-page proposed research plan for the Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master's (CGS-M) program based on a topic covered in class (details to be provided).

Midterm	35%
Final Exam	35%
Written assignment	20%
Attendance and participation	10% (*Attending class, participation in the Q&A)*

Missed Term Test Policy:

If a term test is missed due to illness, then the student will be allowed to write a make-up test on a date and location to be announced per current University of Toronto policy (http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca/index.php). You may use the ACORN Absence Declaration Tool to support your request for academic consideration in your courses. **Note:** The ACORN Absence Declaration Tool cannot be used to seek academic consideration for any matters that requires a petition- i.e. missing the final exam. More information can be found here (https://registrar.utoronto.ca/policies-and-guidelines/absence-declaration/).

Students who are unable to write their final examination due to illness, etc., should contact the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Registrar. More information can be found here (https://artsci.calendar.utoronto.ca/petitions-and-appeals#types-petitions).

Missed Written Assignment Policy:

The writing assignment will be only accepted late with prior approval of the course coordinator. Approval will only be given in the event of illness or other significant extenuating circumstances. Please contact Dr. McGaha for further information.

Generative AI

The use of generative artificial intelligence tools or apps for assignments in this course, including tools like ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, Microsoft Copilot and other AI writing or coding assistants, is prohibited. Furthermore, the knowing use of generative artificial intelligence tools for the completion of, or to support the completion of, an examination, assignment, or any other form of academic assessment, may be considered an academic offense in the course.

Deadline to drop the course: March 16, 2026

Course Schedule:

Lecture	Subject	Lecturer
Jan 9	Introduction to Immunotherapy	C. Paige
Jan 16	Radiotherapy as Immunotherapy	S. Harding
Jan 23	Immunometabolism as a Therapeutic Target	S. Saibil
Jan 30	Checkpoint Inhibition therapy (ICI)	A. Sacher
Feb 6	Immune targeting in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus	J. Wither
Feb 13	Myeloid cells in tumor progression and immunotherapy	J. Kazan
Feb 16-20	Reading week, no class	

Feb 23	Midterm Exam	
Feb 27	Clinical considerations for immunotherapy (adverse responses and clinical management)	M. Butler
March 6	Tumor Infiltrating lymphocytes And TCR/CAR cell infusion therapy	N. Hirano
March 13	Combining ICI with other approaches	S. Lamorte
March 20	Immunotherapy for infectious disease	D. Brooks
March 27	Bugs as drugs	D. Philpott