



MLAB 2434 021 – Microbiology (MLAB) HY

Course Syllabus: Fall 2026

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”

Instructor: Mallory Isham

Office: UHS 117

Phone: 903-380-7841

Email: misham@ntcc.edu

Weekday	Office Hours
Monday	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, 12:30PM – 5:00 PM
Tuesday	9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Wednesday	By appointment
Thursday	By appointment
Friday	By appointment

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description:

4 credit hours. Lecture/Lab/Clinical: Three hours of online lecture and four hours of lab each week This course is an instruction in the theory, practical application, and pathogenesis of clinical microbiology, including collection, setup, identification, susceptibility testing, and reporting procedures.

Prerequisite(s): BIOL 2420 and admission to MLT program or departmental approval.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe bacterial cell morphologies, shapes and arrangements and the principle of various staining and viewing procedures.
2. Explain the clinical significance of and disease states caused by various organisms.
3. Describe specific media and conditions to recover specific organisms.
4. Perform basic laboratory microbiology tests incorporating sterile technique and AST.
5. Evaluate laboratory findings and correlate with clinical conditions.
6. Apply principles of safety, quality assurance, and quality control throughout the pre-analytical, analytical, and post-analytical processes in Microbiology.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

The breakdown of the Lecture Grade is as follows:

%	Requirement
20%	Quiz Average
60%	Exam (5) Average
20%	Final

The breakdown of the Lab Grade is as follows:

%	Requirement
25%	Homework Average
25%	Lab Worksheet Average
25%	Lab Midterm
25%	Lab Final

The breakdown of the Final Grade is as follows:

%	Requirement
75%	Lecture Grade
25%	Lab Grade

Semester grades will be earned as follows

Percentage	Letter Grade
90% and above	A
80 %–89%	B
70 %–79%	C
60%–69 %	D
59.9% and below	F

A minimum grade of “C” is required in both the lecture and laboratory components of all Medical Laboratory Technician courses. Failure to meet the minimum passing score in each area will result in a “D” for the course and dismissal from the program.

Required Instructional Materials:

Tille, P. M. (2024). *Bailey & Scott's Diagnostic Microbiology* (16th ed.)

Publisher: Elsevier

ISBN Number: 9780443118913

Powerpoint lectures and additional material on internet.

Optional Instructional Materials:

Not applicable.

Minimum Technology Requirements:

Most Windows or Mac desktop and laptop computers work well for online classes.

Chromebooks use the Chrome operating system which is not a supported operating system for Blackboard. Some areas of Blackboard require Java on your computer, and Chromebooks do not support the use of Java. If you use a Chromebook, please be sure you also have access to a Mac computer or Windows computer so you can fully participant in your Blackboard class. Some things will not work on a Chromebook.

Please do not ONLY rely on a tablet, including an iPad, or a smartphone to use Blackboard. Not all features will work on tablets and smartphones. You may need access to a full computer to be able to do everything in your Blackboard class.

You will need to scan documents and upload them to Blackboard. You can use a scanner attached to a computer, a smartphone app, or your cell phone’s camera.

Internet Access

While Bb can be accessed with dial-up online service, best results will be obtained when using a broadband Internet service.

Java

Make sure your computer is running the current version of java. It is a free download at www.java.com.

Internet Browser

Supported browsers for use with Blackboard include Firefox, Google Chrome, Internet Explorer, and Safari. If you experience any problems in Blackboard we recommend you login to the portal and Blackboard from another browser before seeking assistance from NTCC Technical support.

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

Intermediate Internet Skills

You should be familiar with how the Internet works including following links and searching for information.

Intermediate Word Processing Skills

You should be familiar with how to enter data (text) on a word processing document, format text, and save documents.

Course Structure and Overview:

This course will cover Chapters 1-45 and 67-77. This is a Hybrid class which means class meets once a week and all other instruction is done online via the learning management system BLACKBOARD. In class meetings will be reserved for homework review, labs, and exams. Students are expected to complete all the readings of the required book chapters, review PowerPoints, and complete the online chapter activities. You will see that the course is divided into 16 weeks in the Blackboard portion. Each week you will be expected to complete certain online assignments for the chapters found in that week's learning module. This course requires daily computer and internet access. You should expect to spend no less than 12 hours a week in this course. Pay close attention to deadlines for all assignments. Technical difficulties are no excuse for late assignments. A due date assignment schedule is posted in the START HERE folder in Blackboard.

Quizzes: Taken online; multiple-choice questions over topics covered in the week's readings and PowerPoints. All quizzes will be averaged together for 20% of lecture grade; grades reflected immediately in Blackboard.

Study Guides: Short answer, fill-in-the-blank, and matching over topics covered in the week's readings and PowerPoint. No grade will be taken. These guides may be used during exams

Exams: Multiple-choice questions derived from content in study guides and homework; taken in class on laptop. Grade reflected immediately in Blackboard. Final exam is cumulative.

Homework: Various online activities, including but not limited to MediaLab. Homework assignments averaged together for 25% of lab grade.

Lab Worksheets: Lab activities completed in class. Lab worksheets averaged together for 25% of lab grade.

Communications:

EMAIL: E-mail preferred. E-mails will be responded to within 24 hours during the work week (Monday – Thursday 8am-6pm and Friday 8-noon). Please check your NTCC email EVERYDAY. Email is the official form of communication used here at NTCC.

TEXT MESSAGE NOTIFICATION: TEAMS will be used to get information out to students quickly. This will enable you to receive important class announcements and reminders from me via text message so that you will not miss out on any assignment changes or important updates. Please continue to check your NTCC email daily. If you do not own a cell phone, you can receive these same reminders through your email.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: These can be found in Blackboard under the course link on your Bb homepage. Please make sure you are reading any announcements thoroughly when they are posted there

Institutional/Course Policy:

Classroom Expectations:

1. Attend all labs, be on time, and remain in class for the entire period.
If students are habitually late, the classroom door will be locked at the start of class.
If you must leave early, please inform the instructor before class begins.
2. Complete assigned readings before lab.
3. Be prepared to take notes and participate in lab.

4. You must EARN your grade; I do not GIVE grades, so study, study, study!
Average study time is 2-3 hours per hour of lecture/class time a week.
5. Be respectful of your classmates and instructors.
6. Turn off cell phones/notification devices or set to vibrate.

Attendance and Absences: You are expected to attend ALL scheduled labs and take the exams as scheduled. You will be held responsible for all information covered in lab. If you will be absent, inform the instructor by phone or email at least 15 minutes BEFORE class begins. Absences will be counted as unexcused if the instructor is not informed in a timely manner. Excessive unexcused absences will result in loss of points from your grade. More than two unexcused absences will result in a reduction of five (5) points being subtracted from your final grade (percentage). More than five unexcused absences will result in the student being dropped from the course. Two unexcused late class attendance equals one unexcused absence. Students with perfect attendance will have five (5) points added to their final exam.

Makeup Policy: Late work will be accepted for quizzes and homework with a 10% late penalty. Assignments available on Blackboard will be due on Sunday's at 11:59pm. Late work will be accepted until the following Tuesday at 11:59pm. After that date and time, a grade of zero will be entered for any work not completed. The student is responsible for requesting a makeup when they are unable to attend a regularly scheduled examination. Makeup exams and labs will be scheduled only in the event of an EXCUSED absence. All makeup exams and labs will be made up as soon as possible following the absence and must be scheduled with the instructor. If the test or lab is not made-up, the student will receive a zero for that exam or lab.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements:

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

Statement Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology:

Employees and students shall be permitted to explore artificial intelligence (AI) and implement its use in and out of the classroom in accordance with policy and administrative regulations. The use of AI shall only be as a support tool to enhance student outcomes or as necessary to engage in research and shall never take the place of faculty, staff, and student decision-making. Any use of AI must comply with law, policy, and administrative regulations relating to student and employee privacy and data security. A student shall only use AI tools with faculty permission and shall be expected to produce original work and properly credit sources, including AI tools used in creating the work.

Example:

APA (7th edition)

OpenAI. (2026). ChatGPT (March 25 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

MLA (9th edition)

OpenAI. ChatGPT. 25 Mar. 2026, <https://chat.openai.com/>.

Employees or students who use AI tools to deceptively harm, bully, or harass others shall be disciplined in accordance with policy. [See DH, DIA series, FFD series, FFE, FLB, and the FM series] AI Use by Employees and Students. Northeast Texas Community College 225500 TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CRB ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (LOCAL) DATE ISSUED: 12/8/2025 1 of 1 UPDATE 50 CRB(LOCAL)-AJC Adopted: 12/16/2025

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodation. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Tentative Course Schedule:

See Blackboard for tentative course schedule.