



# Course announcement:

FDST 908J

## Gastrointestinal Microbiology

All of us form symbiotic partnerships with thousands of microbial species that reside in our gastrointestinal tract. The microbial numbers present in the gut exceeds the total number of somatic and germ cells in our bodies by 10-fold, and their combined genomes (the microbiome) contain around 100 times more genes than the host body. Not surprisingly, this vast amount of microbes influences important developmental, metabolic, immunologic, and physiologic aspects of the vertebrate host, with significant consequences for health.

This course offers an introduction to the microbial ecology of the gastrointestinal tract of humans and non-ruminant animals. It further explores how the gut microbiota impacts host health and performance. Special emphasis will be given to aspects of gut microbiota research with medical and agricultural implications.

**2 credits:** Lectures Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 – 11:50, 116 Chase Hall (East campus)

**Course prerequisites:** BIOS 312 (Fundamentals of Microbiology)

This course is designed for students of Food Science, Animal Science, Nutrition, and Biological sciences, but might also be of interest for students of medical disciplines and Biochemistry.

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