

Learn Everywhere and Anywhere Using MasteringMicrobiology®

MasteringMicrobiology is an online homework, tutorial, and assessment program designed to help you quickly master concepts and improve course results. Self-paced microbiology tutorials feature immediate wrong-answer feedback and hints that help keep you on track throughout the course. Plus the wide range of interactive and engaging activities provide ways you can actively learn and retain tough course concepts.

Arrive at class ready to make connections between lecture, lab, and real world microbiology!

- NEW! MicroBoosters** are a series of brief videos that refresh understanding on key concepts and can be accessed in the MasteringMicrobiology Study Area.
- NEW! InteractiveMicrobiology** tutorials teach core concepts using animations and interactive content presented in clinically relevant scenarios. **InteractiveMicrobiology** encourages active learning with opportunities to manipulate variables, predict outcomes, and answer formative and summative assessment questions.
- NEW! Dynamic Study Modules** help you acquire, retain, and recall information faster and more effectively than ever before. Each study module first assesses your knowledge of a concept and level of confidence in that knowledge. As you move through the modules, the question levels adjust according to your individual strengths and weaknesses, until all content is mastered. These are accessible and assignable in MasteringMicrobiology.

Adaptive Follow-Up

Your instructor can assign Adaptive Follow-Up assignments that automatically deliver personalized content based on your individual strengths and weaknesses, as revealed by your previously completed MasteringMicrobiology homework.

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About the Cover

Staphylococcus aureus, often called staph, shown trapped on a filter.

About 30% of us carry these bacteria harmlessly on our skin, yet staph is responsible for a wide range of infections, including boils, pneumonia, food poisoning, endocarditis, and blood poisoning (bacteremia). The filter in the photograph is a commonly used method of removing microorganisms from liquids such as beer, antibiotics, and glucose solutions.

Although most staph infections are easily treated, some strains, such as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), are resistant to antibiotics, making them difficult to treat. The best way to prevent getting or transmitting a staph infection is handwashing.

In the mid-1800s, studies by Ignaz Semmelweis and Oliver Wendell Holmes showed that hospital-acquired diseases were transmitted via the hands of health care workers. Since then, many studies confirmed the important role that contaminated health care workers' hands play in the transmission of health care-associated infections.

Reading this book, students take a crucial step toward health care careers by learning how microorganisms live, cause disease, and can be harnessed for treatments.

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