FIFTH EDITION

Microbes and Society

Jeffrey C. Pommerville

Advances in microbiology are transforming the world around us, helping agriculture, health, medicine, and the biotechnology industry to produce products and tools that are advancing society in ways that could not have been imagined a generation ago. ***Microbes & Society, Fifth Edition*** breaks down the basic science and presents the applications of microbiology that are important to humans and society in ways that are relevant, inspiring, and unforgettable to non-science majors and the non-technical audience.

Microbes & Society, Fifth Edition connects the science to larger societal themes, including microbe interactions with the environment, public health, human health, infectious disease, and the challenges to vaccination. After reading the textbook, students will come away with a critical understanding of the broad impact microbes have on our society.

The *Fifth Edition* has been redesigned and reorganized to facilitate student learning.

The textbook:

- **Is written for the target audience.** The author, Jeffrey Pommerville, has spent more than 40 years in scientific research and microbiology education. From decades in the microbiology classroom, Dr. Pommerville knows students' interests and concerns, and presents the topics in ways that make student learning relevant and consumable.
- **Tells good stories.** Science is an ongoing detective story full of plot twists, surprising findings, dead ends, and unforeseen consequences. The textbook enhances student learning by presenting topics that keep the integrity of the scientific endeavor while following the outlines of good storytelling.
- **Speaks in plain language.** Technical jargon is rampant in science and will actively push listeners away, leading to students oversimplifying their own understanding, defaulting to their past knowledge, or just trusting what is available on the open web. The textbook has been successful at keeping the message clear, meaningful, consistent, and memorable.

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