



Universitat de Lleida

GUÍA DOCENTE **PATOLOGÍA Y TERAPÉUTICA MOLECULAR**

Coordinación: BOIX TORRAS, JACINT

Año académico 2020-21

Información general de la asignatura

Denominación	PATOLOGÍA Y TERAPÉUTICA MOLECULAR			
Código	14700			
Semestre de impartición	1R Q(SEMESTRE) EVALUACIÓN CONTINUADA			
Carácter	Grado/Máster	Curso	Carácter	Modalidad
	Máster Universitario en Investigación Biomédica	1	TRONCAL	Presencial
Número de créditos de la asignatura (ECTS)	4			
Tipo de actividad, créditos y grupos	Tipo de actividad	TEORIA		
	Número de créditos	4		
	Número de grupos	1		
Coordinación	BOIX TORRAS, JACINT			
Departamento/s	MEDICINA EXPERIMENTAL			
Información importante sobre tratamiento de datos	Consulte este enlace para obtener más información.			

Profesor/a (es/as)	Dirección electrónica\nprofesor/a (es/as)	Créditos impartidos por el profesorado	Horario de tutoría/lugar
ABÓ RIVERA, ANA ISABEL	anaisabel.abo@udl.cat	,4	
BOIX TORRAS, JACINT	jacint.boix@udl.cat	1,4	
DOLCET ROCA, FRANCESC XAVIER	xavi.dolcet@udl.cat	,6	
ESQUERDA COLELL, JOSÉ ENRIQUE	josep.esquerda@udl.cat	,4	
MARTI LABORDA, ROSA MARIA	rosamaria.marti@udl.cat	,2	
RIBAS FORTUNY, JUDIT	judit.ribas@udl.cat	,6	
SANCHIS MORALES, DANIEL	daniel.sanchis@udl.cat	,4	

Objetivos académicos de la asignatura

1. The development of an integrative and molecular view of the human cell in disease.
2. The identification of cell death phenotypes and other degenerative or infectious cytopathic traits.
3. The description of molecular entities that regulate and execute apoptosis and other types of cell death.
4. The molecular characterization of the tumor cell phenotype, the cell heterogeneity in neoplasia and the invasive and metastatic potential.
5. The understanding of the tumor resistance to hypoxia and therapy mechanisms.
6. The performance of translational approaches, diagnostic, prognostic or therapeutic based on the molecular mechanisms stated before.

Competencias

CB1 Possessing knowledge and understanding that provide a basis or opportunity for originality in developing and / or applying ideas, often within a research context.

CB2 Being able to apply the acquired knowledge and have the ability to solve problems in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to their field of study.

CB3 Being able to integrate knowledge and handle complexity, and formulate judgments based on information that was incomplete or limited, include reflecting on social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgments.

CB4 Being able to communicate their conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these, to specialist and non-specialist audiences in a clear and unambiguous.

CB5 Acquiring the learning skill to study in a self-directed and autonomous way.

CG1 Knowing how to select and apply different analytical methods molecular, biochemical, cellular, genetic and phenotypic for the diagnosis and study of disease.

CG4 Capacity for critical and creative thinking with your work and that of other researchers.

CE3 Identifying and assessing the implications of the phenomenon of cell death in the pathogenesis of multiple diseases and the therapeutic rational basis that provides.

CE4 Recognizing the high performance techniques (high throughput) and the use of bioinformatics tools for data analysis.

CT1 Having a correct oral and written expression

CT4 Respect the fundamental rights of equality between men and women, to the promotion of human rights and the values of a culture of peace and democratic values

Contenidos fundamentales de la asignatura

The molecular mechanisms that cause the pathological phenotypes in the cells and their pharmacological modulation are the main subject of this course. Physical agents like radiation, chemical or biological ones like mutagens, viral infections, etc. converge in generating degenerative phenotypes that will precede cell death or, alternatively, oncogenic transformation characterized by proliferative expansion, loss of cell differentiation and resistance to hypoxia and therapy. Cell death by apoptosis, autophagy and, even, necrosis occur by an ordered activation of molecular mechanisms. Tumoral progression, cell heterogeneity in neoplasia, tissue invasion and metastasis are the result of specific molecular disruptions. As an example, the dysfunctions in the expression regulatory networks defined by microRNAs (miRNAs). A better understanding of these mechanisms and events will allow the identification of therapeutic targets and strategies, diagnostic resources and valuable prognostic parameters.

Ejes metodológicos de la asignatura

Lectures (Topics), Seminars, Scientific conference. See development plan for further information

The official calendar/schedule of the course will be followed. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, face-to-face and non-face-to-face classes have been planned that will surely be affected by the course of the pandemic and the situation of the professors. The degree of uncertainty and unpredictability is very high at the time of writing this guide of the course. In any case, the professors of this course are engaged to announce in advance the changes that will occur by means of the virtual campus. The announcements and warning section is especially suitable for this purpose. In addition, in the resources section, you will find much of the teaching material of the lectures performed. Concerning the evaluation, if necessary, the test tool will be used for non-face-to-face exams. In a summary, the virtual campus will become crucial for the monitoring and good development of the academic course.

Plan de desarrollo de la asignatura

1. LECTURES

TOPIC 1. CELL NECROBIOLOGY

(Prof. J. Boix)

- Cell death: Terms, concepts and types.
- Cell death studies: A historical perspective.
- Cell death phenotypes: Apoptosis versus necrosis.
- The genetics of apoptosis: The *C. elegans* model.

TOPIC 2. CASPASES

(Prof. J. Boix)

- The discovery of caspases.
- The targets of caspases.
- The cell death phenotype resulting from caspase activation: Apoptosis.
- IAPs: Physiological inhibitors of caspases.

TOPIC 3. THE REGULATION OF CASPASE ACTIVATION

(Prof. J. Boix)

- The extrinsic pathway.
- The intrinsic pathway.
- Mitochondrial outer membrane permeabilization (MOMP).
- Mitochondrial inner membrane permeabilization (MIMP).

TOPIC 4. THE BCL-2 FAMILY OF PROTEINS

(Prof. J. Boix)

- Bcl-2 a new type of oncogene.
- Bcl-2 protein structure and homology domains.
- Functional classification of the members of the Bcl-2 family.
- Regulation of MOMP by the Bcl-2 family members.
- BH3-only proteins as sensitizers or activators of MOMP.
- BH3-only proteins as transducers of cell stress.

TOPIC 5. MECHANISMS OF CANCER INITIATION

(Prof. X. Matias-Guiu)

- Oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes.
- Genetic and epigenetic changes in cancer.
- Familial versus sporadic cancer.

TOPIC 6. MOLECULAR MECHANISMS FOR CANCER PROGRESSION

(Prof. X. Dolcet)

- Cancer Progression.
- Angiogenesis.
- Features and phases of metastasis.
- The epithelial-to-mesenchymal-transition in invasion.
- Genes involved in blood travelling and establishment of metastases.
- The TGF- β signaling in metastasis.

TOPIC 7. MODELING CANCER IN VIVO AND IN VITRO

(Prof. X. Dolcet)

- Animal models in cancer biology
- Mouse models of cancer
- In vitro study of cancer.
- Modeling morphogenesis and oncogenesis in 3D cultures.
- Endometrial and mammary 3D cultures.
- Xenotransplanting tumors in mice.

TOPIC 8. STEM CELLS IN CANCER

(Prof. X. Dolcet)

- What is a stem cell?
- Stem cells versus cancer stem cells.
- Cancer stem cells and multidrug-resistance.

2. SEMINARS

SEMINAR 1. APOPTOSIS AND VIRAL PATHOGENESIS

(Prof. J. Boix)

- Viral mechanisms to disrupt cell apoptosis.
- Apoptosis induction by the immune system.
- Apoptosis in the pathogenesis of AIDS.

SEMINAR 2 and 3. CELL DEATH AND MOTONEURON DISEASE

(Prof. J. E. Esquerda)

- Clinical forms of motoneuron (MTN) disease: Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) and Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA).
- Mechanisms for selective MTN vulnerability.
- Cell dysfunction and death in MTN disease.
- Involvement of glutamate mediated excitotoxicity.
- Involvement of neuroinflammatory processes.
- Animal models and therapeutic strategies.

SEMINAR 4 and 5. CELL DEATH IN CARDIAC DISEASE

(Prof. D. Sanchis)

- Role of cell death in heart failure.
- Apoptosis versus necrosis: molecular pathology and experimental evidences.
- Non-apoptotic role of the apoptotic machinery in development.
- Alternative signaling to apoptosis in adult myocyte death.

SEMINAR 6. MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY OF MELANOMA

(Prof. R. M. Martí)

- Classification.
- Molecular alterations.
- Therapeutic strategies.

SEMINAR 7. MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY OF ENDOMETRIAL CARCINOMA

(Prof. X. Matias-Guiu)

- Classification of endometrial carcinomas.
- Genetic molecular alterations of endometrioid carcinomas.
- Transition of endometrial hyperplasia to endometrial carcinoma.
- Alterations in non-endometrioid carcinomas.

SEMINAR 8 and 9. THE MODULATION OF CELL DEATH WITH DRUGS IN THE CONTEXT OF HUMAN THERAPEUTICS

(Prof. J. Boix)

- Principles of targeted therapies.
- Exploiting oncogene addiction in tumors.
- Exploiting non-oncogene addiction in tumors.
- The synthetic lethality approach.
- Pharmacological modulation of p53 function.
- Pharmacological modulation of the Bcl-2 family of proteins.
- The inhibitors of the immune checkpoint.

3. CONFERENCES

There will be 2 conferences, one performed by prof. Judit Ribas and the other one performed by Dr. Anna Macià, as an invited professor. Both conferences will be evaluated by a short test immediately after being finished by both lecturing professors. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the attention and ability of the student to get information by attending regular conferences in scientific meetings.

Sistema de evaluación

- Attendance to all sessions will provide the 50% of the course mark. Each unjustified nonattendance will imply the loss of a 2%.
- There will be 2 conferences, each conference will be evaluated by a short test immediately after being performed. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the attention and ability of the student to get information by attending a regular conference in a scientific meeting. Each test will contribute a 10% in the final mark of the course.
- There will be one exercise based on the practical analysis, interpretation and discussion of experimental results. In other words from the bench to the classroom exam. The exam will be based on the subjects addressed and the training taught by prof. Jacint Boix. It will provide the 30% of the course evaluation mark. An alternative evaluation procedure will be proposed and announced conveniently, if face-to-face is not possible because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bibliografía y recursos de información

Specific and general bibliography will be provided. Students will get PDF files related to the subjects approached in the course by connecting to their master folders in the UdL network.