Course Course Title with Credit Load
Ph.D. in Plant Pathology

Course Code	Course Title	Credits Hours
PL PATH 601	Advances in Mycology	2+1
PL PATH 602	Advances in Virology	2+1
PL PATH 603	Advances in Plant Pathogenic Prokaryotes	2+1
PL PATH 604**	Molecular Basis of Host-pathogen Interaction	2+1
PL PATH 605	Principles and Procedures of Certification	1+0
PL PATH 606	Plant Biosecurity and Biosafety	2+0
PL PATH 691	Doctoral Seminar – I	0+ 1
PL PATH 692	Doctoral Seminar – II	0+ 1
PL PATH 699	Doctoral Research	0+75

**Core Courses for Doctoral Programme

Course Contents
Ph.D. in Plant Pathology

I. Course Title : Advances in Mycology
II. Course Code : PL PATH 601
III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To acquaint with the advances in mycology

V. Theory

Unit I

General introduction, historical development and advances in mycology. Recent taxonomic criteria, morphological criteria for classification. Serological, chemical (chemotaxonomy), molecular and numerical (computer based assessment) taxonomy. Interaction between groups: Phylogeny, Micro conidiation, conidiogenesis and sporulating structures of fungi imperfecti.

Unit II

Population biology, pathogenic variability/ vegetative compatibility. Heterokaryosis and parasexual cycle. Sex hormones in fungi. Pleomorphism and speciation in fungi. Mechanism of nuclear inheritance. Mechanism of extra-nuclear inheritance. Biodegradation.

Unit III

Ultra structures and chemical constituents of fungal cells, functions of cell organelles. Mitosis, meiosis, gene action and regulation. Effects of fungal interaction with host plants and other microorganisms; parasitism, symbiosis and commensalism.

Unit IV

Genetic Improvement of Fungal strains. Fungal biotechnology. Fungi mediated synthesis of nano particles – characterization process and application. Mycotoxins problems and its management.

VI. Practical

- Isolation, purification and identification of cultures, spores and mating type determination;
- Study of conidiogenesis-Phialides, porospores, arthospores;
- Study of fruiting bodies in Ascomycotina;
- Identification of fungi up to species level;
- Study of hyphal anastomosis;
- Morphology of representative plant pathogenic genera form different groups of fungi;
- Molecular characterization of fungi.

VII. Suggested Reading

Alexopoulos CJ, Mims CW and Blackwell M. 1996. *Introductory Mycology*. John Wiley & Sons, New York.

Dube HC. 2005. *An Introduction to Fungi.* 3rd Ed. Vikas Publ. House, New Delhi.
Kirk PM, Cannon PF, David JC and Stalpers JA. (Eds.). 2001. *Ainsworth and Bisby's Dictionary of Fungi*. 9th Ed., CABI, Wallington.
Maheshwari R. 2016. *Fungi: Experimental Methods in Biology* 2nd edn. CRC Press, US.
Ulloa M and Hanlin RT. 2000. *Illustrated Dictionary of Mycology*. APS, St. Paul, Minnesota.
Webster J and Weber R. 2007. *Introduction to Fungi.* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

I. Course Title : Advances in Plant Virology

II. Course Code : PL PATH 602

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To educate about the advanced techniques and new developments in plant virology.

V. Theory

Unit I

Origin, evolution and interrelationship with animal viruses. Virus morphology, structure, architecture, replication (overview of host and viral components required), assembly and virus specific cytological effects in infected plant cells. Mechanisms leading to the evolution of new viruses/ strains: mutation, recombination, pseudo-recombination, component re-assortment, etc.

Unit II

Major vector groups of plant viruses and their taxonomy, virus-vector relationship, molecular mechanism of virus transmission by vectors. Terminologies used in immunology and serology. Classification, structure and functions of various domains of Immunoglobulins. Production of Polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies for detection of viruses. Immuno/ serological assays (Slide agglutination tests, Test tube precipitation test, Double agar diffusion test, ELISA (DAC, DAS, TAS), Dot Immuno Binding Assay, and nucleic acid based assays for detection of plant viruses.

Unit III

Polymerase Chain Reaction based (PCR, reverse transcriptase PCR, multiplex PCR, Nested PCR, Real time/ q PCR) and non PCR based: LAMP, Fluorescent *in situ* hybridization (FISH), dot blot hybridization. Plant virus genome organization (General properties of plant viral genome- information content, coding and non-coding regions), replication, transcription and translational strategies of pararetroviruses, geminiviruses, tobamo-, poty-, bromo, cucumo, ilar, tospoviruses, satellite viruses and satellite RNA.

Unit IV

Gene expression, regulation and viral promoters.Genetic engineering with plant viruses, viral suppressors, RNAi dynamics and resistant genes. Virus potential as vectors, genetically engineered resistance, transgenic plants. Techniques and application of tissue culture for production of virus free planting materials. Phylogenetic grouping system based on partial/ complete sequences of virus genomes and using of next generation sequencing technology in plant virus discovery.

VI. Practical

- Purification of viruses, SDS-PAGE for molecular weight determination, production of polyclonal antiserum, purification of IgG and conjugate preparation;
- Acquaintance with different serological techniques (i) DAC- ELISA (ii) DAS-ELISA

(iii) DIBA (iv) Western blots (v) (ab) 2-ELISA. Nucleic acid isolation, DOT-blot, southern hybridization, probe preparation,and autoradiography;

- PCR application and viral genome cloning of PCR products, plasmid purification, enzyme digestion, sequencing, annotation of genes, analysis of viral sequences (use of gene bank, blast of viral sequences and phylogeny);
- Bioinformatics analysis tools for virology (ORF finder, Gene mark, Gene ontology, BLAST, Clustal X/W, Tm pred and Phylogeny programs).

VII. Suggested Reading

Davies 1997. *Molecular Plant Virology: Replication and Gene Expression*. CRC Press, Florida.

Fauquet *et al*. 2005. *Virus Taxonomy*. VIII Report of ICTV. Academic Press, New York.

Gibbs A and Harrison B. 1976. *Plant Virology – The Principles*. Edward Arnold, London.

Jones P, Jones PG and Sutton JM. 1997. *Plant Molecular Biology: Essential Techniques*. John Wiley & Sons, New York.

Khan J A and Dijkstra. 2002. *Plant Viruses as Molecular Pathogens*. Howarth Press, New York.

Maramorosch K, Murphy FA and Shatkin AJ. 1996. *Advances in Virus Research*. Vol. 46. Academic Press, New York.

Pirone TP and Shaw JG. 1990. *Viral Genes and Plant Pathogenesis*. Springer Verlag, New York.

Roger Hull. 2002. *Mathew's Plant Virology* (4th Ed.). Academic Press, New York.

Thresh JM. 2006. *Advances in Virus Research*. Academic Press, New York.

I. Course Title : Advances in Plant Pathogenic Prokaryotes

II. Course Code : PL PATH 603

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To learn about the latest developments in all the plant pathogenic prokaryotes as a whole.

V. Theory

Unit I

Prokaryotic cell: Molecular basis for **o**rigin and evolution of prokaryotic life, RNA world, prokaryotic cytoskeletal proteins. Flagella structure, assembly and regulation. Structure and composition **(bacteria)** cell wall/ envelop, Types of secretion systems (TI to TIV) and their molecular interaction, fimbriae and pili (Type IV pili), Bacterial chromosomes and plasmids, other cell organelles. Growth, nutrition and metabolism in prokaryotes (Embden-Meyerhof-Parmas (EMP) pathway, Phosphoketolase Pathway and Entner Doudoroff Pathway).

Unit II

Current trends in taxonomy and identification of phytopathogenic prokarya**:** International code of nomenclature, Polyphasic approach, New/ special detection methods for identification of bacterial plant pathogens. Taxonomic ranks hierarchy; Identification, Advances in classification and nomenclature.

Unit III

Bacterial genetics**:** General mechanism of variability (mutation), specialized mechanisms of variability. Transposable genetic elements in bacteria-integron and prophages, Mechanism of gene transfer. Pathogenicity islands, horizontal gene transfer, Bacterial Pan-Genome.

Unit IV

Bacteriophages: Composition, structure and infection. Classification and use of phages in plant pathology/ bacteriology. Host pathogen interactions: Molecular mechanism of pathogenesis: Pathogenicity factors of soft rot, necrosis, wilt, canker, etc. Immunization, induced resistance/ Systemic Acquired Resistance, Quorum sensing. Bacterial pathogenicity and virulence**:** Molecular mechanism of virulence and pathogenesis, bacterial secretion systems, pathogenicity of bacterial enzymes that degrade the cell walls, Role of hrp/ hrc genes and TALE effectors. Synthesis and regulation of EPSs.

Unit V

Beneficial Prokaryotes-Endophytes, PGPR, Phylloplane bacteria and their role in disease management. Endosymbionts for host defence. Advances in management of diseases caused by prokaryotes: genetic engineering, RNA silencing; CRISPR cas9.

VI. Practical

- Pathogenic studies and race identification, plasmid profiling of bacteria, fatty acid profiling of bacteria, RFLP profiling of bacteria and variability status, Endospore, Flagella staining, Test for secondary metabolite production, cyanides, EPS, siderophore, specific detection of phytopathogenic bacteria using species/ pathovar specific primers;
- Basic techniques in diagnostic kit development, Molecular tools to identify phytoendosymbionts;
- Important and emerging diseases and their management strategies.

VII. Suggested Reading

Dale JW and Simon P. 2004. *Molecular Genetics of Bacteria.* John Wiley & Sons, New York.

Garrity GM, Krieg NR and Brenner DJ. 2006. *Bergey's Manual of Systematic Bacteriology: The Proteobacteria.* Vol. II. Springer Verlag, New York.

Gnanamanickam SS. 2006. *Plant-Associated Bacteria*. Springer Verlag, New York.

Mount MS and Lacy GH. 1982. *Plant Pathogenic Prokaryotes*. Vols. I, II. Academic Press, New York.

Sigee DC. 1993. *Bacterial Plant Pathology: Cell and Molecular Aspects*. Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge.

Starr MP. 1992. *The Prokaryotes*. Vols. I–IV. Springer Verlag, New York.

I. Course Title : Molecular Basis of Host-pathogen Interaction

II. Course Code : PL PATH 604

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To understand the concepts of molecular biology and biotechnology in relation to host plant- pathogen interactions.

V. Theory

Unit I

History of host plant resistance and importance to Agriculture. Importance and role of biotechnological tools in plant pathology. Basic concepts and principles to study host pathogen relationship. Molecular genetics, imaging and analytical chemistry tools for studying plants, microbes, and their interactions.

Unit II

Different forms of plant-microbe interactions and nature of signals/ effectors underpinning these interactions. Plant innate immunity: PAMP/ DAMP. Molecular basis of host-pathogen interaction-fungi, bacteria, viruses and nematodes; recognition system, signal transduction.

Unit III

Induction of defence responses- HR, Programmed cell death, reactive oxygen species, systemic acquired resistance, induced systemic resistance, pathogenesis related proteins, phytoalexins and virus induced gene silencing. Molecular basis of gene-for-gene hypothesis; R-gene expression and transcription profiling, mapping and cloning of resistance genes and marker-aided selection, pyramiding of R genes. Gene for gene systems: Background, genetics, phenotypes, molecular mechanisms, races, breakdown of resistance (boom-and-bust cycles), Coevolution-arms race and trench warfare models, Metapopulations, cost of resistance, cost of unnecessary virulence, GFG in agricultural crops vs. natural populations, Durability of resistance, erosion of quantitative resistance.

Unit IV

Pathogen population genetics and durability, viruses vs cellular pathogens.Gene deployment, cultivar mixtures. Disease emergence, host specialization. Circadian clock genes in relation to innate immunity. Biotechnology and disease management; development of disease resistance plants using genetic engineering approaches, different methods of gene transfer, biosafety issues related to GM crops.

VI. Practical

- Protein, DNA and RNA isolation, plasmid extraction, PCR analysis, DNA and Protein electrophoresis, bacterial transformation;
- Gene mapping and marker assisted selection;
- Development and use of molecular markers in identification and characterization of resistance to plant pathogens and their management.

VII. Suggested Reading

Chet I. 1993. *Biotechnology in Plant Disease Control*. John Wiley & Sons, New York.

Gurr SJ, McPohersen MJ and Bowlos DJ. (Eds.). 1992. *Molecular Plant Pathology – A Practical Approach*. Vols. I & II, Oxford Univ. Press, Oxford.

Mathew JD. 2003. *Molecular Plant Pathology*. Bios Scientific Publ., UK.

Ronald PC. 2007. *Plant-Pathogen Interactions: Methods in Molecular Biology*. Humana Press, New Jersey.

Stacey G and Keen TN. (Eds.). 1996. *Plant Microbe Interactions*. Vols. I-III. Chapman & Hall, New York; Vol. IV. APS Press, St. Paul, Minnesota.

I. Course Title : Principles and Procedures of Certification

II. Course Code : PL PATH 605

III. Credit Hours : (1+0)

IV. Aim of the course

To acquaint with the certification procedures of seed and planting material.

V. Theory

Unit I

Introduction to certification. International scenario of certification and role of ISTA,

EPPO, OECD, etc. in certification and quality control. Case studies of certification systems of USA and Europe. National Regulatory mechanism and certification system including seed certification, minimum seed certification standards. National status of seed health in seed certification. Methods for testing genetic identity, physical purity, germination percentage, seed health, etc. Fixing tolerance limits for diseases and insect pests in certification and quality control programmes.

Unit II

Methods used in certification of seeds, vegetative propagules and *in-vitro* cultures. Accreditation of seed testing laboratories. Role of seed/ planting material health certification in national and international trade.

VI. Reference

Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies. Hutchins D and Reeves JE. (Eds.). 1997. Seed Health Testing: Progress Towards the 21st Century. CABI, UK. ISHI-veg Manual of Seed Health Testing Methods.

ISHI-F Manual of Seed Health Testing Methods.

ISTA Seed Health Testing Methods.

Tunwar NS and Singh SV. 1988. Indian Minimum Seed Certification Standards. Central Seed Certification Board, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi. US National Seed Health System.

e-Resources

http://www.aosca.org/index.htm.
http://www.worldseed.org/enus/international_seed/ishi_vegetable.html
http://www.worldseed.org/en-us/international _seed/ ishi_f.html
http://www.seedtest.org/en/content—1—1132—241.html
http://www.seedhealth.org

I. Course Title : Plant Biosecurity and Biosafety
II. Course Code : PATH 606
III. Credit Hours : 2+0

IV. Aim of the course

To facilitate deeper understanding on plant biosecurity and biosafety issues in agriculture.

V. Theory

Unit I

History of biosecurity, Concept of biosecurity, Components of biosecurity, Quarantine, Invasive Alien Species, Biowarfare, Emerging/ resurgence of pests and diseases. Introduction and History of biosecurity and its importance.

Unit II

National Regulatory Mechanism and International Agreements/ Conventions, viz., Agreement on Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures. World Trade Organization (WTO), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures, pest risk analysis, risk assessment models, pest information system, early warning and forecasting system, use of Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) for plant biosecurity, pest/ disease and epidemic management, strategies for combating risks and costs associated with agroterrorism event, mitigation planning, integrated approach for biosecurity.

Unit III

Biosafety, policies and regulatory mechanism, Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and its implications, Issues related to release of genetically modified crops. Emerging/ resurgence of pests and diseases in the changing scenario of climatic conditions. Issues related to release of genetically modified crops.

VI. Suggested Reading

Biosecurity: A Comprehensive Action Plan.
Biosecurity Australia.
Biosecurity for Agriculture and Food Production.
FAO Biosecurity Toolkit 2008.
Grotto Andrew J and Jonathan B Tucker. 2006. Biosecurity Guidance.
Khetarpal RK and Kavita Gupta 2006. Plant Biosecurity in India – Status and Strategy. Asian Biotechnology and Development Review **9**(2): 3963.
Randhawa GJ, Khetarpal RK, Tyagi RK and Dhillon BS (Eds.). 2001. Transgenic Crops and Biosafety Concerns. NBPGR, New Delhi.

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http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/fad/biosecure.*sht ml*
www.fao.org/docrep/010/a1140e/a1140e00.htm Laboratory
http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/biosafety/WHO_CD S_EPR_2006.pdf
http://www.americanprogress.org/kf/biosecurity_ a_comprehensive_ action_plan.pdf
www.biosecurity.govt.nz DEFRA. www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/control/biosecurity/ index.htm
www.daff.gov.au/ba;www.affa.gov.au/biosecurityaustralia Biosecurity New Zealand.
http://www.fao.org/biosecurity/ CFIA.

VII. List of Journals

- *Annals of Applied Biology* – Cambridge University Press, London
- *Annals of Plant Protection Sciences*- Society of Plant Protection, IARI, New Delhi
- *Annual Review of Phytopathology* – Annual Reviews, Palo Alto, California
- *Annual Review of Plant Pathology* – Scientific Publishers, Jodhpur
- *Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology* – Canadian Phytopathological Society, Ottawa
- *Indian Journal of Biotechnology* – National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources, CSIR, New Delhi
- *Indian Journal of Mycopathological Research* – Indian Society of Mycology, Kolkata.
- *Indian Journal of Plant Protection* – Plant Protection Association of India, NBPGR, Hyderabad.
- *Indian Journal of Virology* – Indian Virological Society, New Delhi
- *Indian Phytopathology*-Indian Phytopathological Society, IARI New Delhi.
- Journal of Mycology and Plant Pathology – Society of Mycology and Plant Pathology, Udaipur.
- *Journal of Plant Disease Science*- Association of Plant Pathologists (Central India) PDKV, Akola.
- *Journal of Phytopathology* – Blackwell Verlag, Berlin
- *Mycologia* – New York Botanical Garden, Pennsylvania
- *Mycological Research* – Cambridge University Press, London
- *Physiological Molecular Plant Pathology* – Academic Press, London – *Phytopathology* – American Phytopathological Society, USA
- *Plant Disease* – The American Phytopathological Society, USA
- *Plant Disease Research* – Indian Society of Plant Pathologists, Ludhiana
- *Plant Pathology* – British Society for Plant Pathology, Blackwell Publ.

- *Review of Plant Pathology* – CAB International, Wallingford
- *Virology*- New York Academic Press e-Resources
- www.shopapspress.org
- www.apsjournals.apsnet.org
- www.apsnet.org/journals
- www.cabi_publishing.org
- www.springer.com/life+Sci/agriculture
- www.backwellpublishing.com
- www.csiro.au
- www.annual-reviews.org