

TO: IFM Students, Class of 2012
FROM: Janet D. Smith, Ph.D.
Course Director, Microscopic Anatomy
RE: Lab Groups, Textbooks, & Exemption from Microscopic Anatomy
DATE: June 3, 2008

Hello and welcome to Drexel University College of Medicine. The purpose of this memo is to give you some advance information about the IFM Microscopic Anatomy course that begins in August. Specifically we want to tell you about how we will form lab groups, what books will be required, and the circumstances under which you can exempt from the course.

I. LAB GROUPS:

You will be able to make up your own lab groups, each consisting of 5 people. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the rear of the lecture auditorium during Orientation, and you must sign up by Friday, August 22, or else you will be randomly assigned to a group. Take advantage of Orientation and the first two weeks of classes to meet as many of your classmates as possible and find a congenial group with whom to work.

Each group will be assigned a locker containing a set of glass slides, and must provide a combination lock for that locker. You can all chip in to buy a lock at the bookstore, or bring one from home.

II. REQUIRED TEXT & ATLAS:

In case you want to get a jump on your reading, these are the required books for the course.

Text: Histology, A Text & Atlas by Ross & Pawlina. 5th edition. 2006. Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins. ISBN: 0-7817-5056-3.

Atlas: Wheater's Functional Histology: A Text & Colour Atlas by B. Young et al. 5th edition. 2006. Churchill Livingstone. ISBN: 0-443-06850-X.

There is a significant amount of reading at the very beginning of the course. You can get a valuable head-start by reading Chapters 1-3 of the Ross text, which will take you through the first module of the course.

III. EXEMPTION FROM THE COURSE:

Exemptions from the course can be given to students who, within the past 5 years, have earned an average of "B" or better in:

- a Microscopic Anatomy course at an accredited medical school, OR
- a graduate level Microscopic Anatomy course taken while enrolled as a post-baccalaureate student at an accredited college or university.

No exemptions are granted for undergraduate courses. All requests for exemption must be e-mailed to me (jsmith@drexelmed.edu) by August 22. Supporting materials such as a course schedule, syllabus, lab manual, or copies of exams may be required to help evaluate the content of the course you took, so bring these with you from home if you have them. Until a decision is made regarding the exemption request, students must continue to take all quizzes and exams given in the course. If the request is approved, you will have a grade of "Exempt" recorded on your transcript.

We hope this advance notice will give you time to think about this option and to find some of your old course materials. If you would like to discuss the pros and cons of exempting, I

would be happy to talk with you. You can e-mail me or speak with me at (215) 991-8474 any time except June 24- July 8.