

INTIMATE STRANGERS: MICROBIAL PARTNERS IN THE NATURAL WORLD

COURSE SYLLABUS

- The microbial biosphere: The birth of microbiology, a little history. A microbial census of the world
- Microbial evolution: Origin of life. How microbes shaped the physical world. Evolution of higher organisms
- Microbes as community builders. Microbial chemistries and physiologies. Microbes in nutrient cycles and food webs
- Microbes and other organisms: Tales of coexistence. Commensalism, mutualism and symbiosis. Plants as microbial habitats
- Microbes and insects: Intimate relations and living strategies. Mammals as microbial habitats
- Microbial interactions with humans: The human microbiome in health
- Microbes and disease – I: Pathogens and mechanisms of pathogenesis
- Microbes and disease – II: Pathogen-host interactions. Future trends