

BIOL S-172. Biological Perspectives on HIV and AIDS (CRN: 31099)

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Conservative estimates indicate that more than 60 million men, women, and children worldwide have been infected with HIV since the start of the epidemic. It is expected that the vast majority of these people will go on to develop AIDS and become part of the most serious medical crisis in recorded history. This course will examine the molecular biology of both the virus and the immune system that it destroys. The history of the disease also will be traced and compared to current theories of HIV transmission, clinical testing, and the potential for effective therapies and vaccines. The biology of the virus will be related at each step to issues of public policy and human behavior.