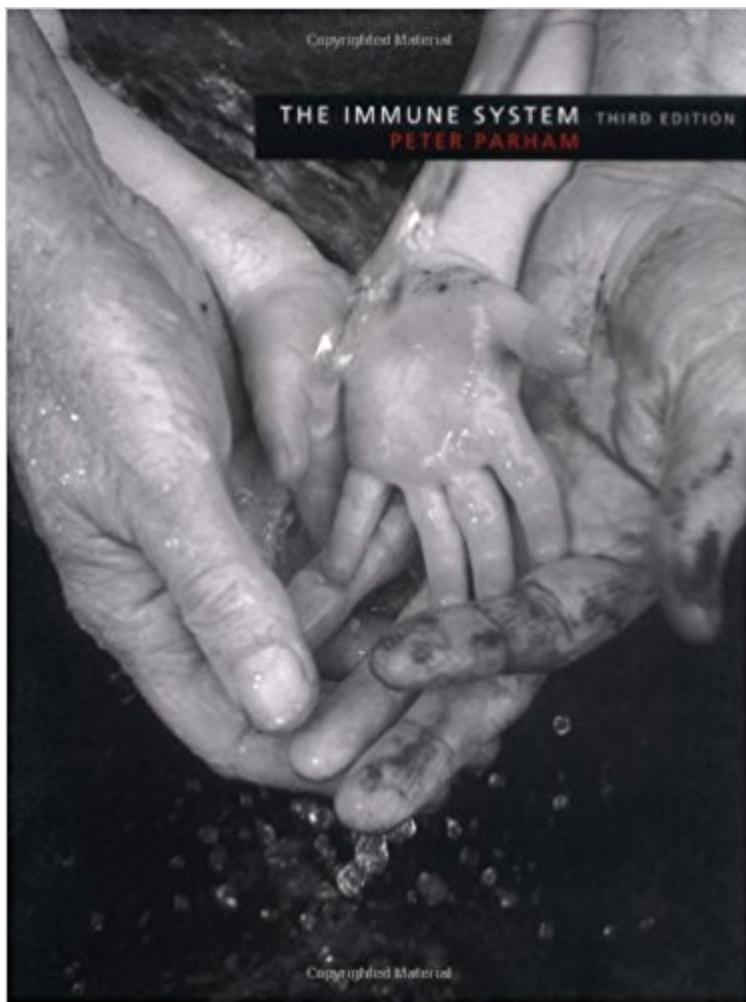


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# The Immune System, 3rd Edition



## **Synopsis**

The Immune System, Third Edition emphasizes the human immune system and synthesizes immunological concepts into a comprehensible, up-to-date, and reader-friendly account of how the immune system works. Written for undergraduate, medical, veterinary, dental, and pharmacy students in immunology courses, it makes generous use of medical examples to illustrate points. The Third Edition has been extensively revised and updated and includes two new chapters on innate and adaptive immunity, which explore the physical, cellular, and molecular principles underlying these responses to infection. It also features enhanced coverage of aspects of innate immunity such as the complement system, Toll-like receptors, defensins, and C-reactive protein; the role of dendritic cells in initiating the primary adaptive immune response and the functions of other cells that bridge innate and adaptive immunity; immunotherapies using humanized monoclonal antibodies to treat certain diseases; and the nature of the immune response in the mucosal tissues and immunological memory. The book offers over 500 full-color illustrations that complement and clarify the concepts. The end-of-chapter questions have been expanded and include essay, multiple-choice, and case study questions, with answers provided at the end of the book.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Praise for the Second Edition: "...Appealing and relevant for those students who approach the study of the immune system through a clinical lens, including students of medicine, pharmacology,

midwifery, or nursing; it would also be appropriate in an introductory immunology course." Clinical Immunology

Peter Parham is on the faculty at Stanford University where he is a Professor in the Departments of Structural Biology, and Microbiology and Immunology.

I bought this textbook because it was required for my undergraduate-level immunology class, but it would also be great for anyone who is learning immunology on their own. The way it is written makes it very easy to understand, and there are many colorful drawings that help explain what you are reading. It doesn't drag as much as other textbooks seem to. I actually find myself reading ahead of class because it's just so painless to read. There are a few things I might change about it, but compared to the many other horrible textbooks I've been subjected to, these imperfections are almost unnoticeable (a typo here and there, etc.). Some people in class are complaining that some of the drawings could be less confusing if they were colored differently, but I have not found that to be a problem at all. If you read the captions underneath the drawings like you're meant to, it makes perfect sense. I have the softcover version, and it's perfect for people who like to write tons of notes in the margins as they learn. This is a textbook that I will definitely be keeping for further reference, so I write all over it and use it as my notebook for class. There are areas I wish would go into further detail, but I can understand why an introductory textbook would leave those details out, as a class is only so many weeks long. The book is detailed enough that you should be able to access \*and actually understand\* most journal articles online regarding whatever aspect of immunology you wish to know more about. I've had good luck with books published by Garland Science in the past (Introduction to Protein Structure is a good one). You should be able to understand the book without taking microbiology, but a knowledge of micro will make it more interesting. A shaky background in molecular biology/genetics is good enough, but again, it will be more interesting if you brush up on this beforehand. The textbook mentions a great deal of problems in immunology that have yet to be solved, and if you have a background in these other areas, it makes it more intriguing to ponder possible solutions and to think about the impact these solutions would have on the scientific community and on society.

I had taken an immunology class using a different text book and failed the class, due to being able to understand only bits and pieces of a very disorganized description of the immune system. I am retaking the class, using this text book, and have a score of 100% so far in the class, with quizzes

and classwork. This is such a well organized, intelligently written text book. I have such a thorough understanding of what I've read so far and even confusing nomenclature, like all of the complement system's C3, C3B, factor B, factor D, C5, C6, iC3bBb...and TRLs, DAF, etc etc are becoming recognizable to me by name alone, because of how well the book describes the functions and the parts they play in larger mechanisms. I highly recommend this book for any immunology course, even if the class requires a different text. Subjects are very easy to look up in this book and are easily understandable without being simplified. This is one textbook actually worth the price tag.

I wouldn't normally rate a textbook... But I used this book in college along with some of my friends. I know how odd this sounds, but we seriously enjoyed reading this book. In college I had rented this book, and once I graduated I bought this just to have for myself. It makes learning immunology interesting without being boring. If your class has another immunology book I would get this one as a supplement only because I couldn't imagine the class without it.

Immunology is not usually regarded as one of those subjects that lends itself to easy understanding. I feel this book does a better than average job of describing how this confusing part of human physiology works. Everything is described in enough detail for an undergraduate senior level class, assuming one has a decent grasp of how biochemistry and/or molecular biology works. It makes it easier to make this subject easier to understand or maybe even enjoyable. I purchased the Kindle textbooks version which works with the non-Windows 8 app store (AKA: Metro) version of the Kindle app. The Windows 8 app doesn't support Kindle textbooks for some reason. That said this Kindle version works great with iPad 2 and the Kindle app for Windows Vista and 7. It is really nice to be able to do screen grabs of illustrations for reviewing material with the OneNote screen clipping tool.

I'm an Anatomy and Physiology instructor and bought this text because my own questions about immune function went beyond the scope of a typical A&P text. I borrowed The Immune System from a coworker and was shocked at its readability, especially considering that I have not had the opportunity to take immunology as a course. The text was so helpful and (dare I say it?) enjoyable to read that I had to have my own copy to refer back to anytime I need or, what the heck - to just read out of pure fascination.

great, very explanatory love the examples

This text does a great job balancing the need for simplicity when introducing concepts while providing enough detail to obtain a fairly complete understanding at the level needed for future physicians. Clinical aspects of immunology are well-integrated, and the end-of-chapter questions are a nice way to check your understanding while guiding you towards the level of thinking needed to correlate immune system function and pathology with patient symptoms and disorders. The writing is clear and easy to understand, and the figures are equally excellent (25-50 figures per chapter). Highly recommended for medical students and undergraduate students taking an immunology course. Including some references and further reading suggestions at the end of each chapter would have been great, but this is a fairly minor quibble for an otherwise outstanding book.

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