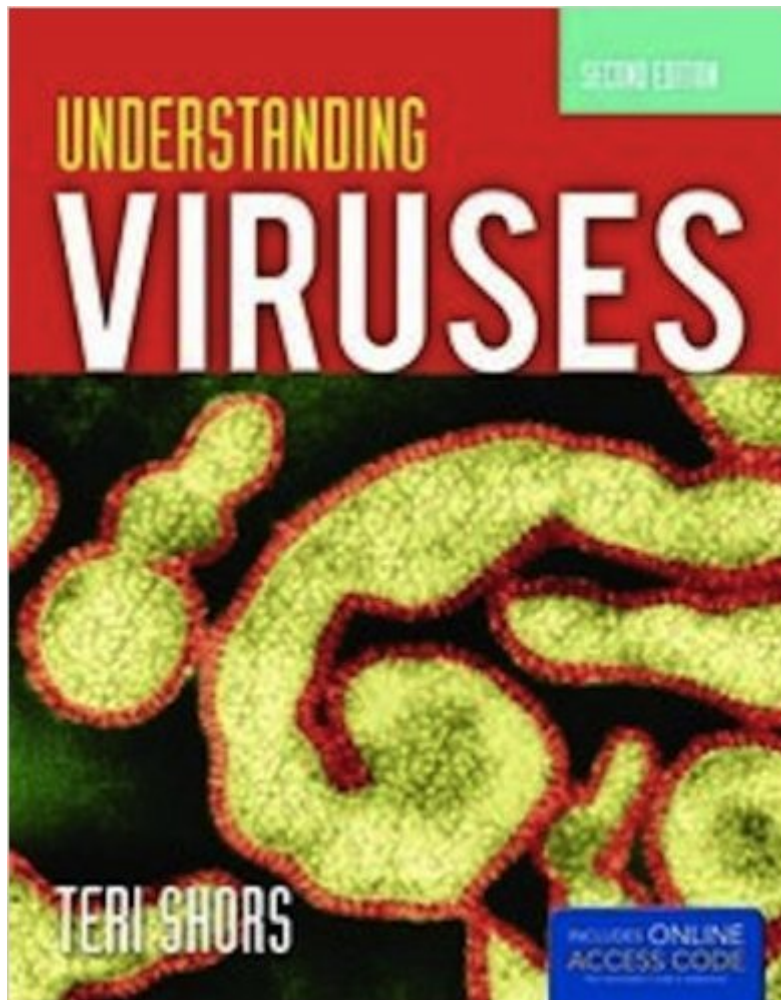


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# Understanding Viruses



## Synopsis

The ideal text for undergraduate students majoring in biology, microbiology, medical technology, or pre-med, the Second Edition of *Understanding Viruses* provides a balanced approach to this fascinating discipline, combining the molecular, clinical, and historical aspects of virology. Updated throughout to keep pace with this fast-paced field, the text provides a strong, comprehensive introduction to human viral diseases. New material on molecular virology as well as new virus families presented coupled with chapters on viral diseases of animals; the history of clinical trials, gene therapy, and xenotransplantation; prions and viroids; plant viruses; and bacteriophages add to the scope of the text. Chapters discussing specific viral diseases weave in an epidemiological and global perspective and include treatment and prevention information. Contemporary case studies, Refresher Boxes, and Virus Files engage students in the learning process. With a wealth of student and instructor support tools, *Understanding Viruses* is an accessible, exciting, and engaging text for your virology course.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (14 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I am a senior in an undergrad molecular biology program and this book was required for my virology class, and it really is a great book. Very easy to read and understand. It isn't written as dryly as many other biology textbooks.

Beautiful and excellent schemes/cartoons!! In some chapters, the text should be more rich in details

and pathogenesis, such as in the chapter of Papillomaviruses. I indicate for graduate students but NOT to virologists or to whom interested in details about viruses. The beautiful schemes are very didactic for class teaching...

Full of applicable and easy to understand examples. Makes the material interesting and doesn't have that awful elitist tone many highly technical science textbooks are plagued by. Wonderful illustration and color to make it a bit less tedious to read. In spite of the book being well suited to the lay person reader, the material is still very in depth, accurate, and current.

I love the study of viruses but did not like this book. I found the writing to be inconsistent, either really broad or really in-depth. It's good enough for a primer on viruses, our teacher did her best to use the book well, but I would not recommend the book.

Given that I took this class with the author, the book nonetheless was extremely helpful in my understanding of the topic. Dr. Shors made learning about viruses easy to understand. She didn't muck about unneeded information and got directly to the point. A lot of case files are included in which they were all very interesting and helped get the point across. While I passed the class with an A, this book helped immensely! I'd highly recommend it for a good read!

This book broke down the characteristics of the virus families in a simple and easy to understand manner. The illustrations in this book were beautiful and contributed greatly to the understanding of the information in this book. My only issue with this book was that its description of the viruses were very generally and there was little detail into various nuances of virus properties and virus families. The book provides a lot of information for each virus families especially those with popular viruses. I wish the book could go into more detail about newer or lesser known virus families but the detail would perhaps be too complex for what this book tries to accomplish. If you are look for a simple start into the complex world of virology, I highly recommend this book. It provides a great and general introduction to virology and provides a lot of information.

This is the book that is required for my senior level virology course. This book is very well written. It is not dull like many other textbooks that I have read (and I've read quite a few at this point). It really helps bring the fascinating world of viruses to you. The images are excellent, the diagrams are excellent, and most importantly the text and content is excellent. This text is actually hard to put

down. If you have had any molecular biology, cell biology, genetics, or biochemistry courses, I recommend this as reading material for anyone interested in learning more about viruses even if you are not taking a course.

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