This course is intended primarily for fellows in medical subspecialties including rheumatology, allergy, infectious disease, dermatology and others who have need of basic knowledge in basic and clinical immunology as it applies to disease pathogenesis and patient care. Over the course of the academic year, there will be approximately 12 lectures spanning a broad range of topics in immunology which will include among others: innate and adaptive immune responsiveness basic principles of T-cell biology, B-cell biology, antigen presentation, complement, and cytokine biology. Some topics will be basic with clinical implications while others will be presented primarily from the clinical immunology perspective. This course is not comprehensive and not a substitute for ongoing learning strategies but is designed to serve as an introduction for these strategies to allow the student to meet his or her individual goals in an organized fashion.

To make the course worthwhile several core articles are to be read prior to the course. These will be provided. All participants are encouraged to obtain THE IMMUNE SYSTEM by Peter Parham, 2nd Edition 2005, Garland Science.

Each Core lecture will contain approximately 2/3 basic immunologic concepts and 1/3 translational science. Wherever possible a reprint (PDF) will be distributed in advance with learning objectives prior to the session. The meeting will be held the first Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise noted, see September and November) at 7AM. Please respond by e-mail to Debora Bork, borkd@ccf.org, Administrator of the RJ Fasenmyer Center for Clinical Immunology, so we may put you on our e-mail list for reprints and important information.

Monthly lectures cover:

1) The philosophy of the innate immune system and adaptive immune response
2) T cell biology: Part 1
3) T cell biology: Part 2
4) B cell ontogeny and target B cells in autoimmune and inflammatory disease
5) Mechanisms of autoimmunity & the role of T regulatory cells
6) Complement
7) Immune cell trafficking in health and Disease: the role in chemokines
8) The immunology of aging and the effects of aging in HIV infection
9) Inflammatory cytokines in health and disease
10) Primary immune deficiency states
11) Advances in the immunopathogenesis of atopy/asthma