

# **OST 587: Directed Study in Human Prosecution (FKA ANTR 585)**

Fall 2025, 8/25/25 – 12/7/25

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## **Table of Contents**

### Faculty & Staff Information

- Course Director Biosketch
- Contributing Faculty
- Curriculum Assistants (CAs)
- Who to Contact with Questions

### Course Information

- Course Description & Overview
- Course Objectives
- Textbooks and Resources
- Grading Schema
- Grading Requirements
  - One-on-One with LA (EL Only)
  - 30% (Midway) Check-In
  - Faculty Assessment of Prosecution Project(s)


### Policies & Resources

- Academic Support Resources at MSUCOM
- College or University Policies with Which Enrolled Students Must Be Familiar
- Student Feedback
- Course Schedule and Changes to Schedule or Requirements

### Addendum: Course Schedule

## Faculty & Staff Information

### Course Director Biosketch

Contact Information	Biosketch
 <p><b>Nicole Geske, Ph.D.</b>  <a href="mailto:geskenic@msu.edu">geskenic@msu.edu</a>            517-353-5269            Primary Site: EL            Office Hours: N/A. Other days/times available by request.</p>	<p>Dr. Nicole Geske is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Human Anatomy in East Lansing. She teaches gross anatomy for undergraduate, graduate, and pre-clerkship medical students. She teaches anatomy and ultrasound labs for MSUCOM and serves as the East Lansing Anatomy Lab Site Director and Lab Director for several pre-clerkship courses for MSUCOM. She is also an instructor for the undergraduate pre-health professionals' anatomy course (ANTR 350), the undergraduate human gross anatomy laboratory course (ANTR 355), and the undergraduate, pre-clerkship, and clerkship human prosection courses (ANTR 485; OST 587, 670). Of these roles, she serves as a co-Course Director for ANTR 350 and as the Course Director for ANTR 355, as well as for the MSUCOM prosection courses (OST 587 and OST 670) and Independent Study in Clinical Morphology course (OST 588). She also teaches anatomy for the Advanced Baccalaureate Learning Experience (ABLE) program in the College of Human Medicine (CHM).</p>

### Contributing Faculty

Name	Email	Phone	Location
Libby Bradley, PhD	<a href="mailto:bradl437@msu.edu">bradl437@msu.edu</a>	515-355-6227	EL
Nicole Geske, PhD	<a href="mailto:geskenic@msu.edu">geskenic@msu.edu</a>	517-353-5269	EL
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Carrie Nazaroff, PhD	<a href="mailto:tatarcar@msu.edu">tatarcar@msu.edu</a>	734-536-6788	MUC
Sarah Tilden, PhD	<a href="mailto:tildensa@msu.edu">tildensa@msu.edu</a>	313-578-9612	DMC
Alexis VanBaarle, MS	<a href="mailto:vanbaarl@msu.edu">vanbaarl@msu.edu</a>	N/A	EL

## Curriculum Assistants (CAs)

Name	Email	Phone	Location
Nicole Geske, PhD	<a href="mailto:geskenic@msu.edu">geskenic@msu.edu</a>	517-353-5269	EL

## Who to Contact with Questions

Question, Need, or Topic	Contact Person
Course - Logistics & Details	Contact CAs for rooms, groups, materials, links, schedule, etc.
Course - Overall	Contact Course Directors (in bold above).
Course - Specific Content	Contact Contributing Faculty for the content (see schedule).
Absences	Contact Course Directors (in bold above).
Behavior	Submit exemplary or concerning behavior to the <a href="#">CGPI</a> .
Enrollment	Inquire with <a href="#">MSUCOM Registrar</a> .
Personal/Wellness Needs	Inquire with <a href="#">Wellness &amp; Counseling</a> .
Report kudos or suggestions related to inclusion in the curriculum	Submit a DO Better form. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/DO-Better-Form">https://tinyurl.com/DO-Better-Form</a>
Study Skills or Progression	Inquire with <a href="#">Academic &amp; Career Advising</a> .
Technical Support	Inquire with <a href="#">MSU IT Service Desk</a> . Indicate COM affiliation.

## Course Information

### Course Description & Overview

OST 587 is an elective course in the D.O. program. It is a 1- to 3-credit hour course. Prosection of selected regions and isolated structures of preserved human cadavers.

Although there are no required reading materials, the faculty **EXPECT THE STUDENTS TO PREPARE FOR THE PROSECTIONS** by reading more comprehensive texts and consulting anatomical atlases (books and electronic sources, etc.).

**Most students spend at least 6-8 hours per credit hour per week in the lab prosecting.** Nevertheless, please note that this course has a rather precarious balance between prosection speed and learning. Slow dissection facilitates learning, while some measure of speed permits additional and more varied prosection projects and increased exposure.

**Please be aware that prosection is tedious, slow, and frustrating. It requires attention to detail and planning.**

### Course Objectives

1. Gain in-depth experience and demonstrate competence in prosection/dissection.
2. Gain an understanding of three-dimensional presentations of anatomy through prosection.
3. Develop the ability to work independently and responsibly.

### Textbooks and Resources

Most MSUCOM courses make use of [D2L](#) as a course website to share materials, [Google Calendar](#) to share course schedules, [Zoom](#) to host online meetings, and [iClicker](#) to facilitate audience polling. Visit <https://bit.ly/msucomtech> for reminders on how to access and use these resources. Other course-specific resources include:

Status	Resource
Required	Free online anatomy resources through MSU Library: <a href="https://libguides.lib.msu.edu/anatomy-resources">https://libguides.lib.msu.edu/anatomy-resources</a>

### Grading Schema

Course scores will be determined using the following formula:

$$\frac{(\text{Combined Individual Activity or Assessment Points})}{(\text{Total Points Possible})} * 100\% = \text{Final Percent Score}$$

Course grades will then be assigned based on those course scores as follows:

- **P or Pass** - Satisfactory performance has been achieved and credit will be granted if a student's final percent score is 70% or higher. A student must complete prosection projects that total 5 difficult (50) points (1 credit), 7 difficulty (70) points (2 credits), or 8 difficulty (80) points (3 credits) and obtain 70% average for all completed prosection assignments. Each prosection project is worth 10-50 points, depending on the time required to complete that prosection and the difficulty.
  - **Note:** Non-medical students must take this course for a numerical grade.
- **N or No Grade** - Satisfactory performance has not been achieved and credit will not be granted if a student's final percent score is below 70%.
- **ET-Extension Grade** - a grade of "ET-Extension (ET)" may be given due to the occurrence of special or unusual circumstances, but a final grade must be reported upon completion of the final coursework in the sequence or in the time approved for the completion of the work. If a final grade is not reported during this period, the ET will be changed in accordance with the student's program grading system.
  - **Note:** ET grades require a formal agreement between the Course Director and the student.

Remediation is not offered for this course.

## Grading Requirements

The MSUCOM D.O. degree program incorporates both horizontal and vertical curriculum integration, meaning course activities and assessments require ongoing development and integration of knowledge and skills acquired in previous courses. Required components include:

Required Component	Projected Points	Material to be Covered
One-on-One with LA (EL Only)	N/A	Lab Assistant (LA) will provide prosecution lab orientation and begin project with student. Must be completed during first week of course.
30% (Midway) Check-In (First Project Only)	N/A	Faculty assessment of progress by specific date. Failure to schedule a check-in will result in a loss of 2 points; failure to meet 30% mark will result in a loss of 1 point.
Faculty Assessment of Prosecution Project(s) (Every Project)	Variable (10-50) for each assignment	Faculty assessment (“checkout”) of students prosecution for each assignment

### *One-on-One with LA (EL Only)*

Students must sign up for a One-on-One with a Prosecution Lab Assistant (PX LA). This meeting will occur during the first week of the course and must be completed by the Friday of the first week. PX LA will orient the student to the Prosecution Lab and will help the student start their first prosecution project.

### *30% (Midway) Check-In*

At the 30% completion mark of the first project, students are expected to schedule a “30% check-in” with a faculty member. Students should be able to: 1) identify the structures uncovered so far, 2) answer the learning objectives that apply to what they have uncovered so far, and 3) describe the next steps in their project.

Failure to schedule a 30% check-in with a faculty member by the date listed below will result in a loss of 2 points. Failure to meet the 30% mark at the time of check-in will result in a loss of 1 point.

- Students with 20- and 30-point projects: Friday of 2<sup>nd</sup> week of classes.
- Students with 40- and 50-point projects: Friday of 4<sup>th</sup> week of classes.

### *Faculty Assessment of Prosection Project(s)*

For each assigned prosection project, students are expected to schedule a “checkout” with their assigned faculty member by specific dates listed below. In EL only, students must first schedule an LA checkout prior to their faculty checkout. LA checkouts are due the Wednesday prior to the faculty checkout due date (see below).

Students should be able to: 1) identify the structures listed in the protocol on their prosection, 2) answer the learning objectives listed in the protocol, and 3) discuss structure-function, pathology, and/or structural variable, where applicable.

Students must complete their first project by the following dates:

- Students with 20-point projects: Friday of 5<sup>th</sup> week of classes.
- Students with 30-point projects: Friday of 7<sup>th</sup> week of classes.
- Students with 40-point projects: Friday of 11<sup>th</sup> week of classes.
- Students with 50-point projects: Friday of last week of classes.

Students must complete their last project by Friday of the last week of classes.

## **Policies & Resources**

### **Academic Support Resources at MSUCOM**

Students are encouraged to connect with [Academic and Career Advising](#) (ACA) to access academic, board, and career advising across the 4-year D.O. curriculum. As a way to acclimate to the MSUCOM curriculum, you may access ACA's [On Target](#) website for semester roadmaps, tools needed to be successful in the curriculum, and targeted resources for different learning situations. Each semester's roadmap contains course expectations, tips, potential challenges, notes on longitudinal content and skills integration, and study guides.

### **College or University Policies with Which Enrolled Students Must Be Familiar**

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Location</b>
Common Ground Professionalism Initiative	<a href="#">MSUCOM CGPI Site</a>
Computer-Based Testing	<a href="#">Student Handbook - CBT Policy</a>
Disability & Reasonable Accommodation	<a href="#">Student Handbook - Diversity and Inclusion</a>
iClicker	<a href="#">Student Handbook - Information Technology Resources</a>
Medical Students Rights and Responsibilities	<a href="#">Office of Spartan Experiences Site</a>

Policy	Location
MSUCOM Academic Code of Professional Ethics	<a href="#">Student Handbook - Academic Code of Professional Ethics</a>
Osteopathic Clinical Training & Student Safety	<a href="#">Student Handbook - Osteopathic Clinical Training &amp; Student Safety</a>
Preclerkship Attendance & Absences	<a href="#">Student Handbook - Attendance &amp; Absences</a>
Pregnancy and Pregnancy-Related Conditions	<a href="#">Pregnancy and Parenting Information   Office for Civil Rights and Title IX</a>
Relationship Violence & Sexual Misconduct & Title IX	<a href="#">Office for Civil Rights &amp; Title IX Education &amp; Compliance Site</a>
Religious Observance Policy	<a href="#">Office of the Registrar Site</a>
Remediation	<a href="#">Student Handbook - Remediation</a>
Student Handbook	<a href="#">Student Handbook</a>

## Student Feedback

MSUCOM values student feedback, using this to model practice-based learning and improvement and to promote continuous quality improvement of learning experiences.

Route	Description
Informal	We invite you to respectfully provide constructive suggestions to Course Directors, Contributing Faculty, or Curriculum Assistants at any time.
Formal	MSUCOM will deploy brief surveys through Medtrics to gain feedback on the Course, Course Directors and Contributing Faculty. Additionally, MSU sends an optional Student Perceptions of Learning Survey (SPLS) to enrolled students at the conclusion of each course to gain feedback on the course and Course Directors.

## Course Schedule and Changes to Schedule or Requirements

Due to external circumstances (e.g., weather/maintenance closures, clinical obligations, student cohort needs, etc.), course requirements published in the course syllabus and/or course schedule may be subject to change. Timely communication regarding changes will be provided to enrolled students via the course [D2L](#) site, [Google Calendar](#), and/or [MSU email](#). Contact curriculum assistants with questions. Any changes made will be considerate of the [MSU Code of Teaching Responsibility](#) and the [Medical Students Rights and Responsibilities](#).

**Addendum: Course Schedule**

Updated 06.04.25

Date	Time	Topic/Title	Theme	Faculty	Event Type	Venue (Origin*)	Notes
TBD	TBD	Mandatory Orientation	N/A	EL: Geske; DMC: Tilden; MUC: Nazaroff	EL: Online Live; DMC & MUC: TBD by site coordinator	EL: Online Live; DMC & MUC: TBD by site coordinator	Mandatory; date/time determined by the site coordinator.
PX Lab Availability	PX Lab Availability	Prosecution of Project(s)	N/A	N/A	In-Person Live	Site-specific	Variable number of prosecution assignments.
1 <sup>st</sup> week of classes	TBD	One-on-One with LA (EL Only)	N/A	EL Anatomy Faculty	In-Person Live	EL	EL only
20- and 30-point projects: due Friday of 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of classes.	TBD	30% (Midway) Check-In	N/A	Anatomy Faculty	In-Person Live	Site-specific	First project only
40- and 50-point projects: due Friday of 4 <sup>th</sup> week of classes.							



Date	Time	Topic/Title	Theme	Faculty	Event Type	Venue (Origin*)	Notes
20-point projects: due Friday of 5 <sup>th</sup> week of classes.	TBD	Faculty Assessment of Prosecution Project: First Project	N/A	EL: Assigned EL Anatomy Faculty; DMC: Tilden; MUC: Nazaroff	In-Person Live	Site-specific	Variable number of prosecution assignments.
30-point projects: due Friday of 7 <sup>th</sup> week of classes.							
40-point projects: due Friday of 11 <sup>th</sup> week of classes.							
50-point projects: due Friday of last week of classes.							
Due Friday of last week of classes.	TBD	Faculty Assessment of Prosecution Project: Last Project	N/A	EL: Assigned EL Anatomy Faculty; DMC: Tilden; MUC: Nazaroff	In-Person Live	Site-specific	Variable number of prosecution assignments.