



The university recognizes some students may be unable to attend cadaver dissection laboratory sessions due to a hypersensitivity to the chemical substances associated with this facility or for other health reasons. The university may approve an alternative program of instruction for such students. Before an alternative program of instruction may be established as an accommodation, the student must provide documentation of the relationship between his/her health concern and exposure to the dissection lab with the office of student services by providing a letter from an appropriately licensed healthcare practitioner, as defined by the state of Oregon, confirming the student is experiencing an illness or condition that is caused or aggravated by the dissection lab environment. The letter must include recommendations on the extent and conditions under which the student may participate in the dissection lab experience. If, in the university's opinion, the original documentation is not sufficient to demonstrate bona fide need for the student's requested accommodation, UWS reserves the right to require the student be reevaluated by another licensed healthcare practitioner at the university's discretion. The dean of the academic program in which the student is enrolled will coordinate with the office of student services to develop and implement an appropriate accommodation as necessary.

A pregnant student should consult with her health care provider in making her decision regarding attendance in the dissection laboratory and engagement in cadaveric dissection. A pregnant student may opt to defer, without penalty, completion of the dissection lab course requirement until after the pregnancy is completed. In such a case the student will complete the lab dissection requirement at the next available offering of the course.

At the discretion of the university, alternatives to the conventional dissection lab experience may include, but not be limited to:

- Utilization of additional personal protection equipment (PPE) such as filtered masks and/or coveralls. Any/all PPE must be purchased by the student.
- Reduced attendance expectations limited to review, observational, and/or exam opportunities.
- Engagement with prosected specimens, models, and/or digital resources (e.g., video, software.)

At the discretion of the university, competency assessment for a student engaged in an alternative program of anatomy instruction may include, but not be limited to, participation in:

- Cadaver-based practical exams with the other students enrolled in the course.
- Cadaver-based practical exams administered individually.
- Non-cadaver based practical exams utilizing models and/or digital resources (e.g., video, software.)

**Related Policy:** Policy 1206 Technical Standards  
Policy 1208 (B) Student Accommodations

**Keywords:** accommodation, cadaver, dissection, lab