

Virtual Mentor

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PERSONAL NARRATIVE

Through the Student's Eyes: "Thoughts on Gross Anatomy"

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"The act of human dissection may very well be the one event that distinguishes physicians from nonphysicians in a very real way," says medical student Eric David in his "Thoughts on Gross Anatomy." As the semester-long course in "gross" draws to a close, Virtual Mentor offers Eric David's reflection on the violation and mystery that dissection entails. David also expresses gratitude—his own and that of fellow students—for the "profound gift" of those who granted their bodies for medical student use.

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David E. [Thoughts on gross anatomy](#). *Ann Intern Med.* 1999;131(12):974-975.

Audiey Kao, MD, PhD is editor in chief of *Virtual Mentor*.

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