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## Plastic Surgery Mini-Elective Spring 2021

Course Dates: Fridays, 2:00-4:00 PM  
January 8, 15, 22, February 19, 26

Maximum Students: 20-30

Class Year: MS1 and MS2

Course Directors: Jesse Goldstein, MD, FAAP, FACS  
Associate Professor  
Craniofacial Fellowship Director  
Department of Plastic Surgery

Contact Information: Jesse Goldstein, MD, FAAP, FACS  
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Registration: Denise Downs ([ddowns@pitt.edu](mailto:ddowns@pitt.edu))

### Description:

Welcome to Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery 101. From hand surgery to medical mission work, cutting edge stem cell research to congenital craniofacial surgery, and from microvascular breast reconstruction to facial aesthetics, plastic surgery is a surgical field like no other. This mini-elective is designed to give Pitt Medical students a deeper understanding of our amazing and diverse field. Forget what you have learned on Dr. 90210 or Nip/Tuck. In this course you will come to appreciate the diversity, the innovation, and the expertise in our field. During the five week course, you will learn about the reconstructive framework plastic surgeons use to solve any challenge. The first hour of each session will be devoted to a specific subspecialty within plastic surgery (hand, pediatric/craniofacial, breast, head and neck, aesthetic). The second hour will be devoted to honing your plastic surgery skills including basic suturing, the hand exam, recognizing skull shapes, marking out cleft lips, and learning to think like a plastic surgeon.

### Objectives:

At the end of the course, students will be able to

- Describe the basic framework for solving reconstructive problems – the reconstructive ladder
- List basic principles and procedures of the plastic surgery sub-specialties
- Gain an appreciation for the anatomic basis for plastic surgery
- Learn fundamentals of suturing
- Understand the opportunities to engage in basic science and clinical research within the Department of Plastic Surgery.

### Requirements:

Attend all sessions, participate in an active and engaged manner.

### Pre-Requisites:

None

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

**Plastic Surgery Mini-Elective**  
**Fridays—2:00-4:00 PM**  
**January 8, 15, 22, February 19, 26**

**Course Director:**  
**Jesse Goldstein, MD**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Craniofacial Fellowship Director**  
**Department of Plastic Surgery**  
**Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh**

**Participating Faculty:**  
**Vu Nguyen, MD**  
**Alex Davit, MD**  
**Joseph Losee, MD**  
**Jeff Gusenoff, MD**  
**Kacey Marra, PhD**

**Eligibility:** First and second year students are encouraged to register.

**Requirements:** Attend all sessions, be engaged and eager to learn about our wonderful specialty.

**Location:** Various noted in each session

### **Session 1: An introduction to Plastic Surgery/Basic Suturing**

**Faculty:** Jesse Goldstein, MD and Vu Nguyen, MD

**Location:** TBA

Description: This session will introduce learners the diverse field of plastic surgery and to the basic framework for problem solving employed in all fields within plastic surgery – the reconstructive ladder. We will spend the second hour of class going over basic suturing techniques so students can start their clinical rotations on the right foot.

### **Session 2: Hand Surgery/Examining the hand**

**Faculty:** Alex Davit, MD

**Location:** TBA

Description: This session will focus on surgery of the hand, one of the most exciting specialties in plastic surgery. Learners will be exposed to congenital, traumatic, and acquired hand issues and how plastic surgeons use their skills to address them. The second hour will focus on learning how to examine the hand to diagnose any abnormality.

### **Session 3: Craniofacial Surgery/Marking out a cleft lip and skull shapes**

**Faculty:** Jesse Goldstein, MD & Joseph Losee, MD

**Location :** TBA

Description: This week's session will focus on surgery of the craniofacial region – one of the densest anatomic neighborhoods in the body. Topics including craniosynostosis, cleft lip/palate, congenital facial differences and facial trauma will be discussed. The second hour will be spent marking a cleft lip for repair and getting a "hands on" experience with head shape differences secondary to craniosynostosis.

### **Session 4: Breast and Micro surgery/Aesthetic surgery**

**Faculty:** Vu Nguyen, MD & Jeff Gusenoff, MD

**Location:** TBA

Description: This session will focus on the meat of modern plastic surgery: breast, microsurgery, and aesthetic surgery. Topics include autologous and implant-based breast reconstruction, selecting the right free flap for the defect, and general concepts in Aesthetic surgery.

### **Session 5: Plastic Surgery research/Putting it all together and ways to get involved**

**Faculty:** Kacey Marra, Ph.D., Jesse Goldstein, MD and Vu Nguyen, MD.

**Location:** TBA

Description: This last session focuses on innovation and research in plastic surgery, including basic science, translational and clinical research. We will review broad areas of investigation in the field as a whole as well as what is being done here at Pitt. The second hour will focus on how students can get involved with the Department of Plastic Surgery including research and clinical experiences.