



BGSC INSTRUCTOR APPRECIATION

2022 – 2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

This term, we wish to acknowledge and express our appreciation for the significant contributions of BGSC Instructors, Dr. Hossam Elsharkawi and Dr. Ross Brown. They have been instructors of the course [SURG 514 – Surgical Care in Humanitarian Disaster Response](#) since it launched in 2015. Through the this course, students examine the current status of global activity by national and international responders to both natural and conflict-related humanitarian disasters with particular emphasis on the role of surgical care. Students also address strategies to move from relief to recovery, and case models of surgical care responses in humanitarian disasters.

The course instructors both bring a wealth of experience, knowledge and leadership in the humanitarian assistance field. They have helped update the course to reflect new information and trends , including adding interviews and resources relating to recent, real life humanitarian crises such as the Ukraine conflict, Tonga volcano and the earthquakes in Syria and Türkiye.

They have also provided guidance and support to students and responded to discussion posts with thoughtful questions which stimulated dialogue and development of a learning community in the course. As a result, the course and their instruction as well as that of co-instructor, Dr. Jana Macleod, have been highly valued by learners as evidenced in evaluations.

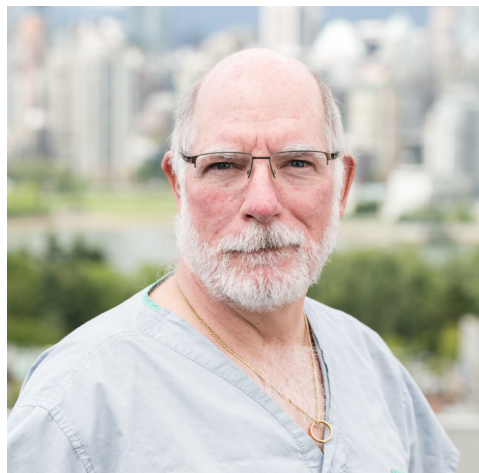
BGSC would like to recognize the significant and continued contributions of these two instructors this past term and for the past several years in providing an enriching environment for our students.

Here is some of the positive feedback received from students about Dr. Brown and Dr. Elsharkawi:

- *"Involvement of very competent and experienced instructors."*
- *"Very engaged, attention to detail, good communication, provided additional resources during discussions."*
- *"Excellent, amazing experience and translation, very attentive."*
- *"[The instructor's] discussion posts always help me think about the subject beyond our readings and understand humanitarian disasters we read about in the news from a different perspective."*
- *"Online discussions were always well facilitated and interesting. Always learned so much more from instructors and classmates from online discussions after the module reading was completed."*
- *"[The instructor] was an excellent and engaged facilitator in the course. [They] always encouraged thoughtful discussions and actively shared [their] experience and expertise with the student."*
- *"Very appreciative of the consistent interaction in the discussions. Previous experiences and extra resources were effective, and followup questions inspiring."*
- *"[The instructor] was exceptionally engaging and resourceful, sharing [their] personal and extensive experiences with students. I learned a lot from [their] responses, and they were always thought-provoking and encouraging."*

DR. ROSS BROWN

OMM, CD, MA, MD, FRCSC, FACS



Dr. Brown is a Clinical Professor, Department of Surgery, UBC, and is a practicing general and trauma surgeon at Lions Gate Hospital. He is the Vancouver Coastal Health Medical Director of Health Emergency Management and during his time in the Canadian Armed Forces he completed two tours in Bosnia and three in Afghanistan. In 2010, Dr. Brown was seconded to the Vancouver Olympic Committee to support the Olympic and Paralympic Games, managing the Whistler Polyclinic, which included the Mobile Medical Unit.

DR. HOSSAM ELSHARKAWI

PHD

Dr. Elsharkawi is Regional Director at International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies – IFRC, Middle East & North Africa.

Previously, Dr Elsharkawi worked with the World Health Organization (WHO) to develop guidance for medical teams responding to health emergencies in armed conflict and insecure environments. He was Vice President for international operations at the Canadian Red Cross and led response operations globally. He is currently an Adjunct Professor at the University of British Columbia and guest faculty at McGill and McMaster Universities where he teaches disaster response and healthcare in complex humanitarian crises.

