

John D. Ratliff, CST, MHA, FAST
Program Director

Greensboro, NC 27282

803-524-4562

Jdratliff2@gtcc.edu

Biography

John has been a Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) since 1994, with more than 20 years of experience in surgical technology education. Since 2003, he has served as an instructor, clinical instructor, program director, and associate professor. Currently serving as the Surgical Technology Program Director at Guilford Technical Community College, John is also the author of Surgical Technology: Principles and Practice, 9th Edition (Elsevier, 2026), and an independent expert witness consultant specializing in surgical technology and operating room practices. His accomplishments include the AST Educator of the Year Award (2008), AST President's Award (2005), FAST designation (2008), and GTCC Excellence in Teaching Award (2023). He has also served two terms on the AST Board of Directors and one term as AST National Secretary.

Specialties

John has extensive experience in surgical technology program leadership, CAAHEP accreditation, curriculum development, and instructional design. He specializes in CST exam preparation, student success, clinical education, competency assessment, and surgical technology laboratory instruction. His additional expertise includes active and collaborative learning strategies, textbook authorship, operating room practices, aseptic technique, surgical instrumentation, and professional standards.

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