Lab 16 Dissection Steps:

- Incise the abdominal wall on each side, just dorsal to the rectus abdominis m. Begin your incisions, one on each side, at the costal arch and extend them to the level of the inguinal canal. Connect the two incisions cranially and reflect the ventral abdominal wall caudally.

- Identify the parietal and visceral peritoneum

- Identify the falciform ligament (usually fat-filled)
  - Attempt to identify the round ligament of the liver (aka umbilical v. remnant); this is usually seen in younger animals

- Identify the median ligament of the bladder

- Identify the region of the vaginal ring and identify the deep inguinal ring

- In the male, identify the ductus deferens inside the abdominal cavity before it enters the inguinal canal

- Identify the caudal epigastric artery and vein on the deep face of rectus abdominis m.

- Identify the greater omentum
  - Identify the omental bursa

- Reflect the greater omentum cranially to identify structures within the abdomen

- Identify the urinary bladder

- In the intact FEMALES, identify the uterus and its parts: cervix, body, and uterine horns

- Identify the spleen
  - Attempt to identify the gastrosplenic ligament

- Identify the diaphragm and its parts: tendinous center, lumbar part (left crus & right crus), costal part, sternal part and cupula.
  - Identify the three ‘passageways’ through the diaphragm: the aortic hiatus, esophageal hiatus, and caval foramen

- Identify the liver and its lobes: right medial and right lateral lobes, quadrate lobe, left medial and left lateral lobes and the caudate lobe
  - Identify the caudate process and the papillary process of the caudate lobe
  - Attempt to identify hepatic ducts

- Identify the gallbladder
  - Attempt to identify the cystic duct

- Identify the bile duct
Identify the stomach and its parts: cardiac part, fundus, body, pyloric part
   - In the pyloric part, identify the pyloric antrum, pyloric canal and the pylorus (sphincter)
   - Identify the greater & lesser curvatures of the stomach

Open the stomach along the parietal surface (midway between the greater and lesser curvatures), remove the contents and observe the interior rugae.

Reflect the greater omentum cranially and the jejunum to one side to expose the duodenum.

Identify the duodenum and its parts: cranial duodenal flexure, descending part, caudal duodenal flexure, ascending part, and the duodenojejunal flexure

Identify the jejunum

Identify the mesenteric lymph nodes

Trace the jejunum to its termination as the ileum on the right side of the abdomen.

Identify the ileum and the cecum.

Carefully open the terminal ileum, the cecum and adjacent ascending colon to observe and identify the ileal orifice (ileocolic orifice) and the cecocolic orifice (distinct in the dog; less so in the cat).

Identify the colon and its parts: ascending, transverse, descending, and right & left colic flexures

Identify the rectum