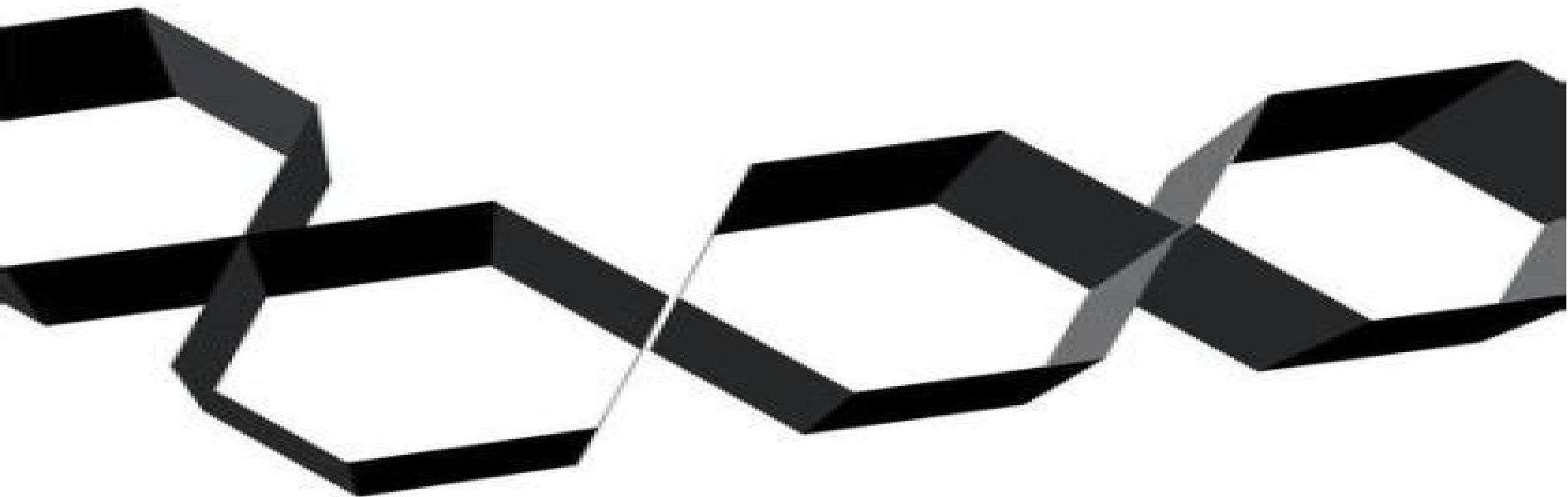


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Biology and the Foundation of Ethics



Cambridge Studies in Philosophy and Biology

Biology And The Foundations Of Ethics

Jane Maienschein, Michael Ruse



Biology And The Foundations Of Ethics:

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Evolution and the Foundations of Ethics John Mizzoni, 2017-02-03 If human biological evolution is part of our worldview then how do commonplace notions of ethics fit in To ask the question what does evolution imply about ethics we must first be clear about what we mean by evolution *Evolution and the Foundations of Ethics* discusses four models of evolution represented by Darwin Dawkins Gould and Haught We must also be clear about what we mean by ethics Do we mean metaethics If so which variety With metaethical theories such as Error Theory Expressivism Moral Relativism and Moral Realism theorists are attempting to explain the general nature status and origins of ethics In the first four chapters of this book Part I John Mizzoni examines how metaethical theories fit with evolution Next in asking about the implications of evolution for ethics do we mean normative ethics Theorists who work with normative ethical theories such as Virtue Ethics Natural Law Ethics Social Contract Ethics Utilitarian Ethics Deontological Ethics and Ethics of Care articulate and defend a normative ethics that people can and do use in a practical way when deliberating about specific actions rules and policies The next six chapters Part II look at how normative ethical theories fit with evolution A full reckoning of ethics and evolution demands that we consider the range of ethical elements both metaethical and normative Thus this book looks at what several different models of evolution imply about four metaethical theories and six normative ethical theories This book will be of interest to scholars interested in the intersection of evolutionary theory and ethical theory

The Biological Foundations of Bioethics Tim Lewens, 2015-01-08 Much recent thought on the ethics of new biomedical technologies and work in ethics and political philosophy more generally is committed to hidden and contestable views about the nature of biological reality This selection of essays by Tim Lewens a leading expert in the field teases out

these biological foundations of bioethical writing and subjects them to scrutiny The topics covered include human enhancement the risks of technical progress the alleged moral threat of synthetic biology the reality of human nature the relevance of evolutionary psychology to social policy the nature of the distinction between health and disease and justice in healthcare decision making

Evolution and Ethics Philip Clayton, Jeffrey Schloss, 2004-08-04 Certain to engage scholars students and general readers alike Evolution and Ethics offers a balanced levelheaded constructive approach to an often divisive debate

Experimenting in Tongues Matthias Dörries, 2002 Leading scholars in the history of science address the historical methodological and ideological motivation behind scientists use of language metaphors such as reading the human genome rewriting the genetic code and developing programming language

Evolutionary Intuitionism Brian Zamulinski, 2007-03-19 Evolutionary Intuitionism presents a new evolutionary theory of human morality Zamulinski explains the evolution of foundational attitudes whose relationships to acts constitute moral facts With foundational attitudes and the resulting moral facts in place he shows how they ground a plausible normative morality give answers to meta ethical questions and provide an account of moral motivation He explains the nature of moral intuitions and thus of our access to the moral facts He shows that the theory makes confirmed empirical predictions including the observable variation in moral views The combination of intuitionism and evolutionary ethics enables Zamulinski to overcome the standard objections to both

Fritz Jahr and the Foundations of Global Bioethics Amir Muzur, Hans-Martin Sass, 2012 Leading bioethicists from America Asia and Europe discuss Jahr s visionary concept of an ethics of bios integrating the ethics of land community health and culture in light of global challenges in the 21st century

Owen's Ape and Darwin's Bulldog Christopher E. Cosans, 2009-02-18 After Richard Owen criticized Darwin s Origin he was labeled a creationist by many and his work on ape anatomy was derided by Darwin s bulldog Thomas Huxley In this close analysis of Owen s texts Christopher E Cosans argues that Owen s thought was much more sophisticated than Huxley portrayed it In addition to considering Owen and Huxley s anatomical debate Owen s Ape and Darwin s Bulldog examines their philosophical dispute Huxley embraced the metaphysics of Descartes while Owen felt philosophy of science should rest on Kant s claim that sense perception does not tell us how things in themselves really are Owen thought the creationist Darwinist dispute was unproductive and held that both 19th century special creationists and Darwin s suggestion in the Origin that God created the first life forms unnecessarily brought supernatural causation into science With the hindsight of how the theory of evolution has progressed over the last three centuries the Owen Huxley debate affords the history and philosophy of science a case study It sheds light on theories of knowledge that have been advanced by Quine Wittgenstein Hanson and Putnam Owen s Ape and Darwin s Bulldog also examines Malthus Mill and Marx for the influence of economic thought on early evolutionary theories and considers broader ideas about how science and society interact

The Restless Clock Jessica Riskin, 2016-03-10 A wide ranging witty and astonishingly learned scientific and cultural history of the concept of the capacity to act in nature London Review of Books

Today a scientific explanation is not meant to ascribe agency to natural phenomena we would not say a rock falls because it seeks the center of the earth Even for living things in the natural sciences and often in the social sciences the same is true A modern botanist would not say that plants pursue sunlight This has not always been the case nor perhaps was it inevitable Since the seventeenth century many thinkers have made agency in various forms central to science The Restless Clock examines the history of this principle banning agency in the life sciences It also tells the story of dissenters embracing the opposite idea that agency is essential to nature The story begins with the automata of early modern Europe as models for the new science of living things and traces questions of science and agency through Descartes Leibniz Lamarck and Darwin among many others Mechanist science Jessica Riskin shows had an associated theology the argument from design which found evidence for a designer in the mechanisms of nature Rejecting such appeals to a supernatural God the dissenters sought to naturalize agency rather than outsourcing it to a divine engineer Their model cast living things not as passive but as active self making machines The conflict between passive and active mechanist approaches maintains a subterranean life in current science shaping debates in fields such as evolutionary biology cognitive science and artificial intelligence This history promises not only to inform such debates but also our sense of the possibilities for what it means to engage in science and even what it means to be alive Praise for The Restless Clock A wonderful contribution and much needed corrective to the history of European ideas about life and matter Evelyn Fox Keller author of The Mirage of a Space between Nature and Nurture Engrossing and illuminating Nature A sweeping survey of the search for answers to the mystery of life Riskin writes with clarity and wit and the breadth of her scholarship is breathtaking Times Higher Education UK

Decoding **Biology And The Foundations Of Ethics**: Revealing the Captivating Potential of Verbal Expression

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