

## History of Morphology

**Instructor:** David Daegling  
**Office:** Turlington B376  
**Office Hours:** M 3-4 PM, W 1-3 PM

**Class Meets:** M periods 5-7, TUR B304  
**Email:** daegling@ufl.edu  
**Phone:** (352) 392-2253 x245

---

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

We critically examine the history of ideas in comparative anatomy and morphology from Aristotle to the present. Emphasis is on the role of theory in shaping interpretations of morphology in comparative, functional and phylogenetic contexts. The impact of evolutionary theory on morphological thought is a central theme of the seminar.

### TEXTS

Russell ES (1917) *Form and Function* (**FF**, this title is out of print). Various vendors on the web are selling reprints. If you cannot locate a reprinted version, a facsimile can be purchased at OBT ((309 NW 13<sup>th</sup> St., 375-2707).

Gould SJ (1977) *Ontogeny and Phylogeny*. Cambridge, Belknap (**O&P**).

Amundson R (2007) *Richard Owen on the Nature of Limbs*. University of Chicago Press (**RO**).

Additional readings will be posted on E-Learning in Sakai (<http://lss.at.ufl.edu>).

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

You will be evaluated primarily on your contributions to discussion in the seminar. You are expected to be prepared to discuss all reading in depth every week. On occasion, the instructor will assign one student a literature review of material germane to the topic under consideration from which the student will present a brief synopsis to the class.

In order to situate the course material within the domain of biological anthropology, each student will prepare a detailed discussion of a prominent morphologist within the discipline, emphasizing the theoretical position of that individual and the underlying historical influences of that position. There is no set length to this paper, although 10-20 pages (double-spaced) ought to suffice. Students are free to choose their own morphologist for the paper (subject to instructor approval), otherwise, one will be selected for students who do not have an individual approved by 2/28. Students will present their findings from this paper at the last class meeting.

## **GENERAL CLASSROOM POLICIES**

- SILENCE OR TURN OFF CELL PHONES
- No food or drink in TUR B304.
- Cheating or plagiarism in any form is subject to university policy as outlined by the Dean of Students (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>).
- Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

DATE	LECTURE TOPIC	REQUIRED READINGS**
1/10	Course outline and expectations	
1/17	No Class: MLK Holiday	
1/24	Founders of Comparative Morphology	<b>FF</b> Chs. 1-2; <b>O&amp;P</b> Ch. 2; Blitz 1999; Vogt, 2008
1/31	Cuvier – Geoffroy Debate	<b>FF</b> Chs. 3-5; Panchen, 2001; McBirney et al., 2009
2/7	Transcendentalists I	<b>FF</b> Chs. 6,7,9-12; <b>O&amp;P</b> Ch. 3; Brady 1984
2/14	Transcendentalists II: Owen	<b>RO</b> VII-XCI; 1-86. <b>FF</b> Ch. 8
2/21	Evolutionary Thought	<b>FF</b> Ch. 13; <b>O&amp;P</b> Ch. 4; Amundson 1998
2/28	Haeckel and the Jena School	<b>FF</b> Chs. 14-17; <b>O&amp;P</b> Ch. 5; Nyhart 1987
3/7	No Class: Spring Break	
3/14	Rise of Materialism	<b>FF</b> Chs. 18-20; <b>O&amp;P</b> Ch. 6; Roll-Hansen 1984
3/21	The Modern Synthesis	<b>O&amp;P</b> Ch. 7; Hoßfeld & Olsson 2003; Webster & Goodwin 1984; Grene 1958
3/28	Teleology and Homology	O’Grady 1984; Ruse 2000; Hall 2000; Lauder 1982
4/4	Constructional and Theoretical Morphology	Seilacher 1984; Thomas & Reif 1993; Gudo et al. 2002
4/11	Contemporary morphology in anthropology	Liem, 1991; Galis 1996; Rieppel 1994; Hall 2001
4/18	Student presentations	