Course offering for Spring 2017

GMS6013 – Developmental Genetics: Ontogeny & Phylogeny
cross listed with
ZOO6927– Special Topics: Ontogeny & Phylogeny

Course description:
Stephen Jay Gould was one of the most influential evolutionary biologists of the 20th Century. In 1977, he published "Ontogeny and Phylogeny", which was the foundational text of modern Evolutionary Developmental Biology and is still arguably the clearest window into what might be thought of as "classical" Evo-Devo, many years before molecular genetics and genomics were applied to developmental questions.

On the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the publication of “Ontogeny and Phylogeny”, we will offer a one-credit seminar in which we read and discuss "Ontogeny and Phylogeny" in light of the developments (slight pun intended) of the past forty years. The class will meet once a week for two hours. Students will be required to lead at least one discussion, and to write an essay on a related topic of the student's choosing.

Grading system: The grade for this class will be determined by contribution to discussions throughout the class, leadership of an assigned chapter discussion, and the written essay.

Instructors: Marty Cohn (Professor, Dept. of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology) and Charlie Baer (Professor, Dept. of Biology)

Credits: 1

Meeting time: Two hours/week, Thursdays 10am-12pm, during spring semester (Modules 1-3)