

HPSC30004 Darwinism (Science 3)

Credit Points:	12.50						
Level:	3 (Undergraduate)						
Dates & Locations:	This subject is not offered in 2011. Standard						
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 3 (2x 1 Hour Lectures and 1x 1 hour tutorial each week.) Total Time Commitment: An average of 8.5 hours each week						
Prerequisites:	At least two of the following subjects (25 points) must be completed before enrolling in HPSC30008: HPSC30008 Astronomy in World History HPSC20010 Intimacy and Technology HPSC20020 God and the Natural Sciences HPSC20002 A History of Nature PHIL20001 Science, Reason and Rationality HPSC20009 Cybersociety						
Corequisites:	None.						
Recommended Background Knowledge:	Knowledge gained in completion of at least two subjects (25 points) of second year subjects in History and Philosophy of Science.						
Non Allowed Subjects:	Students who have completed 136-029, 136-329, 672-315 or HPSC20015 Darwinism, are not permitted to enrol in this subject. <table border="1" data-bbox="389 987 1484 1137"> <thead> <tr> <th>Subject</th> <th>Study Period Commencement:</th> <th>Credit Points:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>HPSC20015 Astronomy in World History</td> <td>Semester 2</td> <td>12.50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:	HPSC20015 Astronomy in World History	Semester 2	12.50
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HPSC20015 Astronomy in World History	Semester 2	12.50					
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements of this entry. The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements. Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/						
Contact:	Dr James Bradley (http://www.pasi.unimelb.edu.au/hps/staff/bradley/) jbradley@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:jbradley@unimelb.edu.au)						
Subject Overview:	This subject will provide students with an exciting and stimulating introduction to the origins and implications of Charles Darwin's revolutionary theory of evolution by means of natural selection. We begin by exploring the pre-Darwinian cosmos, a place where an omnipotent God designed and ordained the natural world, and where nature was viewed through the lens of the Bible. But during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries this view was challenged by scientists and philosophers. We explore the impact of these ideas, particularly: the new geology that challenged the Biblical stories of Creation and the Great Flood. the observations of plants and animals that began to suggest common descent. the evolutionary theories that preceded Darwin's own. and the fraught socio-economic context that arguably helped inspire Darwin's vision of a natural world steeped in struggle. Particular emphasis is placed upon Darwin's life, and the influence of society and culture upon his worldview. Here we explore the voyage of the Beagle as a watershed in Darwin's life and thinking. For five years he crisscrossed the oceans and circumnavigated the world, collecting specimens and observing nature. His experiences upon the voyage led him to question contemporary approaches to the origins of species, and to develop his own theory of evolution. But for many years he not make his views public, only admitting them to a close circle of friends, until a letter from Alfred Wallace prompted him hurriedly to publish Origin of Species in 1859. Why did Darwin delay? We discuss this issue in detail. The appearance of Origin caused a sensation, and we explore the impact of his work and the vigorous debates that surrounded it as a case study in the						

	creation of scientific legitimacy and authority. We then chart how his theory was challenged and refined by generations of biologists, particularly Mendelian genetics. But equally important to the course is the application of evolutionary theory to the huge questions of religion, politics, warfare, colonialism, economics, as well as race, class and gender, from the late nineteenth until our own day. Explorations of Social Darwinism and Eugenics are fundamental aspects of this course, as is the issue of Darwinism's difficult relationship with god. We conclude with a discussion of Darwin's legacy both in terms of the relationship between science and religion, and the emergence of evolutionary approaches to understanding the human mind and behaviour.
Objectives:	Upon successful completion of this subject, students are expected to possess: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # an effective grasp of the history and historiography (i.e. how historians have written about over time) of Darwin and evolutionary theory. # a sound critical ability, enabling the effective analysis and synthesis of the historiography. # the ability to express a clear and sophisticated opinion about Darwin and Darwinism both to experts and to interested outsiders. and, # the ability to undertake independent research and reading within the field, including the use of library resources (e.g. finding a book in the open stacks, or using Supersearch), and other online resources.
Assessment:	A tutorial assignment of 1500 words 25% (due mid-semester), a long essay of 3000 words 50% and a 1500-word project on an advanced topic related to the subject but not covered in classroom teaching 25% (both due at the end of semester). A hurdle requirement of a minimum attendance at 75% of tutorials applies in this subject. Regular participation in tutorials is required. All set assignments must be submitted in order to pass this subject.
Prescribed Texts:	Janet Browne, Darwin's Origin of Species: A Biography (New York: Grove Press, 2008)
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # develop skills in written and oral communication. # conduct independent research. # make appropriate use of primary and secondary sources in mounting an argument. # form defensible judgements based on a critical evaluation of conflicting arguments.
Links to further information:	https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2011/755-BB
Notes:	This subject is only available to pre 2008 science students for credit at third year level. Students enrolled in the BSc (pre-2008 degree only), or a combined BSc course (except for the BA/BSc) will receive science credit for the completion of this subject. This subject is based on HPSC20001 but involves additional work. This subject is not available as Breadth for new Gen students.
Related Majors/Minors/Specialisations:	History and Philosophy of Science (pre-2008 Bachelor of Science) Science credit subjects* for pre-2008 BSc, BASc and combined degree science courses