Contents

Preface			xi
Part I		Introduction	1
1	The	eory Really Matters:	
	Philosophy of Biology and Social Issues		
	1.1	The Science of Life Itself	3
	1.2	Is There an Essential Human Nature?	7
	1.3	Is Genuine Altruism Possible?	10
	1.4	Are Human Beings Programmed by Their Genes?	13
	1.5	Biology and the Pre-emption of Social Science	17
	1.6	What Should Conservationists Conserve?	19
2	The	Received View of Evolution	
	2.1	The Diversity of Life	22
	2.2	Evolution and Natural Selection	31
	2.3	The Received View and Its Challenges	38
Part II		Genes, Molecules, and Organisms	53
3	The	Gene's Eye View of Evolution	
	3.1	Replicators and Interactors	55
	3.2	The Special Status of Replicators	61
	3.3	The Bookkeeping Argument	66
	3.4	The Extended Phenotype	70
4	The	Organism Strikes Back	
	4.1	What Is a Gene?	77
	4.2	Genes Are Active Germ Line Replicators	82
	4.3	Genes Are Difference Makers	87

viii Contents

5	The	Developmental Systems Alternative		
	5.1	Gene Selectionism and Development	94	
	5.2	Epigenetic Inheritance and Beyond	95	
	5.3	The Interactionist Consensus	97	
	5.4	Information in Development	100	
	5.5	Other Grounds for Privileging Genes	106	
	5.6	Developmental Systems and Extended Replicators	107	
	5.7	One True Story?	109	
6	Mendel and Molecules			
	6.1	How Theories Relate: Displacement, Incorporation, and		
		Integration	112	
	6.2	What Is Mendelian Genetics?	121	
	6.3	Molecular Genetics: Transcription and Translation	124	
	6.4	Gene Regulation	128	
	6.5	Are Genes Protein Makers?	132	
7	Reduction: For and Against			
	7.1	The Antireductionist Consensus	137	
	7.2	Reduction by Degrees?	139	
	7.3	Are Genes DNA Sequences Plus Contexts?	141	
	7.4	The Reductionist Anticonsensus	142	
Pá	art III	Organisms, Groups, and Species	149	
8	Org	anisms, Groups, and Superorganisms		
	8.1		151	
	8.2	The Challenge of Altruism	153	
	8.3	1	156	
	8.4	Group Selection: Take 2	160	
	8.5	Population-Structured Evolution	166	
	8.6	Organisms and Superorganisms	172	
9	Spe	ecies		
	9.1	Are Species Real?	180	
	9.2	The Nature of Species	184	
	9.3	The One True Tree of Life	194	
	9.4	Species Selection	201	

Contents i

Part IV		Evolutionary Explanations	215
10) Ad	aptation, Perfection, Function	
	10.1	Adaptation	217
	10.2	Function	220
	10.3	The Attack on Adaptationism	224
	10.4	What Is Adaptationism?	226
	10.5	Structuralism and the Bauplan	228
	10.6	Optimality and Falsifiability	234
	10.7	Adaptation and the Comparative Method	241
11	Ad	aptation, Ecology, and the Environment	
	11.1	The Received View in Ecology	253
	11.2	History and Theory in Ecology	258
	11.3	The Balance of Nature	266
	11.4	Niches and Organisms	268
	11.5	Reconstructing Niches	272
	11.6	Unfinished Business	276
12	Life	on Earth: The Big Picture	
	12.1	The Arrow of Time and the Ladder of Progress	280
	12.2	Gould's Challenge	287
	12.3	What Is Disparity?	291
	12.4	Contingency and Its Consequences	296
	12.5	Mass Extinction and the History of Life	302
	12.6	Conclusions	306
Рa	rt V	Evolution and Human Nature	311
13	Fro	m Sociobiology to Evolutionary Psychology	
	13.1		313
	13.2	The Wilson Program	318
	13.3	From Darwinian Behaviorism to Darwinian Psychology	321
	13.4	Evolutionary Psychology and Its Promise	324
	13.5	Evolutionary Psychology and Its Problems	328
	13.6	Memes and Cultural Evolution	332
14	A C	ase Study: Evolutionary Theories of Emotion	
	14.1	•	337
	14.2	Sociobiology and Evolutionary Psychology on the Emotions	341

x Contents

14.3	The Modular Emotions	344
14.4	Beyond the Modular Emotions	348
14.5	Emotion, Evolution, and Evolved Psychology	352
Part VI	Concluding Thoughts	355
15 Wh	at Is Life?	
15.1	Defining Life	357
15.2	Universal Biology	364
15.3	Simulation and Emergence	370
Final The	379	
Glossary	383	
References	391	
Index	423	