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Genetics

With Introductions by Cedric I. Davern

"The science of genetics, which seeks to describe and explain the phenomenon of heredity . . . has transformed the taxonomical and descriptive pursuits of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century natural historians into the experimental and thoroughly materialist inquiries of twentieth-century research biologists."
—from the General Introduction

Genetics is a collection of 28 articles, many written by foremost geneticists. Together with Gregor Mendel's classic paper, the selections furnish firsthand accounts of the significant problems and advances in genetic inquiry.

This anthology affords a cohesive and balanced presentation of the two traditions that exist within genetics. The first is the synthesist tradition of evolutionary study, which has its roots in Darwin's theory of natural selection. The other—the reductionist tradition—is more specific, having its origins in Mendel's theory.

Illuminated by Cedric I. Davern's introductions, the articles in *Genetics* provide a series of vignettes characterizing the endless search to explain the phenomenon of heredity. It is an excellent resource for anyone with an interest in genetics and a valuable supplement for courses in molecular biology and physical anthropology.

Cedric I. Davern holds a B.S. from the University of Sydney and an M.A. and a Ph.D. from the California Institute of Technology. Presently the Vice-President for Academic Affairs at The University of Utah, he has concentrated his research in the areas of genetics and molecular biology.

X-ray photograph by H. R. Wilson.
Overlay from F. H. C. Crick, "The Genetic Code: III."

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