

This established, popular textbook provides a stimulating and comprehensive introduction to the insects, the animals that represent over half of the planet's biological diversity. In this new fourth edition, the authors introduce the key features of insect structure, function, behavior, ecology, and classification, placed within the latest ideas on insect evolution. Much of the book is organized around major biological themes: living on the ground, in water, on plants, in colonies, and as predators, parasites/parasitoids, and prey. A strong evolutionary theme is maintained throughout. The ever-growing economic importance of insects is emphasized in new boxes on insect pests, and in chapters on medical and veterinary entomology, and pest management. Updated 'Taxoboxes' provide concise information on all aspects of each of the 28 major groupings (orders) of insects, plus the three orders of non-insect hexapods.

The authors maintain the tradition of clarity and conciseness set by earlier editions, and the text is illustrated profusely with specially commissioned hand-drawn figures. The illustrations and the informative text aim to encourage the scientific study of insects, either as a vocation or as a hobby. The book is intended as the principal text for students studying entomology, as well as a reference text for undergraduate and graduate courses in fields of ecology, agriculture, fisheries and forestry, paleontology, zoology, and medical and veterinary science.

Companion website available at www.wiley.com/go/gullan/insects

Penny Gullan and **Peter Cranston** are professors in the Department of Entomology, University of California, Davis, USA, where they jointly teach undergraduate courses in biodiversity, insect systematics, and general entomology, and conduct research on Coccoidea and Chironomidae, respectively. They maintain strong connections to the Australian National University, Canberra, where, as Visiting Fellows, much of this fourth edition was revised.

The front cover depicts images of several existing or emergent insect pests: (top left) Formosan subterranean termite soldier; (middle) mealybug; (main) glass-winged sharpshooter.

Cover design by Design Deluxe



 **WILEY-BLACKWELL**
www.wiley.com/wiley-blackwell

ISBN 978-1-4443-3036-6



9 0000