

Taft Research Center for the Humanities -University of Cincinnati
Darwin Discussion Group (DARWIN SESQUICENTENNIAL)

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Reading Group on Darwin will bring together individuals from all of the Taft Departments (as well as other interested A&S faculty members) to read and discuss *On the Origin of the Species* (1859) during its sesquicentennial anniversary. To encourage a direct engagement with Charles Darwin's ideas, to foster the broadest possible interest across disciplines, and to maximize faculty participation, the Taft-Sponsored Darwin Discussion Group will read exclusively and in entirety *On the Origin of Species* (1859).

The Darwin Group will meet monthly; and each monthly session will be led by a faculty discussion leader who will frame the conversation from a distinct disciplinary perspective, before opening the conversation to interdisciplinary modes of reading and analysis. Although the Darwin Discussion Group will foster cross-disciplinary perspectives, faculty discussion leaders will also contribute a valuable discipline-specific focus.

MEETING DATES/TIMES at TAFT HOUSE

All sessions will meet at the Taft House on the following Thursdays starting at 4:00 PM: January 29, February 26, March 19, April 30, and May 28

EDITIONS

The Darwin Discussion Group will use the first edition published in 1859. Two additions may be ordered: the Harvard facsimile edition and the 2003 Broadview Press edition (which contains the first edition and additional contextual materials).

The full text is available online from one of the following websites:

The Complete Works of Darwin Online [<http://darwin-online.org.uk/>]

Project Gutenberg [<http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/1228>]

2009 READING SCHEDULE

January 29 at 4:00 pm

Leader: Ron Millard, Biology

Preface and Introduction

C 1. Variation Under Domestication

C 2. Variation Under Nature

February 26 t 4:00 pm

Leader: George Bishop, Political Science

C 3. Struggle for Existence

C 4. Natural Selection

C 5. Laws of Variation

March 19 at 4:00 pm

Leaders: Jeremy Koster & Ken Tankersley, Anthropology

C 6. Difficulties on Theory

C 7. Instinct

C 8. Hybridism

April 30 (Thursday) at 4:00 pm

Leaders: Bob Richardson & Rob Skipper, Philosophy

C 9. On the Imperfection of the Geological Record

C 10. On The Geological Succession of Organic Beings

C 11. Geographical Distribution

May 28 at 4:00 pm

Interdisciplinary Final Session

C 12. Geographical Distribution continued

C 13. Mutual Affinities of Organic Beings: Morphology: Embryology: Rudimentary Organs

C 14. Recapitulation and Conclusion

Glossary