

Final Exam for SC401, SC501, and AP862

Evolutionary Biology & Intelligent Design

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*Please answer each of the following questions. Answer every part of each question. Be concise. This exam is **closed-book**. You may not consult any outside resources in completing it. You have **3 hours** from the time you start to finish the exam.*

1. Identify the following (give first and last name where applicable) [1 point each/10 points total/½ for only the last name]:
 - a. Author of *On the Origin of Species*.
 - b. Author of *Natural Theology* (1802). In this book the author makes a famous watchmaker argument.
 - c. Author of *The Blind Watchmaker*.
 - d. The Cal Berkeley law professor who is widely regarded as the architect of the ID movement.
 - e. Author of *Darwin's Black Box*.
 - f. Chief organization defending intelligent design.
 - g. The school teacher who in 1925 stood trial for teaching evolution.
 - h. Author of *The Descent of Man*.
 - i. Best known current defender of theistic evolution (hint: he heads up the NIH).
 - j. Author of *The Design Inference*.

2. Define the following terms and briefly note their significance [3 points each/30 points total]:
 - a. intelligent design
 - b. creationism
 - c. Darwinian evolution
 - d. methodological naturalism (or methodological materialism)
 - e. Cambrian explosion
 - f. irreducible complexity
 - g. specified complexity
 - h. theistic evolution
 - i. eugenics
 - j. chemical evolution

3. You are to debate atheist Richard Dawkins in a public forum. He is charging that ID is pseudoscience. Turn the tables on him by (1) showing that ID does indeed deserve to be called science and (2) pointing out how Darwinism itself stands in danger of being a pseudoscience. Outline your argument here. [10 points]

4. You and a partner are a tag team about to debate the merits of evolution with two theistic evolutionists. Your partner will handle the scientific case against evolution and for intelligent design. Your task is to show that the cultural ramifications of evolution are so negative that it should not be considered a viable Christian option on those grounds alone. Make such a cultural argument against theistic evolution by drawing from John West's book *Darwin Day in America*. [10 points]
5. How have coevolution and co-option been used to refute Michael Behe's contention that irreducibly complex biochemical systems are beyond the reach of Darwinian evolution? Indicate why coevolution and co-option do not in fact overcome the challenge posed to Darwinian evolution by irreducible complexity. [10 points]
6. Whatever happened to junk DNA? What is junk DNA? Why was the concept introduced in the first place, and who had a vested interest in introducing it? What happened to discredit this concept? How is it seen that a strand of DNA is not junk? Why does the absence of junk DNA in the cell count as evidence against Darwinism and for intelligent design? [10 points]
7. Why did materialistic scientists resist the Big Bang when it was first proposed? How has the Big Bang been used to support theism? Describe some of the arguments used by cosmologists to argue for the intelligent design of the universe (recall the video *The Privileged Planet*). [10 points]
8. Sketch the argument for a retroactive view of the Fall. Why is such an argument being made at this time? Would there have been any interest in making such an argument prior to the rise of modern science (i.e., before the 16th and 17th centuries)? Explain. What challenges has science posed to the traditional view of the Fall? How do you personally handle these scientific challenges to the Fall? [10 points]