

# Medical/Physiological Sciences at Oxford

## POSSIBLE READING LIST FOR POTENTIAL APPLICANTS

This list contains a selection of good, accessible reading that may widen your appreciation of the Biological Sciences. It is far from complete and you are certainly not expected to read them all.

**GENERAL** (a few of these are not be in print, but they should be in many libraries).

Advice to a Young Scientist: Medawar (1981) Sloan Foundation Sci Series. £15

The Logic of Life: ed. Boyd & Noble (1993) Oxford Univ Press ca. £10

Aristotle to Zoos: P & J Medawar (1985) Oxford Univ Press ca. £7

The Life Science: P & J Medawar (1978) Oxford Univ Press ca. £7

Pluto's Republic (including the Art of the Soluble): P Medawar (1984) Oxford Univ Press ca. £7

The Faber Book of Science: ed. Carey (1995) Faber £17.50

Popper: Magee. (1985) Fontana Modern Masters £6

The Logic of Scientific Diversity: Karl Popper (2002) Routledge £10

A Short History of Nearly Everything: Bill Bryson (2004) Transworld Publishers Ltd Black Swan £9

The Biological Sciences Review - Philip Allen Pub, Market Place, Deddington OX15 0SE £12.50/yr for students

New Scientist and Scientific American have excellent coverage of current issues.

'News and Views' in the journals Nature and Science cover current issues at a fairly sophisticated level.

The Oxford Book of Modern Science Writing: ed. Richard Dawkins (2007) Oxford University Press £20

Oxford Observed: P Snow (1991) John Murray Publ ca. £9

## GENETICS AND EVOLUTION

Any book by Stephen Jay Gould, Richard Dawkins, Steve Jones, Bryan Sykes or Matt Ridley.

Genes Peoples and Languages: Luigi Luca Cavalli-Sforza (2001) Penguin £8

Darwin's Dangerous Idea - Evolution and the Meanings of Life: Daniel C Dennett (1996) Penguin Books £12

Guns Germs and Steel: J Diamond (1996) ca. £18

An Intelligent Person's Guide to Genetics: Adrian Woolfson, (2004) Duckworth Overlook £15

Figments of Reality: Ian Stewart & Jack Cohen (1999) Camb Univ Press £10

## SYSTEMS PHYSIOLOGY AND NEUROPHYSIOLOGY

Life at the Extremes: Frances Ashcroft (2002) Univ California Press £9

Neuroscience - Science of the brain - R Morris & M Fillenz (2003) Brit Neurosci Assoc [www.bna.org.uk](http://www.bna.org.uk) £8

The Human Brain - A Guided Tour: Susan Greenfield (2000) Orion £7

Eye and Brain: Richard Gregory, (1997) Oxford Univ Press £12

The Accidental Mind: Brain Evolution Love Memory Dreams God: David Linden (2008) Harvard U Press £12

The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat: Oliver Sacks (1986) Picador £7

Phantoms of the Brain: VS Ramachandran & Oliver Sacks, (1999) Fourth Estate £10

The Music of Life - Biology Beyond the Genome: Denis Noble. (2006) Oxford University Press £13

An Introduction to Nervous Systems: Ralph Greenspan (2007) Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press £27

The Tinkerer's Accomplice: How design emerges from life itself – J Scott Turner (2007) Harvard U Press £15

## FOR THOSE APPLYING FOR MEDICINE

So you want to be a Brain Surgeon? A Medical Careers Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> ed Weatherall et al (2001) Oxford U Press £18

The Essential Guide to Becoming a Doctor. Blundell, Harrison & Turney (2003) BMJ Books £20

Microbe Hunters. Paul de Kruif (2005) Kessinger Publ £21

Medical Ethics: A Very Short Introduction. Tony Hope (2004) Oxford Univ Press £10

Bedside Stories: Confessions Of A Junior Doctor. Michael Foxton (2003) Atlantic Books £8

The House of God. Samuel Shem (1985) Transworld Publishers Ltd Black Swan £8

Mount Misery. Samuel Shem (1997) Ivy Books £10

The Rise and Fall of Modern Medicine. James Le Fanu (2000) Times Warner Books £11

## Useful web sites for candidates

**Physiological Sciences web site etc:** [www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/physiology](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/study/physiology)

**Univ prospectus:** [www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate\\_courses/courses/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate_courses/courses/) **Oxford Med School:** [www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/)

**Student British Medical Journal** online: <http://student.bmj.com/subscribe.php> - 11 issues/yr for £39

**Introduction to the National Health Service** by Wikipedia - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Health\\_Service](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Health_Service)

**BMAT center web site:** <http://bmat.org.uk>

<http://randomreality.blogware.com> - AND/OR [mental.org.uk](http://mental.org.uk) for medics who want to know what hospital work is like

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