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**Cognitive Foundations of Natural History** - Scott Atran - 1993


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Influenced by a debate between Noam Chomsky and Jean Paget, this work traces the development of natural history from Aristotle to Darwin, and demonstrates how the science of plants and animals has emerged from the common conceptions of folkbiology.


People have always been somehow, but an explicit philosophical and scientific view of human racial difference only began to emerge during the modern period. Why and how did this happen? Surveying a range of philosophical and natural-scientific texts, dating from the Spanish Renaissance to the German Enlightenment, Nature, Human Nature, and Human Difference charts the evolution of the modern concept of race and shows that natural philosophy, particularly efforts to taxonomize and to order nature, played a crucial role. Smith demonstrates how the denial of moral equality between Europeans and non-Europeans resulted from converging philosophical and scientific views, including a declining belief in human nature's universality and the rise of biological classification. The racial typology of human beings grew from the need to understand humanity within an all-embracing system of nature, alongside plants, minerals, and other animals. While racial difference as seen through science did not arise in order to justify the enslavement of people, it became a rationalization for the practices of trans-Atlantic slavery. This book will fascinate reading for students, academics and anyone who is interested in the history of science, or in the ancient history of ideas.

**Ancient Natural History** - Justin E. H. Smith - 2017-03-14

This book provides a critical philosophical analysis of the claim that contemporary cognitive approaches to religion undermine theistic beliefs. Recent scientific work thinker, school, or movement, thus enabling a much more historically nuanced picture of the period to be painted.

**Narrative Unbound: Re-Visioning William Blake's The Four Zoas** - Aku Visala - 2016-04-22

The literary and cultural politics surrounding the formation of the modern scientific disciplines emerging from eighteenth-century natural history. Revealing how scientific concerns were literary concerns in the Romantic period, the contributors uncover the vital role that new discoveries in earth, plant, and animal sciences played in the period's literary culture. As Thomas Pennant put it in 1772, "Natural History is, at present, the favourite science over all Europe, and the progress which has been made in it will distinguish and characterize the eighteenth century in the annals of literature." As they examine the social and literary ramifications of a particular branch or object of natural history, the contributors to this volume historicize our present intellectual landscape by reimagining and rethinking the disciplinary boundaries between literature and science. "This book displays interpretive brilliance. A stunning array of methods are applied to an extraordinarily wide range of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century texts, involving new readings of canonical works. It dramatically clarifies the relationships between major figures of the period, and brings to light texts, contexts, and controversies that have not been confronted in such detail in previous scholarly studies." — Donald Ault, author of Narrative Unbound: Re-Visioning William Blake's The Four Zoas

**Romantic Science** - Noah Hertzing - 2003-07-01

Uncovering the role that new scientific discoveries played in Romantic literary culture. Although "romantic science" may sound like a paradox, much of the romance

**Common Sense and Science from Aristotle to Reid** - Benjamin W. Bedeski - 2020-11-05

Common Sense and Science from Aristotle to Reid reveals that thinkers have pondered the nature of common sense and its relationship to science and scientific thought for a very long time. It demonstrates how a diverse array of neglected early modern philosophers tackled the question of how the mind makes sense of the world and how basic features of the human mind and cognition are related to scientific theory and practice. Drawing on a wealth of primary sources and scholarship from the history of ideas, cognitive science, and the history and philosophy of science, this book helps readers understand the fundamental historical and philosophical relationship between common sense and science.

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The Transatlantic Hispanic Baroque - Harold E. Braun - 2016-03-03

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In Practicing Safe Sects F. LeRon Shults provides scientific and philosophical resources for having "the talk" about religious reproduction: where do gods come from - and what are the costs of bearing them in our culturally pluralistic, ecologically fragile environment?

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