This book should be considered by all teachers of human anatomy and physiology as a potential textbook.

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ILLUSTRATED HUMAN EMBRYOLOGY: VOL. 3, NERVOUS SYSTEM AND ENDOCRINE GLANDS, by H. Tuchmann-Duplessis, M. Auroux, and P. Haegel. 1974. Springer-Verlag, New York. 143 p. $9.80.

The formal study of embryology has been severely curtailed by the increasing encroachment of time available for teaching anatomy. This is regrettable in view of its increasing importance to modern medicine. Tuchmann-Duplessis and his associates succeed in giving us three outstanding books on human embryology. Volumes 1 and 2 deal with embryogenesis and organogenesis. This third volume covers the development of the nervous system, the sense organs, and those endocrine glands specifically related to the nervous system.

In clear and concise terms, we receive a vivid and conclusive account of the development of the nervous system. One can easily read the book in one evening, and the fantastic illustrations prove that "a picture is worth a thousand words." Perfect photomicrographs and matching colored drawings of a "Michaelangelo" quality lend clarity and simplicity to the developing organism so that the reader does not have to rely on his memory to organize a mass of material. Many will enjoy this work because there are no hypothetical ventures—it simply "tells it like it is."

The discussion of the central nervous system development in man summarizes the complex stages undergone by neural structures during the course of evolution. In an attempt to make embryological information more integrated and meaningful, the authors present developmental concepts on a comparative basis with some zoological overtones. The sense organs and endocrine glands are treated as functional systems organized around the central nervous system. The authors present the synthesized currently accepted viewpoint, but footnotes point out areas of controversy. Each section ends with a strong summary on human malformations.

The usefulness of this volume loses nothing in the translation from French to English. Writing a book of this size on human embryology is a big job requiring a great deal of courage. I congratulate the authors on a great contribution to medical education.

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Related Fields

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY: ITS ARTS AND TECHNIQUES, by Heather Angel. 1974. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 222 p. $14.95 (hardback).

The author, a British biologist and professional photographer, has attempted to cover the techniques needed to photograph any form of flora or fauna and to provide a description of the morphology of each organism photographed. Neither goal is reached effectively.

The book contains 150 black-and-white photographs and 24 pages of color plates. The author uses only a Hasselblad camera; after reading the first chapter, in which she discusses necessary equipment, the average biology teacher or amateur nature photographer will be convinced that he is incapable of taking nature photos with his own equipment. The book would be more useful for a professional photographer or a college biology department that needs a reference source on how to photograph a particular biological group of organisms.

Terminology is understandably British, but references to such terms as hide photography—known in the U.S. as the use of nature blinds—make for confusing reading. The references listed at the end of each are almost all from England, and as a result they were difficult to find or check for accuracy.

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STATISTICS FOR BIOLOGISTS, by R. C. Campbell. 2nd ed., 1974. Cambridge University Press, New York. 385 p. $5.95 softback, $15.50 hardback.

Long a favorite among those textbooks in statistics for biologists which trade a certain degree of rigor for practicality, the second edition differs from the first primarily by the introduction of problems at the ends of the chapters (some with pathways to solutions indicated), and by addition of a chapter concerning nonnormal distributions.

A few features should be indicated for those not familiar with the earlier edition. Little mathematical sophistication is required. There is considerable emphasis on nonparametric techniques, not as substitutes for "better" parametric methods but often as conceptual introductions to entire lines of thought. In many cases, the ideas and manipulations are developed with only limited recourse to examples, then are applied to one or more well-chosen examples. The nature of the exercises makes access to a good desk calculator necessary, but an unusually good set of tables is included.

The coverage of the book is remarkably complete, ranging from graphic methods through anovar, regression, and transformation. The style is crisp, the symbolism consistent and fairly simple. As may be expected from an author whose academic base is Cambridge, there are occasional "Briticisms" which do not, however, detract appreciably from the value of the work for the American reader. The book could well be used as the principal textbook in a college biostatistics class or, with some diligence, for self-instruction.

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Zoology

A MANUAL OF MAMMALOGY WITH KEYS TO FAMILIES OF THE WORLD, by Anthony F. DeBlase and Robert E. Martin. 1974. Wm. C. Brown Co., Dubuque, Iowa. 344 p. $7.95 (softback).

The authors have expanded a set of laboratory exercises into one of the most useful and comprehensive manuals I have seen. It would be very helpful in a mammalogy course as well as a guide to any individual interested in learning about mammals and how a mammalogist performs his work.

The skull and teeth are carefully discussed in the first part of the manual. Because teeth are valuable tools in classifying and identifying mammals, the authors have included excellent drawings and a good explanation of different kinds of teeth, their morphology, and dental formulas. Other chapters deal with the integument, horns and antlers, claws, nails and hoofs, locomotor adaptations, and reproduction. Chapter 10 is an excellent discussion of systematic methods, including hierarchies of classification, methods of systematics research, statistics, graphic representation of data, and zoological nomenclature. The longest section of the manual consists of keys to the orders and families of living mammals. I have found the keys easy to use and the diagrams which accompany them exceptionally clear. The final portion of the manual deals with practical techniques, such as identifying mammal signs, recording field data, collecting, preparing, and preserving specimens, and how to take cranial measurements. The manual concludes with a chapter on the proper way to perform a literature search. The glossary is quite extensive and should be of help to the student.