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# Developmental Biology, Ninth Edition (Developmental Biology Developmental Biology)



## Synopsis

During the past four years, the field of developmental biology has begun a new metamorphosis. The Ninth Edition of *Developmental Biology* mirrors this shift with a wholly revised text, over 600 new literature citations, and substantial reorganization of content. The introductory section has been streamlined from six chapters to three one each on developmental anatomy, the mechanisms of gene regulation during differentiation, and cell cell communication during morphogenesis. Another new feature is the addition of short part openers that address key concerns in developmental biology. These provide an introduction to the subsequent chapters, telling the reader what to expect and placing that information into a specific context. Each chapter ends with a guide to Web-based resources relevant to that chapter s content, and the Ninth Edition is the first to include a glossary of key terms. Some of the new material in this edition includes: mesenchymal and induced pluripotent stem cells; the transdifferentiation of pancreatic cells; new data on sea urchin micromere specification; the mechanisms whereby Sry and Wnt signaling determine mammalian sex; the memory of cell fate during amphibian limb regeneration; how bats got their wings and how dachshunds got their short legs.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

'Gilbert is an excellent storyteller. He presents the gesalt of developmental biology as a whole, with its questions, history and future perspectives all beautifully interwoven with other scientific disciplines. In an elegant flowing, lucid, but never too casual style, he speaks directly to his reader,

challenges him by asking questions, and invites him to become a fellow developmental biologist. This work is perfect for someone who is interested in developmental biology and wants to dig deep.'

Lab Times --Lab Times

Scott F. Gilbert, the Howard A. Schneiderman Professor of Biology at Swarthmore College, teaches developmental biology, developmental genetics, and the history of biology. After receiving his B.A. from Wesleyan University, he pursued his graduate and postdoctoral research at The Johns Hopkins University and the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Gilbert is the recipient of several awards, including the first Viktor Hamburger Award for excellence in developmental biology education, the 2004 Alexander Kowalevsky Prize for evolutionary developmental biology, an honorary degree from the University of Helsinki, and the Medal of François I from the Collège de France. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a corresponding member of the St. Petersburg Society of Naturalists. His research is sponsored by the National Science Foundation and involves the developmental genetic mechanisms by which the turtle forms its shell.

Wilt and Hake was the assigned text, and I felt obligated to read it... but that was a chore. So I ordered Gilbert to help me read the "easy" book and it saved my grade here. After struggling through that horrific mess of pondering verbiage, pedantic textual hectoring, and outright inaccuracies, this book rescued me and was... Fascinating. Helpful. Encouraging of a greater interest. Everything a great quality text book should do... this book did. I would marry Scott Gilbert and bear his children if I weren't married and sterile. THIS is what every textbook SHOULD be like.

I bought this textbook for my upper division college Developmental Biology class. I've only read the first 5 chapters of this book. I must say: the organization is pretty good, and it is fairly easy to read. I bought the loosed-leaf version at my school bookstore for \$88 with tax and then returned it because it is much cheaper AND this is the hardcover version. The pictures inside the book are really good and very high quality in this book. There is a summary section after every chapter, and this is helpful to brush up on the things that you just read. My professor just uses the figures for her lecture (I'm pretty sure that the company who owns this textbook allows you to buy PowerPoint versions of this book to present to students). The PowerPoint version contains all of the figures in the textbook, and my professor mainly tests us on the figures because they practically detail the entire chapter. Pros: My favorite thing about this book is the Signaling Pathway section because not only do they provide a schematic picture of it, the textbook also has a simplified version (which is the part you will

probably remember later on in life). Cons: the book tries to add some humor. I don't think it's funny, and it doesn't help me remember. Luckily, these "opinions" are like 1 sentence every few pages, so it's not much. Maybe the humor might be enjoyable to others, this might help you remember. It didn't help me because I am really bad at reading comprehension so not much is funny to me.

It's been 2 weeks into the semester, and I only have good things to say about this text. The outline that Gilbert purposes for the subject is straightforward and quite helpful. Maybe it's the nature of the subject or how Gilbert approaches Developmental Biology, but I appreciate how he writes a good amount about the historical details of previous experiments and scientists. It allows you to go on, in a sense, relive the journey to scientific progression. I also appreciate how Gilbert understands the value of diagrams and photos. I agree with other reviews in how the textbook is more for the undergraduate level as opposed to the graduate level. However, this text does give the foundations for graduate level reading.

A good topical book overall. I purchased this for a college course. Aside from the book arriving in good condition, the book itself isn't particularly well written. As other reviewers have said, the book doesn't present general concepts well but rather focuses on specific details of little consequence. Illustrations and pictures chosen were helpful overall. My professor ended up using the book more as a supplement to his lectures and journal articles.

This is probably the best book on the subject. Edition does not matter, old editions are equally good. I enjoyed reading.

The semester is coming to an end and I have had a difficult time understanding this book. It's got nice introductions before each chapter which helps but the material itself is not presented in a way that it's easy to understand. I spent most of my time reading the material online than using this book.

This book is very clear and straightforward to follow along and at the same time it is written in a very illustrative and exciting manner. I greatly enjoyed reading this book and I highly recommend it to anyone looking to study Developmental Biology.

easy to read, full of details. Great illustrations. Very clear. I LOVE THIS BOOK and it was worth

buying even though it was not the assigned text (Hake was assigned and it is an awful book)

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