treatment (specifically in Italy) reads like an advertisement for this form of therapy. Ultimately, the book raises a number of thought-provoking questions that should be important to both health care professionals and the general public.

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Integrated Molecular Evolution by Scott Orland Rogers lives up to its name. The book covers all aspects of molecular evolution in a comprehensive manner. Nothing is assumed. The author begins with the basics and incorporates chemistry, history, and geology when required. The drawback of this approach, however, is that the identity of the target audience is unclear. The constant return to the fundamentals of biology and genetics may grow tiresome to an expert, but the inclusion of so many quantitative details and descriptions of every exception to the rule may overwhelm beginning students.

Overall, there is a strange discontinuity between the simple prose, avoidance of jargon, wealth of analogies, and the depth and breadth of the material presented. A huge quantity of facts is outlined, and although there are a lot of details, few if any generalizations are made. The trouble with all these details is that there is no way for a student to determine which facts are the important ones and which do not need to be memorized. Therefore, this book would not be appropriate for a class setting, though perhaps a particularly ambitious student would enjoy it.

The book is laid out like a course on molecular evolution and begins very basically, with the definition of life, an overview of earth’s history, and a primer on genetics before addressing the more particular problems of molecular evolution, including horizontal gene transfer, classification into phylogenetic trees, and a number of chapters that discuss the entire genome of different organisms. The index is extensive, but the text is dense, with few section breaks and no key terms, although “key points” are provided at the end of each chapter as a summary. In addition, the figure legends often restate many of the important ideas from the main text and may provide a good shortcut for catching the main points without needing to read every page.

Still, there are gems of information scattered throughout the book. For example, I was intrigued to learn that the measles virus sometimes integrates into the genome of its host, and years after a patient has recovered from the infection, expression of measles virus genes in the patient’s brain cells causes brain lesions that eventually lead to death (p. 158). Many topics are introduced with an historical approach, describing who discovered what when and how ideas have changed over time. There are several interesting evolutionary explanations, and the author carefully explains his rationale for each conclusion. Furthermore, the text does serve a useful purpose as a repository of numerous detailed and informative charts and graphs. The difficulty is in having enough patience to find these intriguing facts among the pages and pages of mundane details.

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The Atlas of Neuroanatomy for Communication Science and Disorders, which is part of the Atlas of Anatomy Series, is a beautifully illustrated, full-color guide to human neuroanatomy in communication and brain-based disorders. The atlas is divided into six major sections, and there is also a
companion website with interactive full-color anatomical illustrations and clinical MRI and CT images, as well as online quizzes to aid in self-study. Flexible enough for use by both undergraduate and graduate audiences, Atlas of Neuroanatomy starts with the basics of the human body in a section titled “General Anatomical Concepts,” which is suitable both as an introduction for beginners or as a quick refresher for those more experienced. This overview anchors the neuroanatomy perspective in the context of the full human body and also serves to make the rest of the text more approachable. Subsequent sections logically progress to “Head, Skull, and Neck Anatomy,” “Anatomy of the Brain and Nervous Systems,” “Cranial Nerves,” “Blood Vessels, Vascular Systems,” and “Functional and Dysfunctional Systems.” Each section is divided into subsections filled with copiously labeled illustrations, diagrams, and tables. In the detailed captions, full scientific names and medical terms are almost always written out, so there is little danger of being baffled by confusing abbreviations. Further, the descriptions, while plentiful, rarely err on the side of being too convoluted. An extensive index points readers not only to relevant pages, but also the specific figures or tables within those pages.

Besides anatomical illustrations, the book sheds light on the “neural mechanisms controlling speech, language, cognitive, and swallowing functions,” with emphasis on traditional acquired speech/language disorders of the nervous system, as well as “communication impairments caused by traumatic brain injury, multisystem blast injuries, and degenerative disorders of the nervous system” (p. 3). One weakness of the book is that the synopses of the disorders could be longer, and more insight into the current research on these disorders would be useful.

Though the Atlas of Neuroanatomy for Communication Science and Disorders is mainly intended for speech-language pathology students, it can serve as a dependable reference for students, researchers, or clinicians in a wide range of related fields, from nursing to biomedical engineering. For those less inclined to read the book thoroughly from cover to cover, it is still a solid reference book for the bookshelf.

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