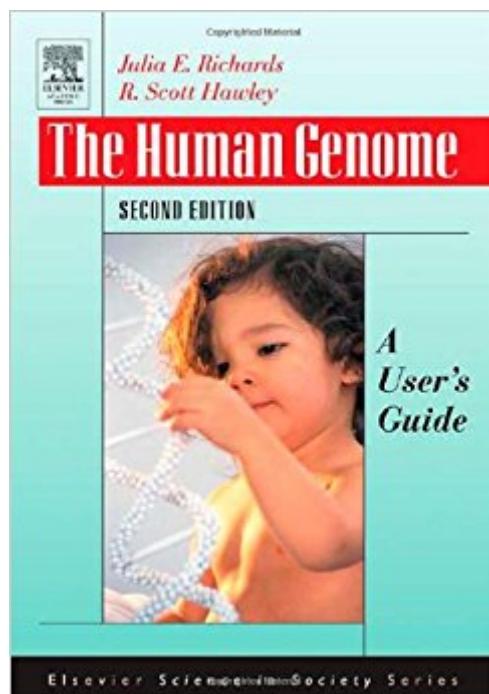


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# The Human Genome, Second Edition: A User's Guide (Elsevier Science In Society)



## **Synopsis**

This second edition of a very successful text reflects the tremendous pace of human genetics research and the demands that it places on society to understand and absorb its basic implications. The human genome has now been officially mapped and the cloning of animals is becoming a commonplace scientific discussion on the evening news. Join authors Julia Richards and Scott Hawley as they examine the biological foundations of humanity, looking at the science behind the sensation and the current and potential impact of the study of the genome on our society. The Human Genome, Second Edition is ideal for students and non-professionals, but will also serve as a fitting guide for the novice geneticist by providing a scientific, humanistic, and ethical frame of reference for a more detailed study of genetics. New in this edition: • 60% new material, including data from the Human Genome Project and the latest genetics and ethics discussions • Several new case studies and personal stories that bring the concepts of genetics and heredity to life • Simplified treatment of material for non-biology majors • New full-color art throughout the text • New co-author, Julia Richards, joins R. Scott Hawley in this revision

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Using the theme of sexuality, the authors discuss basic genetics information and analytical techniques and the genetic basis of cancer, AIDS, and mental illness. A very complex subject is

broken into understandable pieces and then put back together to form a complicated but comprehensible whole. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Digital edition.

"This second edition of a very successful text reflects the tremendous pace of human genetics research and the demands that it places on society to understand and absorb its basic implications." -BIOWORLD, 2006 "The clarity of writing and thought in *The Human Genome, A User's Guide* makes an understanding of genetics and its impact in modern society accessible to everyone." -Bruce Chase, University of Nebraska at Omaha "It is easy to read, well thought-out, and full of good examples that clearly explain some of the more difficult concepts in modern genetics." -Richard K. Wilson, Washington University "The authors have done a superb job of identifying the key concepts and breaking them down into understandable and relevant explanations..." -Neil Lamb, Emory University "This is an excellent version of classical human genetics for sophomore level science students or for all levels of non-science majors." -John Merriam, University of California at Los Angeles "It is enjoyable to read, clear, and accurate... The first edition was excellent but this one is even better." -Philip Meneely, Haverford College

Nicely written book. Explains human genome in an easy to understand fashion. Even if the person who reads this book is not knowledgeable about science can understand it.

"*The Human Genome: A User's Guide*" makes cutting-edge topics in genetics easily approachable by students with little background in biology or genetics. The writing style and personal stories work well for people from liberal arts backgrounds (like me) who might not like the impersonal style so often found in science textbooks, and there are many detailed illustrations. The book starts with a presentation of simple Mendelian inheritance and progresses gradually through more complex forms of inheritance, their underlying molecular basis, and applications of human genomics such as gene mapping, genetic testing and gene therapy. There is information on evolution, regulation of gene expression, the male and female biological clocks, whole genome sequencing, and more. For those interested in ethics, this topic is addressed in several places, and the book finishes with a discussion of eugenics and policies in scientific education and research that affect how research is done on human subjects. Structurally, each chapter starts with a Reader's Companion to help students identify up-coming points and includes teaching aids such as study questions, short essays and suggested readings. The book ought to work well for teaching undergraduates who are

not biology majors as well as graduate students in fields such as Public Policy who want to bring themselves up to speed on the latest vocabulary and concepts in human genetics and genomics.

I received the book the next day. It was as described and arrived on time. Overall I am very satisfied with the order

Used this as a textbook for my genetics course. Easy to read format. Enjoyable as far as textbooks go.

I had the tremendous honor of being taught genetics by two brilliant scientists at the University of Missouri Kansas City, one of whom was Dr. R. Scott Hawley (the other was Dr. Saul Honigberg). Dr. Hawley's name is regnant in the world of meiotic genetics, and a significant percentage of modern biological knowledge can be found within the many pages he has authored. Not only is Dr. Hawley a brilliant scientist, he is also a gifted story-teller. He has an excellent sense of humor, and he has repeatedly proven he can make a grown man cry with his heart-tugging stories of real people affected by very real disease. He infuses his literature on science and medicine with a dose of compassion, much-needed by students of science, like myself, who spend hours trying to see disease in terms of molecules rather than human faces. I am not very familiar with any other work done by Julie Richards, but if this text is representative of her fare I would say she too is quite gifted. This is an excellent book. That said, I would caution anyone who wants a very deep and detailed study of the science of genetics to look elsewhere because this book merely contains the essential molecular information for understanding the rest of the text (it is, after all, "a user's guide," not a PhD-student's guide). Still, it is an excellent, extremely informative read, with some paradigm-shifting perspectives to offer.

Here at last is a textbook based on the principle that critical thinking, not memory work, is the key to developing a thorough understanding of and enthusiasm for the field of human genetics. This book is definitely "user friendly" -- it takes an irresistibly creative, personable and often humorous approach to its subject. The passion of the authors for their subject is obvious. Many cutting-edge and often controversial topics are covered, including the fledgling genetics of various aspects of human behavior. At the same time, the authors strongly encourage scientific responsibility and serious contemplation of the ethical issues involved in such research. This is a book about genetics that really matters, and it is sure to hold students' interest. I highly recommend this text to anyone

teaching human genetics at the college level. It renders even the most challenging concepts accessible to all, and thus is suitable for both bio majors and non-majors (psych, etc.) alike. Students who use this text will never look at genetics -- or humanity -- in the same way again!

Sometimes the fates deal us strange genetic hands. Sometimes precious children are born who may, or may not, have the politically correct number of sex chromosomes. Sometimes the chromosome number is right but the genitalia isn't. What has so impressed me about section II, "How Genes Determine Our Sex", of this book is how Dr. Hawley and Catherine Mori have taken a sensitive, taboo subject and discussed it frankly, openly and with refreshing lightness. Most authors are afraid to tackle the subject of sex chromosome variations without cloaking the work in a suffocatingly dark and depressing seriousness. I loved the "get real" feel to this entire book. The frequent, chatty comments between the authors are a delightful window into their individual ways of thinking. The use of "real people" stories always work. Being able to eavesdrop on the been-there-done-that personal experiences makes this a textbook worth keeping long after the lights are off, the door is closed and the professor has left on sabbatical! Well done.

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