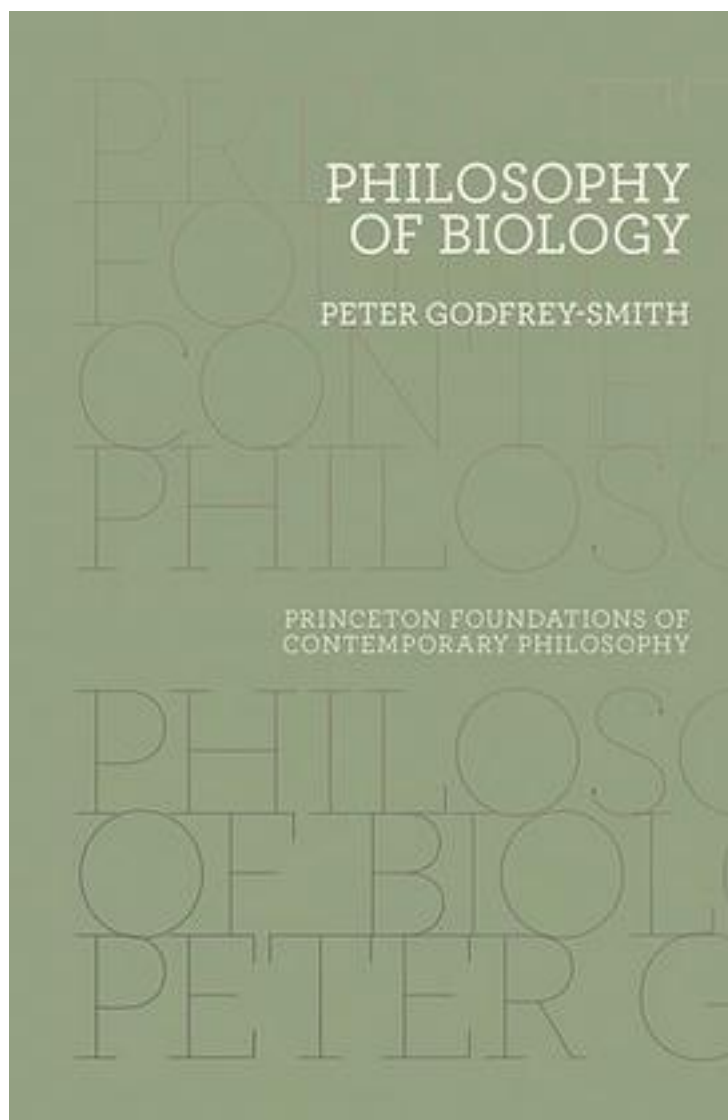


Philosophy of Biology



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出版者:Princeton University Press

出版时间:2014-1

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9780691140018

This is a concise, comprehensive, and accessible introduction to the philosophy of biology written by a leading authority on the subject. Geared to philosophers, biologists, and students of both, the book provides sophisticated and innovative coverage of the central topics and many of the latest developments in the field. Emphasizing connections between biological theories and other areas of philosophy, and carefully explaining both philosophical and biological terms, Peter Godfrey-Smith discusses the relation between philosophy and science; examines the role of laws, mechanistic explanation, and idealized models in biological theories; describes evolution by natural selection; and assesses attempts to extend Darwin's mechanism to explain changes in ideas, culture, and other phenomena. Further topics include functions and teleology, individuality and organisms, species, the tree of life, and human nature. The book closes with detailed, cutting-edge treatments of the evolution of cooperation, of information in biology, and of the role of communication in living systems at all scales.

Authoritative and up-to-date, this is an essential guide for anyone interested in the important philosophical issues raised by the biological sciences.

作者介绍:

Peter Godfrey-Smith is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the CUNY Graduate Center. He is the author of *Theory and Reality: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Science* and *Darwinian Populations and Natural Selection*.

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评论

PGS一如既往的清晰。非常清晰的入门...不过跟经常读sober的bio prof聊的时候发现很多evolutionary biology界一些还算careful的共识PGS都不太愿意提到（比如unit of selection/adaptation之类概念的关系

很照顾读者的写作，但只是点了一下每个主题，作为入门读物不错。存在主义那儿，我的看法也类似。

演化生物学迷人而有趣，生物学哲学则不然。

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书评

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