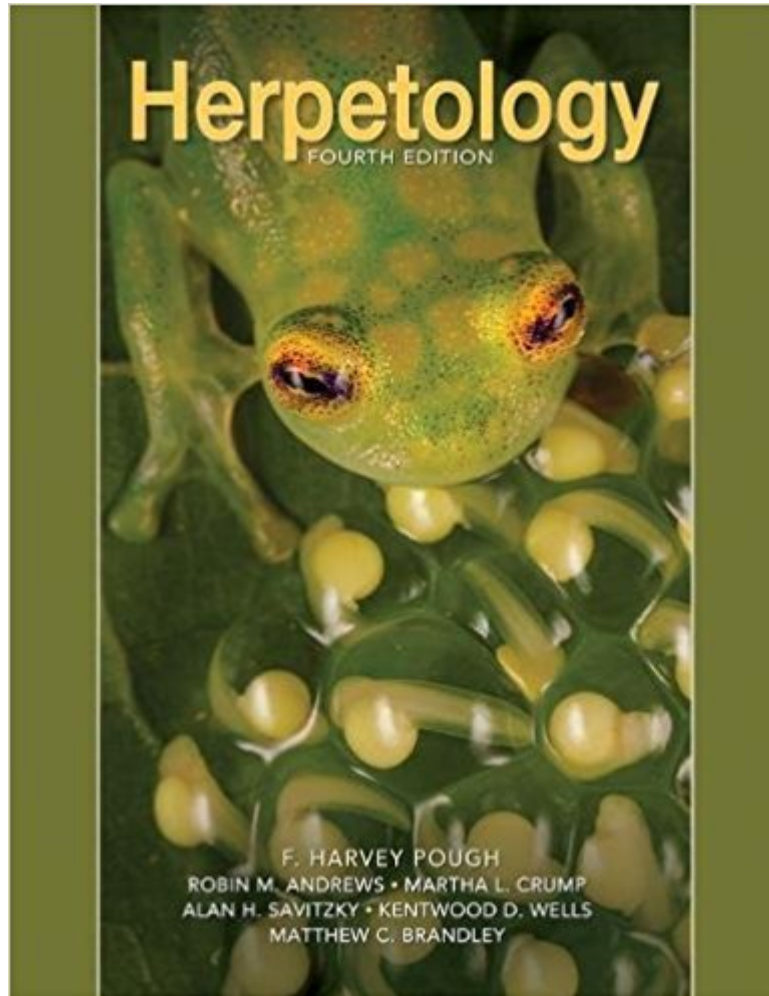


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Herpetology



Synopsis

Herpetology, Fourth Edition, explains why amphibians and reptiles, which are distantly related evolutionary lineages, are nonetheless grouped in the discipline known as herpetology, and describes the position of amphibians and reptiles within the evolution of vertebrates. Initial chapters present the fossil history of amphibians and reptiles and the phylogenetic relationships of extant groups, with descriptions of the biological characteristics of each family and photographs of representative species. The phylogenetic and biogeography chapters have been extensively revised to incorporate the most recent molecular phylogenetic information, including extensive discussion of the expanding field of phylogeography. Subsequent chapters consider amphibians and reptiles from morphological, physiological, ecological, and behavioral perspectives. The book concludes with a discussion of the threats facing amphibians and reptiles and approaches to conserving herpetological diversity. Herpetology, Fourth Edition, serves as a textbook for undergraduate and graduate-level courses and as a comprehensive source of information about amphibians and reptiles for professional biologists, hobbyists, and interested laypersons.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This book includes a nearly complete overhaul of the systematics sections (including new distribution maps) to reflect numerous recent revisions. Where taxonomic incongruence or controversy exists, recent alternative hypotheses are reported, emphasizing the complexities of phylogenetic inference and persistent knowledge gaps rather than misleading the uninitiated reader

with single, arbitrarily resolved trees. Those familiar with previous editions will be immediately taken by the artistry of the images, both the extensive use of color photographs and the masterfully redrawn illustrations and data figures, which capture many fascinating aspects of the lives of our favorite animals. Instructors, and especially the current generation of herpetology students, will welcome the online supplemental materials, which include links to websites with herpetological information, videos, and news stories relevant to each chapter." --Robert E. Espinoza, California State University, Northridge

F. Harvey Pough is Professor Emeritus in the Thomas H. Gosnell School of Life Sciences of the Rochester Institute of Technology. He received his Ph.D. in 1968 from the University of California at Los Angeles, with Kenneth S. Norris and Malcolm S. Gordon. In addition to Herpetology, he has headed up the author team on nine editions of *Vertebrate Life* (Benjamin Cummings/Pearson). Dr. Pough is a fellow of both the American Association for the Advancement of Science and The Herpetologists' League, and Past President of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. His research focuses on organismal biology and evolutionary physiology, especially that of amphibians and reptiles.

Robin M. Andrews is Professor Emerita in the Department of Biological Sciences at Virginia Tech. She received her Ph.D. in 1971 at the University of Kansas with Charles Michener and Daniel Janzen. She made the transition from Entomology to Herpetology during a postdoctoral fellowship at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute with A. Stanley Rand and Ernest Williams. Her current research interests are the physiological ecology and natural history of reptilian eggs and embryos and the evolution and adaptive significance of developmental patterns of squamate reptiles.

Martha L. Crump is a behavioral ecologist who works with tropical amphibians in the areas of reproduction, ecology, and conservation. She is currently Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology and the Ecology Center at Utah State University, and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology at Northern Arizona University. Dr. Crump received her Ph.D. from the University of Kansas in 1974, working with William E. Duellman. Her research, carried out in Ecuador, focused on community ecology and reproductive behaviors of frogs. In 1997, she received the Distinguished Herpetologist Award from The Herpetologists' League. Together with Dr. James P. Collins, Dr. Crump published *Extinction in Our Times: Global Amphibian Decline* (2009).

Alan H. Savitzky is Professor and Head of the Department of Biology at Utah State University. He completed his graduate degrees at the University of Kansas (with William E. Duellman), receiving a Smithsonian Predoctoral Fellowship to conduct his dissertation research at the National Museum of Natural History. Dr. Savitzky is a Past President of both the Society for the

Study of Amphibians and Reptiles and the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, and currently serves as Treasurer of the World Congress of Herpetology. His research concerns the integrative biology of amphibians and reptiles, especially snakes. Specific interests include the evolutionary morphology of feeding and defensive structures, evolutionary development of sensory organs and glands, and, most recently, the evolution of chemical defenses in snakes. Kentwood D. Wells is Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Connecticut. He received his Ph.D. in 1976 from Cornell University, with F. Harvey Pough. His book, *The Ecology and Behavior of Amphibians* (2007) was Best Single-Volume Science Reference Book for 2007 (Association of American Publishers Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division) and an Outstanding Academic Title for 2008 (Choice magazine). His 1977 paper on The social behaviour of anuran amphibians (*Animal Behaviour* 25:666-693) was the first of 12 papers designated as most influential in the first 60 years of the journal. Dr. Wells researches the social behavior and communication of amphibians. Matthew C. Brandley is an Australian Research Council DECRA postdoctoral fellow at the School of Biological Sciences, University of Sydney, Australia. He received his PhD in 2008 from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Brandley studies the phylogenetics and morphological evolution of vertebrate animals, especially lizards and snakes. He is particularly interested in how complex structures and unique body plans convergently evolve, and he studies these phenomena using a combination of genomic, gene expression, anatomical, and phylogenetic tools. He lives in New South Wales Australia with his wife, son, two cats, and two axolotls.

It's a pretty good book. I don't like the lack of a glossary in the back.

the book was totally neww!!!! received as expected!!

Arrived right on time. Very good quality book.

Great great book! One of my college textbooks that I actually read and enjoyed! Will be keeping this one!!

It's certainly not complete or perfect, and as a reviewer notes, contains some omissions and errors. However, while a textbook should strive to be as good as possible in those areas, it's no substitute for the primary literature in peer-reviewed journals and shouldn't be viewed as such, and instead

should be seen as more of a conceptual introduction, in which I feel it does well. It avoids the tempting parade-of-taxa style, and instead focuses on the important concepts uniting reptiles and to an extent all animals, such as osmoregulation, feeding, locomotion, reproductive strategies, etc. The section dealing with my primary focus, locomotion, is rather sparse, and contains some outdated information, but nothing that can't be corrected with a quick read through the literature. With any luck, my own work will be in the next edition.

Written really well! Easy to read!

Sorry it took me so long to do this, but i absolutely loved the book. It was in great condition and arrived promptly. Thanks you for the great services and product, it is greatly appreciated, especially when it helped me get an "A" in my Herpetology class!

Amazing book! Every herpetologist, beginners and advanced should have it.

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