

**“OUR BIOLOGICAL SELVES”**  
**INTERDISCIPLINARY BIOLOGY II (BIO1201-ID)**

Thomas Kuhn, The Structure of Scientific Revolutions (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago, 1962)

“...historians of science have begun to ask new sorts of questions and to trace different, and often less than cumulative, developmental lines for the sciences. Rather than seeking the permanent contributions of an older science to our present vantage, they attempt to display the historical integrity of that science to its own time. They ask, for example, not about the relations of Galileo’s [17<sup>th</sup> century astronomer] views to those of modern science, but rather about the relationship between his views and those of his group, i.e., his teachers, contemporaries, and immediate successors in the sciences. Furthermore, they insist upon studying the opinions of that group and other similar ones from the viewpoint—usually very different from that of modern science – that gives those opinions the maximum internal coherence and the closest possible fit to nature”(p3).

“...the historian must compare the [scientific] community’s paradigms with each other and with its current research reports. In doing so, [the] object is to discover what isolable elements, explicit or implicit, the members of that community may have abstracted from their more global paradigms and deployed as rules in their research”(p43).