Nature, Nurture: Is It Genes or Upbringing That Defines Us?

Thursdays 2:00-3:00 Winter 2006
Room: 4303 Gonda
Instructor: Professor Janet Sinsheimer
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Office: 5357C Gonda
Office hours: Thursday 3:00-3:30pm and by request (email to make appointment)


Course Web site: http://www.genetics.ucla.edu/courses/hg19/

Reading Assignments in The Agile Gene:
Week 2: Prologue and Chapter 1
Week 3: Chapter 2
Week 4: Chapter 3
Week 5: Chapter 4
Week 6: Chapter 5
Week 7: Chapter 6
Week 8: Chapter 7
Week 9: Chapters 8 and 9
Week 10: Chapter 10 and Epilogue

Additional optional readings may be suggested during the term. Note: Intelligence, Genes and Success [ Bernie Devlin et al., 1997, Springer] is a recommended text but don’t buy it unless you are particularly interested in issues regarding the roles that nature and nurture play in intelligence.

Grading: There will be no written assignments. Passing only depends on class participation. Therefore, attendance is critical. Students who miss more than 2 classes will not earn a Pass.

Discussion Topics: Week 1
Nature/Nurture debate.
Goals and limits.
Background knowledge.