**HG19 Section 2**  
**Nature, Nurture: Is It Genes or Upbringing That Defines Us?**

**Week 7: Thursday, 2/23/06**

**Reading Points for Chapter 6: Formative Years**

What evidence supports the thrifty phenotype hypothesis? Are there any observations or experiments that argue against this hypothesis?

Give some examples of naturalistic fallacies.

What is imprinting? How are vision and language functions of imprinting? How does imprinting fit in with the throwing of promoter switches (chapter 1)?

What is the relationship of imprinting to instinct? Reflecting back to William James (chapter 2), do you think that humans have more or fewer instincts than other animals?

Think of some specific examples that support Ridley’s hypothesis that nature is reversible but nurture is not. Can you think of examples where nurture is clearly reversible but nature is not?

Do you think that genes largely determine sexual preference in humans? Why or why not?

**Follow up from Chapter 4:**

Blame the diet: From your review of the latest scientific literature, do essential fatty acids play a role in schizophrenia?