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21W.777 The Science Essay
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Homework #5

Due for class T 2/26

Just a reminder: For Tuesday's class, we will:

- workshop Deepa's essay;
- discuss making "process" paragraphs more readable;
- discuss "Remembering Francis Crick" and "Crash Course" ;
- discuss book choices for Essay 4

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Homework #6

Due for class Th 2/28

READ our 3rd set of readings, which discuss current scientific controversies. They are:

- 1) H. Allen Orr, "Devolution." *The New Yorker*, 30 May 2005. 40-52. [Access via MIT Library→Vera→New Yorker
- 2) Jamie Shreeve, "The Other Stem-Cell Debate." *NY Times Magazine* 10 April 2005. 42-47. Try this link:

http://www.nytimes.com/2005/04/10/magazine/10CHIMERA.html?_r=1&scp=12&sq=Jamie+Shreeve&st=nyt&oref=slogin

The first essay considers "intelligent design," which is has been offered as an alternative to evolution; the second explores the ethical dilemmas attendant on laboratory creation of chimeras. Before you read these articles, do 2-3 minutes of freewriting on each topic, as a way of bringing to the front of your mind what you currently think—if anything!—about these topics.

I am especially interested in the ways these writers handle the complexity of their subjects, and the ways they do (or don't) treat their subjects fairly.

ALSO: Your book selection for Essay 4 is due—we'll briefly share these in class.

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