Suggested Presentation Project topics

Presentations will be made by student pairs in the last week of the semester. The presentations may be in the form of a Powerpoint or Prezy; a written outline should accompany the presentation to facilitate study. Presentations should be **30 mins**, with **~10 mins for discussion**.

1) Select topics by 30 January
2) Provide an **outline** to Dr Carr at the beginning of lecture on **13 February** [**5%**]
3) Provide a **semi-final draft** to Dr Carr at the beginning of lecture on **19 March** [**10%**]
4) **Presentations** on **30 & 31 March** & **02 April** [**20%**]

1. 20th century experimental evidence of **inheritance of acquired characteristics**?
    a. See Arthur Koestler, "*The Case of the Midwife Toad*"
2. The Mismeasure of Man: The **Reification Fallacy**
    a. See Stephen J Gould, "*The Mismeasure of Man*"
    b. Phrenology & Craniometry
    c. History of Intelligence Quotient (**IQ**) testing
3. **Eugenics**: Charles Davenport & the History of a Bad Idea
4. "*They even killed the fruit flies*:" The fate of **Genetics in the Soviet Union**
    a. See Medvedev, "*The Rise and Fall of TD Lysenko*"
    b. NI Vavilov, SS Chetverikov, II Schmalhausen, TG Dobzhansky, etc.
5. Western **Alchemy**: Chrysopoeia, Panaceas, the Alkahest, & the Philosopher's Stone
6. What does a **Nobel Prize** mean in Biology: Iconography Past Controversies
7. "***Intelligent Design***:" Creationism in a Cheap Tux ?
    a. Revisiting the Argument from Design
    b. David Hume, "*Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*"
    c. Creationism in North American science education
8. **Philosophy of Biology**: Criteria of Demarcation: How does Science differ from other human activities?
    a. Thomas S Kuhn, "*Structure of Scientific Revolutions*"
    b. Karl Popper, "*Conjecture & Refutation*"
    c. Kuhn vs Popper
9. The Role of **Technology** in Biological Progress
    a. Development of the **Microscope**
    b. The Secrets of NIH: Marshall Nirenberg & the "Cracking" of the Genetic Code as **Big Biology**