

# Contents

About the Author iv

List of Boxes vi

Preface xiii

## part one Introduction 1

### Chapter 1

#### Overview of Genetics 1

1.1 A Look Ahead 2

1.2 The Language of Genetics 5

Levels of Genetics: From  
DNA to Populations 5

A Case Study: Inherited  
Sensitivity to Benzene  
Exposure 7

Genes Do Not Usually  
Function Alone 7

Geneticists Use Statistics to  
Represent Risks 8

1.3 Applications of Genetics 9

Establishing Identity—From  
Forensics to Rewriting  
History 9

Health Care—Genetic  
Diseases Differ from Other  
Diseases 10

*In Their Own Words: Living  
with Hemophilia 11*

Agriculture 12

*Bioethics: From Iceland to  
GATTACA 13*

### Chapter 2

#### Cells 17

2.1 The Components of Cells 18

Chemical Constituents of  
Cells 18

Organelles 19

*Reading 2.1: Inherited  
Illnesses at the Chemical  
Level 20*

The Cell Membrane 25

The Cytoskeleton 26

*Reading 2.2: Inherited  
Diseases Caused by Faulty  
Ion Channels 27*

2.2 Cell Division and Death 29

The Cell Cycle 29

Apoptosis 32

2.3 Cell-Cell Interactions 34

Signal Transduction 34

Cell Adhesion 34

2.4 Stem Cells and Cell  
Specialization 35

2.5 Viruses and Prions—Not  
Cells, But Infectious 36

A Prion—One Protein that  
Takes Two Forms 37

## Chapter 3

### Development 41

- 3.1 The Reproductive System 42
  - The Male 42
  - The Female 42
- 3.2 Meiosis 44
- 3.3 Gamete Maturation 49
  - Sperm Development 49
  - Oocyte Development 51
- 3.4 Prenatal Development 52
  - Fertilization 52
  - Early Events—Cleavage and Implantation 52
  - The Embryo Forms 54
  - Supportive Structures 54
  - On the Matter of Multiples 54
  - The Embryo Develops 55
  - The Fetus 56
- 3.5 Birth Defects 58
  - The Critical Period 58
  - Teratogens 59
- 3.6 Maturation and Aging 60
  - Adult-Onset Inherited Disorders 61
  - Accelerated Aging Disorders 61
  - Is Longevity Inherited? 61
    - Bioethics: Considering Cloning* 62

## part two

### Transmission Genetics 67

## Chapter 4

### Mendelian Inheritance 67

- 4.1 Following the Inheritance of One Gene—Segregation 68

Mendel's Laws Apply to Humans, Too 68  
Mendel's Experiments 69  
Chromosome Behavior in Meiosis Explains Mendel's Law of Segregation 69  
Representing Mendel's Law of Segregation 70

### 4.2 Mendelian Inheritance in Humans 72

Modes of Inheritance 72

*Reading 4.1: It's All in the Genes* 74

On the Meaning of Dominance and Recessiveness 75

### 4.3 Following the Inheritance of Two Genes—Independent Assortment 76

### 4.4 Pedigree Analysis 78

Pedigrees Then and Now 78  
Pedigrees Display Mendel's Laws 79

## Chapter 5

### Extensions and Exceptions to Mendel's Laws 85

### 5.1 When Gene Expression Appears to Alter Mendelian Ratios 86

Lethal Allele Combinations 86  
Multiple Alleles 86  
Different Dominance Relationships 88  
Epistasis—When One Gene Affects Expression of Another 89  
Penetrance and Expressivity 90  
Pleiotropy—One Gene, Many Effects 91

Phenocopies—When It's Not in the Genes 91  
Genetic Heterogeneity—More than One Way to Inherit a Trait 92

### 5.2 Maternal Inheritance and Mitochondrial Genes 93

Mitochondrial Disorders 93  
Heteroplasmy Complicates Mitochondrial Inheritance 94

### 5.3 Linkage 95

Linkage was Discovered in Pea Plants 95  
Linkage Maps 96  
Examples of Linked Genes in Humans 97  
The Evolution of Gene Mapping 98

## Chapter 6

### Matters of Sex 103

### 6.1 Sexual Development 104

Sex Chromosomes 104  
The Phenotype Forms 105  
Gender Identity—Is Homosexuality Inherited? 106

### 6.2 Traits Inherited on Sex Chromosomes 108

X-Linked Recessive Inheritance 108

*Reading 6.1: Of Preserved Eyeballs and Duplicated Genes—Color Blindness* 110

X-Linked Dominant Inheritance 113

### 6.3 X Inactivation Evens Out the Sexes 114

6.4 Gender Effects on Phenotype 116

Sex-limited Traits 116  
Sex-influenced Traits 116  
Genomic Imprinting 116

## Chapter 7

### Multifactorial and Behavioral Traits 123

7.1 Genes and the Environment Mold Many Traits 124

Polygenic Traits Are Continuously Varying 124  
Fingerprint Patterns, Height, and Eye Color 124  
A Closer Look at Skin Color 126

7.2 Methods Used to Investigate Multifactorial Traits 127

Empiric Risk 127  
Heritability—The Genetic Contribution to a Multifactorial Trait 128  
Adopted Individuals 129  
Twins 129

7.3 Some Multifactorial Traits 131

Heart Health 131  
Body Weight 133  
Intelligence 135  
Sleep 136  
Schizophrenia 136  
Alcoholism 138  
Searching for Genes that Affect Behavior 138

*Bioethics: Blaming Genes* 139

## part three DNA and Chromosomes 143

### Chapter 8

#### DNA Structure and Replication 143

8.1 Experiments Identify and Describe the Genetic Material 144

DNA Is the Hereditary Molecule 144  
DNA Is the Hereditary Molecule—And Protein Is Not 144  
Deciphering the Structure of DNA 145

8.2 DNA Structure 147

8.3 DNA Replication—Maintaining Genetic Information 151

Replication is Semiconservative 151  
Steps and Participants in DNA Replication 152

8.4 PCR—Directing DNA Replication 154

*Reading 8.1: DNA Makes History* 156

8.5 DNA Repair 157

Three Types of DNA Repair 157  
DNA Repair Disorders 158

### Chapter 9

#### Gene Action 163

9.1 Control of Transcription Is Complex 164

9.2 Transcription—The Link Between Gene and Protein 164

RNA Structure 164  
The Events of Transcription 166  
Processing RNA 168

9.3 Translation—Expressing Genetic Information 169

*Reading 9.1: RNA—Possibly the Most Important Molecule in Life* 170

Deciphering the Genetic Code 172  
Building a Protein 174  
Protein Folding 176

### Chapter 10

#### Gene Mutation 181

10.1 Mutations Can Alter Proteins—Three Examples 182

The Beta Globin Gene 182  
Disorders of Orderly Collagen 184  
A Mutation that Causes Early-Onset Alzheimer Disease 185

10.2 Causes of Mutation 186

Spontaneous Mutation 186  
Induced Mutations 188  
Natural Exposure to Mutagens 189

10.3 Types of Mutations 190

Point Mutations 190  
Deletions and Insertions Can Cause Frameshifts 191  
Pseudogenes Are Remnants of Genes Past 192  
Movable Genes 192  
Triplet Repeats and Expanding Genes 192

*Reading 10.1: Fragile X Syndrome—The First of the Triplet Repeat Disorders* 194

10.4 The Importance of a Mutation's Position in the Gene 196

Globin Variants 196  
Inherited Susceptibility to Prion Disorders 196

10.5 Factors that Lessen the Effects of Mutation 197

## Chapter 11

### Chromosomes 201

11.1 Portrait of a Chromosome 202

11.2 Visualizing Chromosomes 203

Obtaining Cells for Chromosome Study 203  
Preparing Cells for Chromosome Observation 206

11.3 Abnormal Chromosome Number 209

Polyploidy 209  
Aneuploidy 209

*Reading 11.1: HACs—Human Artificial Chromosomes* 210

11.4 Abnormal Chromosome Structure 215

*In Their Own Words: A Personal Look at Klinefelter Syndrome* 215

Deletions and Duplications 216  
Translocations 217

*In Their Own Words: Ashley's Message of Hope* 217

Inversions 219  
Isochromosomes and Ring Chromosomes 220

11.5 Uniparental Disomy—Two Genetic Contributions from One Parent 221

## part four Population Genetics 227

## Chapter 12

### When Allele Frequencies Stay Constant 227

12.1 The Importance of Knowing Allele Frequencies 228

12.2 When Allele Frequencies Stay Constant—Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium 228

12.3 Practical Applications of Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium 231

12.4 DNA Fingerprinting—A Practical Test of Hardy-Weinberg Assumptions 232

DNA Patterns Distinguish Individuals 232

*Reading 12.1 DNA Fingerprinting Relies on Molecular Genetics and Population Genetics* 234

Population Statistics Are Used to Interpret DNA Fingerprints 236

## Chapter 13

### Changing Allele Frequencies 241

13.1 Nonrandom Mating 242

13.2 Migration 243

Historical Clues 243  
Geographical and Linguistic Clues 244

13.3 Genetic Drift 244

The Founder Effect 244  
Population Bottlenecks 246

13.4 Mutation 247

13.5 Natural Selection 248

*Reading 13.1 Antibiotic Resistance—Stemming a Biological Arms Race* 248

Tuberculosis Ups and Downs—and Ups 249

Evolving HIV 250

Balanced Polymorphism 250

*13.2 Dogs and Cats: Products of Artificial Selection* 255

13.6 Gene Genealogy 256

PKU Revisited 256

CF Revisited 257

## Chapter 14

### Human Origins and Evolution 261

14.1 Human Origins 262

The Australopithecines 263  
*Homo* 264

Modern Humans 265

14.2 Molecular Evolution 266

Comparing Genomes 266

Comparing

Chromosomes 266

Comparing Protein

Sequences 266

Comparing DNA

Sequences 268

14.3 Molecular Clocks 270

Neanderthals Revisited 270

Choosing Clues 271

14.4 Eugenics 274

Eugenics Early in the Twentieth Century 274

- Eugenics in the 1990s 275
- Reading 14.1: Two Views of Neural Tube Defects* 276
- Bioethics: Beryllium Sensitivity Screening* 277

## part five

### Immunity and Cancer 281

## Chapter 15

### Genetics of Immunity 281

- 15.1 The Importance of Cell Surfaces 282
  - Blood Groups 282
  - The Human Leukocyte Antigens 284
- 15.2 The Immune System 285
  - Physical Barriers and the Innate Immune Response 285
  - The Acquired Immune Response 287
- 15.3 Abnormal Immunity 292
  - Inherited Immune Deficiencies 292
  - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome 292
  - Autoimmunity 294
  - Allergies 294
- 15.4 Altering Immune Function 295
  - Vaccines 295
  - Immunotherapy 297
  - Transplantation 297
  - Bioethics: Pig Parts* 300

## Chapter 16

### The Genetics of Cancer 305

- 16.1 Cancer as a Genetic

- Disorder 306
  - Cancer—A Loss of Cell Cycle Control 307
  - Inherited versus Sporadic Cancer 308

- 16.2 Characteristics of Cancer Cells 308

- 16.3 Genes that Cause Cancer 310

- Oncogenes 311
- Tumor Suppressors 313

*Reading 16.1: Retinoblastoma—The Two-Hit Hypothesis* 314

- 16.4 A Series of Genetic Changes Causes Some Cancers 317

- A Rapidly Growing Brain Tumor 317
- Colon Cancer 318

- 16.5 Cancer Prevention and Treatment 319

- Diet-Cancer Associations 319
- Treating Cancer 320

*Reading 16.2: Cancer Death Rates in Different U.S. Locales* 320

## part six

### Genetic Technology 325

## Chapter 17

### Genetic Engineering 325

- 17.1 Recombinant DNA Technology 326
  - Constructing Recombinant DNA Molecules 327
  - Selecting Recombinant DNA Molecules 329

- Isolating the Gene of Interest 330
- Applications of Recombinant DNA Technology 331

- 17.2 Transgenic Organisms 332

- Delivering DNA 332
- Transgenic Pharming from Milk and Semen 333

- 17.3 Gene Targeting 336

- Gene-Targeted Mice as Models 337

*Bioethics: The Ethics of Using a Recombinant Drug: EPO* 338

- When Knockouts Are Normal 339

## Chapter 18

### Gene Therapy and Genetic Counseling 343

- 18.1 Gene Therapy Successes and Setbacks 344

- Adenosine Deaminase Deficiency—Early Success 344
- Ornithine Transcarbamylase Deficiency—A Setback 345

- 18.2 The Mechanics of Gene Therapy 346

- Treating the Phenotype 346
- Germline Versus Somatic Gene Therapy 347
- Sites of Somatic Gene Therapy 347

*In Their Own Words: The Good News Genetic Disease: Hereditary Hemochromatosis* 349

- Gene Delivery 350

18.3 A Closer Look: Treating Sickle Cell Disease 352

18.4 Genetic Screening and Genetic Counseling 354

Genetic Counselors Provide Diverse Services 354  
Scene from a Sickle Cell Disease Clinic 355  
Genetic Counseling Quandaries and Challenges 356  
Perspective: A Slow Start, But Great Promise 356

*Bioethics: Gene Therapy Fatalities* 357

## Chapter 19

**Agricultural Biotechnology** 361

19.1 Traditional Breeding Compared to Biotechnology 363

Similar Steps, Different Degree of Precision 363  
Government Regulation of Crops 363  
Biotechnology Provides Different Routes to Solving a Problem 363

19.2 Types of Plant Manipulations 365

Altering Plants at the Gene Level 365  
Altering Plants at the Cellular Level 368

19.3 Release of Genetically Modified Organisms to the Environment 369

Microcosm Experiments 369  
Field Tests 370  
Bioremediation 370

19.4 Economic, Ecological, and Evolutionary Concerns 371

*Bioethics: The Butterfly that Roared* 373

## Chapter 20

**Reproductive Technologies** 377

20.1 New Ways to Make Babies 378

Grandmother and Mother at the Same Time 378  
Midlife Motherhood 378  
A Five-Year Wait 378

20.2 Infertility 379

Male Infertility 379  
Female Infertility 380

*Reading 20.1: Scrutinizing Sperm* 380

Infertility Tests 383

20.3 Assisted Reproductive Technologies 384

Donated Sperm—Artificial Insemination 384  
A Donated Uterus—Surrogate Motherhood 384  
In Vitro Fertilization 386  
Gamete Intrafallopian Transfer 387  
Oocyte Banking and Donation 387  
Preimplantation Genetic Screening 388

*Bioethics: Technology Too Soon? The Case of ICSI* 390

## Chapter 21

**Genomics** 393

21.1 Technology Fuels Genome Sequencing and Genomics 394

*Reading 21.1: The Needle-in-a-Haystack Search for the Huntington Disease Gene* 396

The Sanger Method of DNA Sequencing 398  
Computers Coax Meaning from Genes 399

21.2 The History of the Human Genome Project 400

21.3 Using Human Genome Information 402

DNA Microarrays Will Revolutionize Medicine 402  
Pharmacogenomics 402

21.4 Genome Information Answers and Raises Questions 403

The Definition of a Gene 403  
Nonhuman Genome Projects 404

Epilogue: Genome Information Will Affect You 405

*In Their Own Words: Genomics: The New Paradigm* 406

Answers A-1  
Glossary G-1  
Credits C-1  
Index I-1