

Philosophy 3334 Summer 2018
Reading questions #3
Due Fri, June 8th

1) Read Chapter 6.

Here is a criticism of kin selection theory: Many organisms cannot tell which other conspecifics they are related to (and they definitely can't tell say first cousin from second cousin). For example, we know from experiment that many birds will sit on eggs put in their nest even when the eggs are not from their close relatives. Therefore kin selection theory cannot explain why birds sit on their own eggs.

--- Dawkins thinks that this criticism is misguided and not a problem at all for kin selection theory. Why not?

2) After reading the chapter, come up with a question that you want answered or a topic that you would like to be discussed. This could be something that the chapters forced you think about or it could be something that you thought was particularly confusing in the chapters.