

# Joseph Carroll

**Thursday, November 20th at 3:30pm**

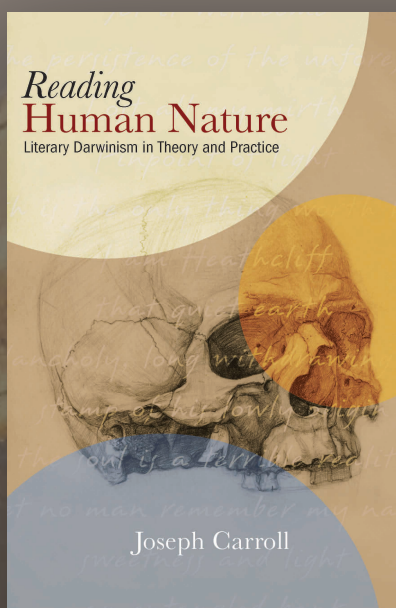
Class Talk: “The Truth about Fiction: Biological Reality and Imaginary Lives”

Coleman Hall, Room 3691

**Thursday, November 20th at 6:00 pm**

Public Lecture: “The Historical Position of Literary Darwinism.”

Doudna Fine Arts Center, Lecture Hall



Joseph Carroll is a founding figure in evolutionary literary study. His book *Evolution and Literary Theory*, published in 1995, was the first book-length work in the field. His 2004 collection of essays, *Literary Darwinism*, gave the field the name by which it is most commonly known. Literary Darwinists are animated by a conviction that the human species has evolved in adaptive relation to a physical world, that human bodies and brains contain complex adaptive structures, and that the products of the literary imagination are shaped by biologically grounded motives, passions, and forms of cognition. Carroll’s more recent publications include a second collection of essays, *Reading Human Nature* (2011) and a collaborative empirical study, *Graphing Jane Austen: The Evolutionary Basis of Literary Meaning* (2012).

All events are made possible through the generosity of the Jack and Margaret Redden Fund for the Improvement of Undergraduate Instruction and the Humanities Center.