**What can Biology tell us about our future?**

Science is the human-constructed process aimed at understanding phenomena in nature, and hence developing sufficient knowledge to be able to make rational, evidence-based predictions. The human species currently finds itself in a severely threatening environmental and social sustainability crisis. What can the science of Biology tell us about our future?

This seminar will focus on applying core foundational biological principles to understanding our civilisation’s current position and future trajectory, and on suggesting appropriate responses that are coupled with an over-arching strategy to help us cope with the profound realities of our fundamental existential predicament. In short, it will attempt to put the science of biology in its larger context to address the following questions: i) Why are we in the current sustainability crisis, and what does the ultimate underlying answer mean for our future?; and ii) How can we best respond to, and cope with, the fundamental existential realisations that arise from acknowledging that answer?

Addressing these questions has been a long personal journey for me, and I am looking forward to presenting my latest attempts at answers to the Department – (i.e. to my community of friends and colleagues that have deep and wide expertise in Biology). My central goal in leading this seminar is to get your feedback, and I look forward to a lively and insightful discussion.