Understanding our eugenic past:

Population/human genetics roots in eugenics

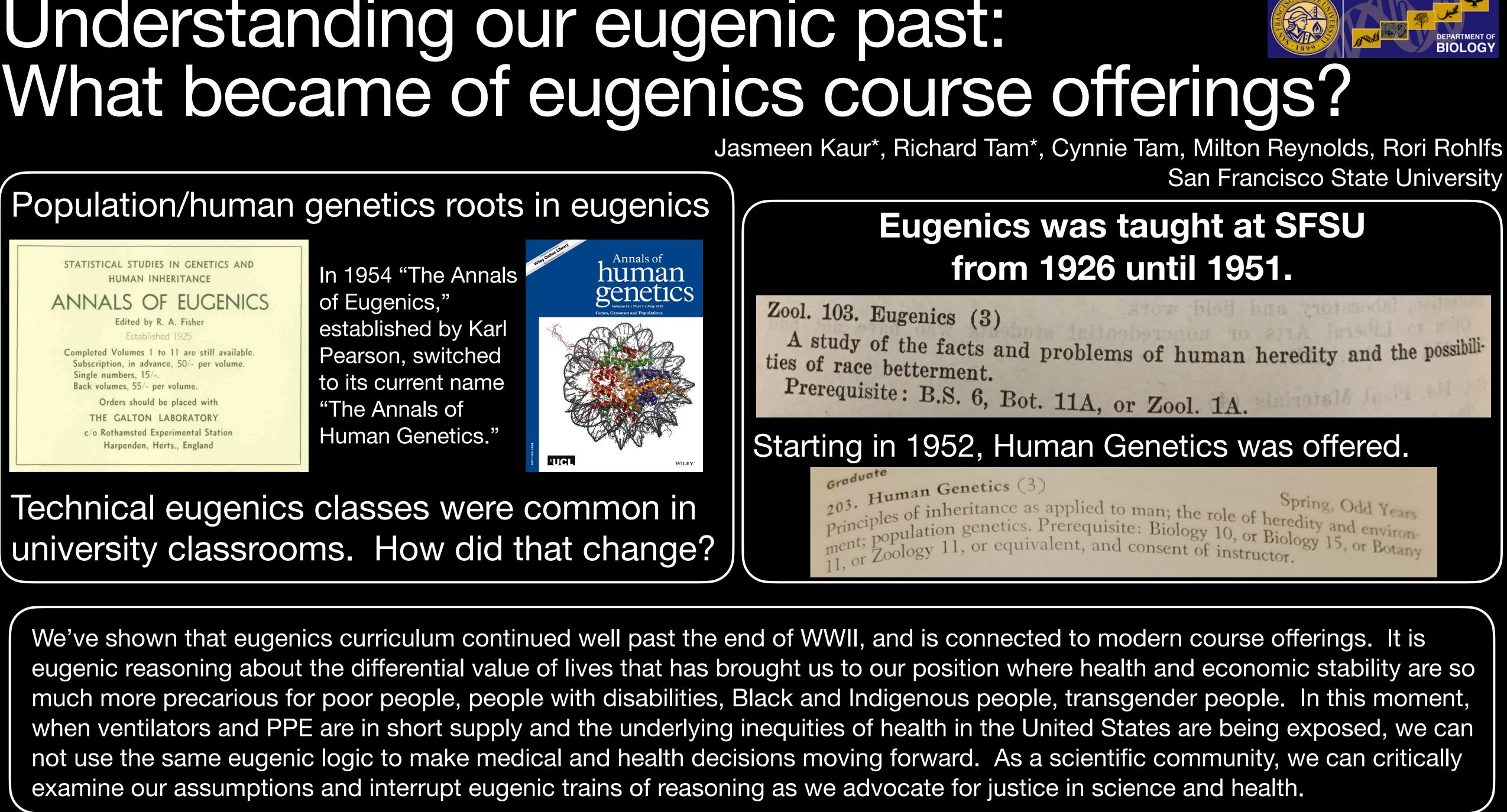
STATISTICAL STUDIES IN GENETICS AND HUMAN INHERITANCE ANNALS OF EUGENICS

> Edited by R. A. Fisher Established 1925

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In 1954 "The Annals of Eugenics," established by Karl Pearson, switched to its current name "The Annals of Human Genetics."



Technical eugenics classes were common in university classrooms. How did that change?

We've shown that eugenics curriculum continued well past the end of WWII, and is connected to modern course offerings. It is eugenic reasoning about the differential value of lives that has brought us to our position where health and economic stability are so much more precarious for poor people, people with disabilities, Black and Indigenous people, transgender people. In this moment, when ventilators and PPE are in short supply and the underlying inequities of health in the United States are being exposed, we can not use the same eugenic logic to make medical and health decisions moving forward. As a scientific community, we can critically examine our assumptions and interrupt eugenic trains of reasoning as we advocate for justice in science and health.