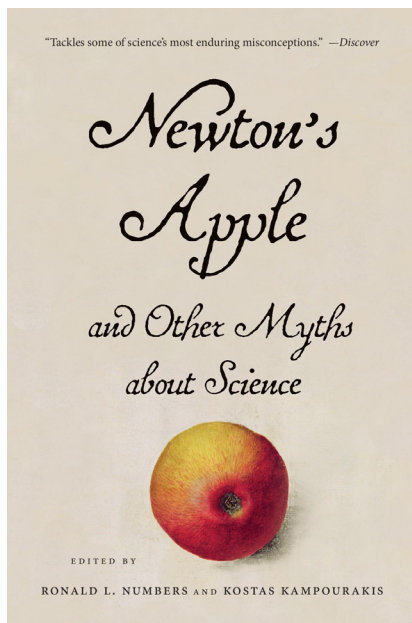




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Newton's Apple and Other Myths about Science

EDITED BY **Ronald L. Numbers and Kostas Kampourakis**

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A falling apple inspired Isaac Newton's insight into the law of gravity—or did it really?

Among the many myths debunked in this refreshingly irreverent book are the idea that alchemy was a superstitious pursuit, that Darwin put off publishing his theory of evolution for fear of public reprisal, and that Gregor Mendel was ahead of his time as a pioneer of genetics. More recent myths about particle physics and Einstein's theory of relativity are discredited too, and a number of dubious generalizations, like the notion that science and religion are antithetical, or that science can neatly be distinguished from pseudoscience, go under the microscope of history.

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Ronald L. Numbers is Hilldale Professor Emeritus of the History of Science and Medicine at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. His many books include *The Creationists* and *Galileo Goes to Jail and Other Myths about Science and Religion*. **Kostas Kampourakis** is the author of *Understanding Evolution* and the Editor-in-Chief of *Science and Education*.