

now.

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we have to know what organism we are working on... In the same way that giving organisms names is useful, giving people, places & things names is useful. We wouldn't get very far if we had to explain what, where or who we were talking about everytime.

I digress...

I said earlier that taxonomy is the science of naming & classifying organisms. These, then, are the two main branches of taxonomy as a science. Let's structure this lecture accordingly.

(But first another small aside: all taxonomic work is done today w/ the evolutionary theory of organisms origins in mind... More on that later, but I mention it here as biological evolution is undeniably relevant in all aspects of what I'm discussing here today — I will thus come up again & again...)