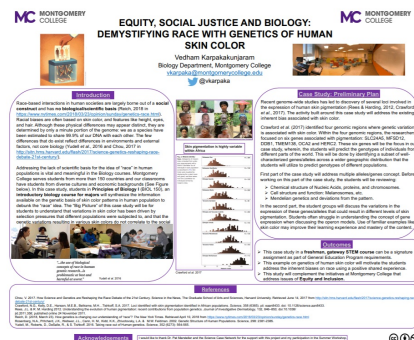




# Community Spotlight

Each Community Spotlight features an outstanding group, partner, resource, or member of our community.

# Equity, Social Justice and Biology: Demystifying Race with Genetics of Human Skin Color (Version 1.0) By Vedham Karpakakunjaram



## Module Description:

This resource is a poster on a case study on the genetics of human skin color. Race-based interactions in human societies were largely borne out of a social construct and has no biological/scientific basis (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/23/opinion/sunday/genetics-race.html>). Such interactions and racial bias often are strongly influenced by the variations in skin color between individuals involved in the interaction. In the case study that I will be writing, students in Principles of Biology I (BIOL 150), an introductory biology course for majors will synthesize the information available on the genetic basis of skin color patterns in human population to debunk the “race” idea. Montgomery College serves students from more than 150 countries and our classrooms have students from diverse cultures and economic backgrounds.

## Teaching Setting:

This poster describes a case study that is designed for students in an introductory biology course for majors.

## QUBES Citation:

Karpakakunjaram, V. (2018). [EQUITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND BIOLOGY: DEMYSTIFYING RACE WITH GENETICS OF HUMAN SKIN COLOR](#). [Wicked Problems: Investigating real world problems in the biology classroom \(SW 2018\)](#), QUBES Educational Resources. [doi:10.25334/Q4SH8P](#)

Visit Resource



Share



Tweet

## Related Materials and Opportunities:

The case study described in this resource is still under development. If you are interested in providing feedback on the case study, feel free to email the author at [vedham.karpakakunjaram@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:vedham.karpakakunjaram@montgomerycollege.edu). We also encourage you to “[Watch](#)” this resource so that you’ll be notified when the author shares a new version with information about the completed case study.

The author attended and presented this poster at the [2018 QUBES/BioQUEST Summer Workshop](#), *Wicked Problems: Investigating real world problems in the biology classroom*. The workshop had a large case component, and some participants began developing case studies at the workshop. If you would like to learn more about what to expect at a QUBES/BioQUEST Summer Workshops, check out these blog posts written by [Lillian Senn](#), [Mark Slabodnick](#), [Jenny Hazlehurst](#), and [Darcy Taniguchi](#), 4 future faculty volunteers who attended the 2018 Summer Workshop.

The [2019 QUBES/BioQUEST Summer Workshop](#), titled *Evolution of Data in the Classroom: From Data to Data Science*, will be held at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA on July 14-19, 2019 and will focus on data science for undergraduate biology education. If you are interested in attending, we encourage you to [sign up for updates here](#).

The 2019 workshop organizers are seeking four highly motivated future faculty volunteers who will help with the day to day logistics of the workshop in exchange for a registration fee waiver. If you are interested in being a future faculty volunteer, learn more about the [Future Faculty Program](#) on the workshop website. Applications will open early 2019.

### QUBES on Social Media



[BioQUEST](#) is a transformative, collaborative community empowering educators to drive innovation in STEM education for all students.

---

Copyright © 2024 QUBES, All rights reserved.  
P.O. Box 1452, Raymond, NH 03077

You are receiving this email because you have shown interest in receiving updates from BioQUEST and QUBES.

[Subscribe / Unsubscribe](#) from mailing list  
[View Community Spotlight on QUBESHub](#)  
Community Spotlight: Issue 17