

The Department of Interdisciplinary Learning &
Teaching invites you to attend

"Deconstructing the Social Construct of Race: A Modern Approach to Teaching High School Genetics"

Uchenna Emenaha

University of Houston

Candidate for Assistant Professor in STEM Education

February 13 | 11 AM – 12 PM
UTSA Main Building 2.220

Abstract: One of the goals of science education is to provide young scholars with an accurate and scientific way to see and interpret their world; therefore, widely held misconceptions about race and human diversity must be addressed via the teaching of accurate science instruction. When students understand race and factors that contribute to variations in skin tone, they are more likely to refute negative messages linking race to intellectual capabilities (Donovan et al., 2019). This presentation analyzes high school biology teacher's delivery of a modernized genetics lesson on human diversity through the lens of Culturally Responsive Pedagogy (CRP). CRP is a pedagogy that empowers students intellectually, socially, emotionally, and politically by using culture to impart knowledge, skills, and attitudes within instruction. The talk will present data to support effective ways to present controversial topics in the science classroom while maintaining a safe learning space for students.