



RUTGERS–NEW BRUNSWICK Graduate School of Education



Social Justice and Genetics Education

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Graduate School of Education
Rutgers University

12:00pm–1:00pm
Wednesday, September 16th, 2026



Connect with colleagues during this in-person presentation at the GSE (Room 124).
Lunch will be provided! Can't attend in person? Join us remotely via [Zoom!](#)

Research in genetics education has shown that students and adults espouse problematic deterministic and essentialist views that contribute to racial bias. Thus far instructional antidotes have focused on countering these views by promoting more complex understandings of population and multifactorial genetics. While such countering is necessary, it is insufficient and that in addition we need to focus instruction on the socio, political, and historical dimension of human genetics. In this talk I will describe a new high school unit developed to engage students with the multifactorial and sociopolitical basis of diabetes and its racial health disparities.

***Ravit Golan Duncan** is a professor of Learning Sciences with a focus on Science Education at the Rutgers Graduate School of Education. Dr. Duncan has several lines of research that focus on epistemic practices, justice-oriented teaching, and learning progressions. She spends much of her time designing instructional materials that are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards and that also promote meaningful and consequential learning for students. At the GSE Dr. Duncan coordinates the Biological Sciences Certification Program and is Department Chair of Learning & Teaching.*