



# Human Variation, ANT 380 02

## Winter 2016: MW 1:30 – 2:45 PM

Have you every wondered:

- Why human beings come in so many shapes and sizes?
- Why scientists say that biological races do not exist in humans?
- How biological and cultural adaptations have allowed human beings to live in the most extreme environments on earth, including rainforests, deserts, and the arctic?
- Do human populations differ in IQ?

All humans are almost identical genetically and yet we show tremendous variation in skin color, body shape, height, and facial features. In this class, we will take a scientific approach to understanding human biological variation. We will critically evaluate the usefulness of “races” for categorizing human beings, as well as discussing genetic disorders, the influence of environment on human appearance, sex differences, and intelligence.

There are no prerequisites for this course. Any and all majors welcome. Fulfills the biological elective for anthropology majors.

For more information, please contact: Dr. Christopher Shaffer,  
[shafferc@gvsu.edu](mailto:shafferc@gvsu.edu)