Quayshawn Spencer is the Robert S. Blank Presidential Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania. He holds both a PhD in philosophy and an MS in biology from Stanford University. Spencer specializes in philosophy of science, philosophy of biology, and philosophy of race. In all three of his specializations, Spencer focuses on metaphysical problems, such as how to appropriately define ‘natural kind,’ whether biological populations can have fuzzy temporal parts, and whether any folk racial classification divides humans into real biological groups. Spencer has published several journal articles on the topic of race & biology, but he’s best known for “What ‘biological racial realism’ should mean” in Philosophical Studies (2012), and “A Radical Solution to the Race Problem” in Philosophy of Science (2014). Spencer also has two forthcoming books with Oxford University Press, What is Race? Four Philosophical Views (with Glasgow, Haslanger, and Jeffers) and The Race Debates from Metaphysics to Medicine.

Faculty interested in attending the post-lecture reception should RSVP to aidan.kestigian@tufts.edu