

Public Input Template–2020 Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum May 2019 Draft

(Download and use to provide specific recommendations)

Include the chapter of the model curriculum, the page number, and line number(s) to ensure that the California Department of Education and Instructional Quality Commission can reference the content of the document when reviewing your comments. Please email this document as a Word document to ethnicstudies@cde.ca.gov. You may contact Kenneth McDonald, Education Programs Consultant, at kmcdonal@cde.ca.gov with any questions regarding this template or the public input process.

Chapter of Model Curriculum	Your Name and Affiliation	Comment (include page and line numbers where applicable)
General, particularly Arab-American studies	<i>Wassim Hage</i> University of California, Berkeley	As an Arab-American academic and organizer, I support the objectives listed for example on page 233 which outline the benefits of teaching the diverse history of Arabs and Arab Americans as means by which to challenge xenophobia and discrimination. Growing up in the stew of post-9/11 anti-Arab racism, I found that the greatest source of alienation, discrimination, and discomfort I experienced was in the school system. Racist tropes and narratives of violence, terrorism, and backwardness categorize the Arab subject's experience of itself, especially in our classrooms. Please do not allow Arab students, American born or immigrants, to continue to be victims of these false narratives; I believe the Arab-Studies curriculum drafted AS /S is an excellent first step in combatting the prevailing racial attitudes of the public at large with respect to Arabs as a cultural and political group.