

**From:** mouloud kabbes

**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2020 1:32 AM

**To:** Ethnic Studies <EthnicStudies@cde.ca.gov>; [emails redacted]

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re-insert Arab American studies in its rightful place within Asian American studies

Dear Instructional Quality Commission members,

We know, from the demands for racial justice sweeping this county, that it is offensive and dangerous to shunt the histories and perspectives of people of color to the sidelines. These revisions are tone-deaf to the political moment we are living in. Young Arab Americans in particular face the consequences of Islamophobia and anti-Arab racism. Arab and Muslim youth are simultaneously invisibilized and targeted.

For too long, Arab youth have learned little about their history besides offensive and racist images and stereotypes. Arab-American studies curriculum provides a critical intervention to these stereotypes in K-12 education.

Please, include the Arab American lesson plan submitted to the California Department of Education by members of the original Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC) advisory committee, and re-insert Arab American studies in its rightful place within Asian American studies.

Mouloud Kabbes