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)
[Enter the Chapter Number here, or just "General" for a comment that applies to the entire document.]	[Enter Your Name] [Enter the agency, organization, or business that you represent, if applicable.]	[Include the page and line number(s) here—Write your comment here]

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Chapter of Model Curriculum	Your Name and Affiliation	Comment (include page and line numbers where applicable)
General	Lisa Miller	I am writing to oppose the curriculum on Arab Americans that includes a reference to Boycott, Divest, and Sanction (BDS) as "a global social movement that currently aims to establish freedom for Palestinians living under apartheid conditions." As a parent of a senior high school student and a junior high school student, a former educator, and a Jew, I find this curriculum offensive. I think it is a great idea to have students learn about other cultures through an ethnic studies course. However, when you force students to learn things that are inflammatory, you encourage them and others to develop racist ideologies, and in this case, specifically, Anti-Semitic views. I believe that is the exact opposite of what is your purpose in teaching ethnic studies. In addition, the exclusion of any discussion of Anti-Semitism or the contributions of Jewish Americans to the state of California and our nation is a disservice to the future leaders you are helping to educate. I ask that you reconsider the curriculum that you are proposing to remove discussions of BDS and include discussions of Anti-Semitism and Jewish contributions in America.

California Department of Education, June 2019