

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

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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)
[1]	[Paul Muench]	[Page 1, Line 7 – <i>This line contains the first occurrence of the word hxrstory. With some investigation I discovered this is commonly pronounced as “herstory”. Which suggests that the “x” is supposed to be replaced with an “e”. However this type of spelling leaves open the possibility that the “x” can be replaced by other vowels. One such replacement is troubling and a potential discipline problem. That’s when the “x” is replaced with an “o”, so that in the spirit of this type of spelling it would sound like whxre. I would anticipate that students using that butchering of the word would be disciplined, hopefully in a reparative way. Perhaps this usage is already anticipated and designed to be a badge of honor similar to how some people use queer and slut. But using queer and slut as an honorific is not ubiquitous as some people still find them offensive and insulting. I also acknowledge that using the simple spelling herstory is still subject to the above butchering. Which means students will have to learn to use this word in a disciplined fashion to master it’s intent. Which does beg the question as to why the word history is not appropriate as the etymology has nothing to do with the word his. Students could then learn instead to use the word history in a disciplined fashion for the past contributions of all people regardless of gender.]</i>