

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)
Chapter two in proposed Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum, lines 4920-6195)	JIMENA: Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa , San Francisco	<p>To the Instructional Quality Commission and the California Board of Education:</p> <p>We are writing to you on behalf of JIMENA, a San Francisco based organization that is committed to advancing the interests and heritage of Middle Eastern and North African Jews – also known as Sephardic and Mizrahi Jews. On August 15, 2019, JIMENA in partnership with eleven Mizrahi and Sephardic Jewish communal organizations in California submitted our feedback regarding the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum, in addition to a lesson plan titled, “Around the Middle Eastern Jewish World.” To reiterate, our community strongly supports AB 2016 and we firmly believe that now, more than ever, our students need rigorous educational opportunities to study issues of race and ethnicity.</p> <p>We are very proud to present a new lesson plan, “Antisemitism and Middle Eastern-American Jews,” which was written specifically to fit into California’s Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum. JIMENA represents multiple Middle Eastern refugees, immigrants, and Jews of Color who comprise one of the largest Middle Eastern ethnic groups in California. The inclusion of Middle Eastern-American Jews, will greatly enrich the curriculum by adding important educational content</p>

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		<p>on antisemitism and Middle-Eastern American experience. It is our strongest hope that the Arab American Studies Section can be expanded to include diverse Middle Eastern experiences. Our inclusion ensures that the Jewish community is represented, as well as the Arab communities who continue advocating for their important inclusion.</p> <p>We request:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) That the “Arab American Studies” course section be renamed to “Middle Eastern-American Studies”2) That the IQC and State Board of Education include the lesson plan, “Antisemitism and the Middle Eastern-American Jews” <p>Thank you, Sarah Levin, Executive Director Gina Bublil-Waldman, President</p>