

From: Kanchan Armstrong
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 1:17 PM
To: Ethnic Studies
Cc: Superintendent
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Protect Ethnic Studies

Dear Whomever this May Concern,

I am a recent 2020 graduate of San Francisco State University and I have been extremely positively impacted by the Ethnic Studies classes I took at SFSU. In fact, these classes were some of my favorite I have taken. I strongly support the ESMC including Arab American Studies.

The ESMC is structured around the core pillars developed by the founders of Ethnic Studies in 1969: American Indian studies, Africana/Black studies, Chicana/Latina studies, and Asian American studies. Following a decades-long tradition in higher education, the ESMC includes Arab American studies within Asian American studies. Leading Asian American scholars, including the National Association of Asian American studies, have issued statements defending the inclusion of Arab American studies in the CA ESMC.

Additionally I think it is vital to note that Ethnic Studies has been linked to increases in positive personal, academic, and social outcomes for students. I know that my education was made full because of Ethnic Studies and it is what I treasure most from my education.

Thank you,

Louisa Armstrong
SFSU Alumna