

From: rafael velazquez

Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 12:44 PM

To: Ethnic Studies

Cc: [email redacted]; Superintendent

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please include Arab American Studies in CA Ethnic studies curriculum

As a middle school teacher, and first generation college graduate in my family, I have seen the powerful and empowering impacts of ethnic studies. It is imperative that we include Arab histories and current realities in what we teach our youth in order to foster resilience, understanding, and social justice.

Please include Arab American Studies in the CA Ethnic Studies curriculum. The ESMC is structured around the core pillars developed by the founders of Ethnic Studies in 1969: American Indian studies, Africana/Black studies, Chicanx/Latinx studies, and Asian American studies. Following a decades-long tradition in higher education, the ESMC includes Arab American studies within Asian American studies.

Sincerely,
Rafael Velazquez Cardenas
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