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)
General	David Yoo University of California, Los Angeles (for identification purposes only)	The members of the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum advisory committee should be commended for taking on a difficult task and for their work on producing a thoughtful draft. All curriculum, regardless of the subject, requires revision and refinement because education is dynamic and always a work-in-progress. The fact that there is disagreement and criticism is a healthy sign that the democratic process is at work and that people are engaged.
		The charge that the model curriculum is biased seems odd since ethnic studies is a relatively recent attempt to bring some balance to the longstanding bias in American education, at all levels, that has privileged European Americans and ignored the experiences and contributions of many peoples, especially indigenous and communities of color, who have been and continue to be such an integral part of U.S. society.
		Ethnic studies is important for all Americans and very much needed in the K-12 schools because it provides a fuller understanding of who we are as a nation. A more diverse and honest accounting of our past and present is necessary for a collective envisioning of a future in which there is liberty and justice for all.

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California Department of Education, June 2019