

## 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](mailto:ethnicstudies@cde.ca.gov). You may contact Kenneth McDonald, Education Programs Consultant, at [kmcdonal@cde.ca.gov](mailto: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	No business or other organization affiliation.	<p>Please include Jewish ethnic groups (Ashkenazi, Sephardi, Mizrahi, and other groups) <u>as an ethnic group</u> in the curriculum. In terms of hard numbers, we are a small ethnic group, comprising only roughly 2% of the United States' population. However, we have been a cohesive ethnoreligious community in the US for generations, interacting with other minority ethnic and religious groups and collectively enriching the US with diversity.</p> <p>As we are currently erased from the curriculum, I would like to ask that we are included- we are experiencing heightened white supremacist violence at this time (there have been two massacres within the last year, at Poway and in Pittsburgh), and in this time of vulnerability, we need more than ever to be seen as human beings worthy of respect and inclusion, no more or less than anyone else.</p>

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Chapter 2 (Line 4290)	No business or other organization affiliation.	<p>Mizrahi Jews (Maghrebi, Kurdish, Iranian, and Jews (including Sephardic Jews) from Arab states, etc.) must be included in some way in this section (Line 4290). Jews are one of the oldest ethnic minorities in the Arab world, and have lived in, been oppressed by, and contributed to Arab culture(s) for millennia. Their story is integral to the history of the MENA region and its diaspora, and not including this in the curriculum would be a major failure.</p> <p>Over 200,000 Jews of Mizrahi heritage live in California. They, like all Jews, are a minority group vulnerable to antisemitism, and are inheritors of a cultural patrimony that continues to make California (and the rest of the US) a culturally richer place through diversity. Please demonstrate your respect for this by including Mizrahi Jews in the curriculum.</p>
Chapter 2 (Line 4957)	No business or other organization affiliation.	<p>Please represent the Israel/Palestinian conflict in a balanced and impartial way. Currently, the curriculum reflects only a support for BDS (and by extension a condemnation of Israel as a national home for the Jewish people). Most American Jews believe that while we have an ancestral claim to the land of Israel, as the place of our ethnogenesis, that in no way means that the Palestinians do not have an equal claim. To erase our connection to our ancestral homeland is a disservice to the State of California's stated goals of inclusion, diversity of opinion, and balance.</p> <p>The curriculum must be balanced, inclusive, and reflective of multiple perspectives. Please ensure that where the conflict is taught, the curriculum reflects a diversity of perspectives.</p>