

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	Joan Korin	I am concerned about the current plan for the Ethnic Studies Curriculum regarding its relation to anti-Semitism and the BDS issue. There are numerous instances of anti-semitism in our schools (swastikas, hate speech, etc.). To ignore anti-Semitism as an issue when it is quite prevalent is concerning. In addition, I'm not sure why the curriculum would even highlight the BDS movement, but if it does, the curriculum should be clear about the stated aim of the BDS leadership to eliminate the state of Israel. The Israel/Palestinian issue is so complex, with diverse opinions and concerns. To do it justice would take quite a lot of time, and as a citizen of California, I'd rather students learn about issues facing them more directly as students, such as institutional racism, coping with hate directed at specific groups (including anti-Semitism), immigration issues, and what it means to honor the backgrounds of our population, while also honoring American values such as freedom of speech.

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California Department of Education, June 2019