

**From:** Yick, Julie

**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2020 5:33 PM

**To:** Ethnic Studies <EthnicStudies@cde.ca.gov>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Ethnic Studies model curriculum & Arab American studies

Dear members of the Instructional Quality Commission, Superintendent Thurmond, and Dr. Darling-Hammond,

My name is Julie Yick and I am a social studies teacher at Mountain View High School and a doctoral student at San Francisco State University. I have been following the various revisions of the Ethnic Studies model curriculum closely and I am writing to urge you to make the following revisions to the next version of the Ethnic Studies model curriculum:

- 1) Re-insert Arab American studies in its rightful place in the curriculum, within Asian American studies, rather than being relegated to the appendix
- 2) Make sure that there is an ample focus on the diversity within the Asian American community, which includes Pan Asian identity, a robust examination of groups such as Japanese Americans, Chinese Americans, Korean Americans, South Asians, Arab Americans, and other groups
- 3) Ethnic Studies classes may examine Islamophobia and anti-Semitism. Anti-Semitism is an extremely important issue but needs to be properly defined. A critique of Israeli government policies is not the same as anti-Semitism. Please remove any flawed definitions of anti-Semitism in the model curriculum.

Thank you for your consideration of this input.

Julie Yick  
Social Studies Teacher  
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