

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)
Introduction/General	Elena Barr Baum Holocaust Commission of the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater	Your introduction notes that the curriculum will relate to “d) our world – past present, and future.” The American Jewish experience is an important ethnic experience in our country, and has been since it was founded on principles including religious freedom. Despite California’s being one of a handful of states to require Holocaust education, an ethnic studies model curriculum that does not include antisemitism is one that misleads and effectively erases the American Jewish experience, reflecting an anti-Jewish bias. Your introduction notes that the curriculum will relate to “d) our world – past present, and future.” While Jews may not be considered native peoples or people of color, they are often treated with the same idea of “otherness” from the white normative culture as these peoples. The American Jewish experience is an important ethnic experience in our country, and has been since it was founded on principles including religious freedom. It should be included in any Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum.

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California Department of Education, June 2019