

From: Melina Packer

Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2020 1:50 PM

To: Ethnic Studies

Subject: [EXTERNAL] include Arab American studies in the CA Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC)

Dear Instructional Quality Commission,

As a scholar, a proud California resident, a Jew, and a long-time supporter of Palestine, I urge you to keep the Arab American studies model curriculum intact. In this historical moment of far-right extremism and Islamophobia worldwide, educating students comprehensively and fairly regarding the history and present situation of the Levant has never been more important. Arab American studies is a critical component of Ethnic Studies and must not be erased or "revised" to suit Zionist fascists. Take a stand on the justice side of history and teach our global children well.

Sincerely,

Melina Packer, PhD (she/hers) | Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow

Department of Gender & Sexuality Studies | University of California, Riverside