

Public Input Template–2020 Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum
May 2019 Draft

General	<i>Ariana Thompson-Lastad, PhD</i> Public school parent	<p>As a researcher and a parent, I support the inclusion of Arab American studies as part of the ethnic studies curriculum in California. As referenced on page 1, Arabs and Pacific Islanders are particularly marginalized communities that are not well represented in current course offerings.</p> <p>Specifically, I support the objectives listed on page 233 which outline the benefits of teaching the diverse history of Arabs and Arab Americans as a way to challenge xenophobia and discrimination and to create a welcoming environment for marginalized students.</p> <p>In addition, including a history of migration to the US (page 236) is necessary for any marginalized community, and in particular for Arab Americans at this time. Teaching this history will help create a bridge between migrant communities and celebrate a rich history of a growing population.</p>
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