



**Academic Senate**  
for California Community Colleges

LEADERSHIP. EMPOWERMENT. VOICE.

***Comments, New Resolutions and Amendments  
During Review Period March 30-April 12, 2021***

*Disclaimer: The enclosed resolutions do not reflect the position of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, its Executive Committee, or standing committees. They are presented for the purpose of discussion by the field, and to be debated and voted on by academic senate delegates at the Plenary Session on April 17, 2021.*

## **9.0 CURRICULUM**

### **#9.06 S21 Develop a Rubric for Ethnic Studies Courses for CSU General Education Area F**

Whereas, California Community Colleges are modifying and developing curriculum to address AB 1460 in accordance with the CSU definition of Ethnic Studies and to maximize and frame curriculum for student success through an equity-minded lens in support of the Chancellor's Vision for Success and Call to Action;

Whereas, California Community Colleges have developed different, local approaches to ethnic studies curriculum that includes elements found in the CSU definition of Ethnic Studies as well as elements intended to keep the fidelity and integrity of the well-established Ethnic Studies discipline in community colleges; and

Whereas, California Community Colleges need further guidance to develop local Ethnic Studies courses in such a way to support students to demonstrate awareness of and appreciation of the diversity of cultural works, practices, and beliefs leading to ethical, responsible, and equity-minded participation in society;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges develop a rubric and other professional development materials that help colleges ensure proper course requirements and alignment for community college courses proposed to meet the CSU General Education Area F Ethnic Studies.

Contact: [Randy Beach](#), Southwestern College

### **#9.07 S21 Defining Ethnic Studies and its Four Core Disciplines**

Whereas, the completion of an Ethnic Studies course (i.e., African American Studies, Asian American Studies, Latina/o American Studies, or Native American Studies) becomes a graduation requirement for all California State University (CSU) baccalaureate degrees starting Fall of 2021 due to the passage of AB1460, and support from ASCCC Fall Plenary Resolution 9.03;

Whereas, Ethnic Studies departments were autonomously established in 1968, becoming part of the curriculum of the University of California System (UC), California State University System (CSU), and the California Community College System (CCC) as evidenced in the establishment of departments, programs, and curriculum in course catalogs, schedules, and offerings, with faculty officially listed in the CCC Chancellor's Office "Minimum Qualifications for Faculty and Administrators in California Community Colleges" handbook;

Whereas, with the recent passage of AB 1460 misunderstanding and infringement by non-Ethnic Studies faculty have arisen in the CCC system about the definition of Ethnic Studies attempting to reduce it to a "concept" and confusing it with a "social justice" concept; such confusion has allowed for attempts at encroachment upon Ethnic Studies by disciplines whose theoretical foundations and competencies lie in other disciplines with different foundational histories, frameworks and epistemologies; and

Whereas, the recognition of Ethnic Studies as clearly defined and valid disciplines allows for the growth of Ethnic Studies disciplines within the CCC system in ways that align with current graduation requirements being established by the CSUs that recognize the autonomy of Ethnic Studies departments, programs, or combined administrative units with multiple departments; as distinct disciplines and departments or programs conceived and referred to as a shared initiative;

Resolved, that the ASCCC recognize for the purposes of graduation and general education requirements, that Ethnic Studies is defined as an interdisciplinary and comparative study of race, ethnicity and culture in the United States, with specific emphasis on four historically defined racialized core groups: Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and Latina and Latino Americans. Additionally, the ASCCC recognizes that Ethnic Studies is offered through Ethnic Studies departments and programs, with disciplines focusing on the four autonomous core groups including, Chicana/o Studies, Latina/o Studies, La Raza Studies, African American Studies, Black Studies, Africana Studies, Native American Studies, American Indian Studies, Asian American Studies, Pacific Islander Studies, Filipino American Studies, and Central American Studies , each having distinct epistemologies, theories, and methodologies that center a critical Ethnic Studies lens and present this definition through a position paper by the Spring 2023 Plenary, and

Resolved, that the Academic Senate for California Community colleges advocate that the definition of Ethnic Studies be written into the Program and Course Approval Handbook to support ASCCC Resolution 9.03.

Contact: Thekima Mayasa, San Diego Mesa College

### **13.0 GENERAL CONSERNS**

#### **#\*13.02 S21 Enabling Display and Use of Faculty Chosen Name and Pronoun across Campus and all Digital Environments**

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges has advocated for inclusive college campuses through resolutions, rostrum articles, and presentations;

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges approved Resolution 3.07 S19, which urges “local academic senates to request that their colleges and districts enable the Canvas Name Preference Option and encourage their faculty to use the preferred name option with their students,” but the resolution does not cover faculty chosen name and pronoun in Canvas or other digital environments;

Whereas, The ability for faculty to feel safe and comfortable communicating with students and coworkers electronically is essential to their job function; and

Whereas, The use or display of any name other than chosen name in electronic communication and interaction presents potential harm for faculty just as it does for students;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges urges local academic senates to work with their colleges and districts to enable faculty chosen first and last names and pronouns in all campus and digital environments, especially within CMS and email systems.

Contact: [Brandi Bailes](#), Crafton Hills College