



MEMORANDUM

June 15, 2022

ESS 22-300-008 | Via Email

TO: Chief Executive Officers
Chief Instructional Officers
Chief Student Services Officers
Academic Senate Presidents
Articulation Officers
Curriculum Chairs

FROM: Dr. Aisha N. Lowe, Vice Chancellor, Educational Services and Support

RE: California Community Colleges Ethnic Studies Implementation Updates

At the July 2021 Board of Governors meeting, the Board unanimously approved revisions to [title 5, section 55063](#), Minimum Requirements for the Associate Degree, adding an ethnic studies graduation requirement. An Ethnic Studies Taskforce was established to support the implementation of the California Community Colleges (CCC) ethnic studies graduation requirement. This memorandum provides details about the work and results of the California Community Colleges Ethnic Studies Taskforce.

Background

In June 2020, the Chancellor's Office released the [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion \(DEI\) Call to Action](#) which called for, among other things, campuses to audit classroom climate and create action plans to create inclusive classrooms and anti-racist curriculum. Historically, ethnic studies is the interdisciplinary and comparative study of race and ethnicity with special focus on four historically defined racialized groups: Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders, and Latina/o Americans. As such, instituting ethnic studies as a graduation requirement for the Associate degree is an important step in diversifying curriculum and one important tool for creating inclusive curriculum.

Also in 2020, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) adopted [resolution 9.03](#) calling for an ethnic studies graduation requirement. The [Student Senate for California Community Colleges](#) (SSCCC) similarly adopted [resolution S21.01.05](#) also advocating for an ethnic studies graduation requirement. Additionally, the California Community Colleges [Ethnic Studies Faculty Council \(CCCESFC\)](#), consisting of 200 ethnic studies faculty from across the California Community College system, hosted two CCC Ethnic Studies Summits advocating for this (and other) ethnic studies reform. There was a clear call from both faculty and students to implement an ethnic studies graduation requirement.

The Chancellor's Office and the [California Community Colleges Curriculum Committee](#) (5C) responded to that call and developed revisions to California Code of Regulations, title 5, to implement an ethnic studies graduation requirement. At the July 2021 Board of Governors meeting, the Board unanimously approved those revisions, adding an ethnic studies graduation requirement. In collaboration with the ASCCC and the CCCESFC, an Ethnic Studies Taskforce was established to support the implementation of the CCC ethnic studies graduation requirement.

Ethnic Studies Taskforce Progress

The Ethnic Studies Taskforce is comprised of 15 voting members representative of stakeholder groups from the system (see the taskforce charter in the Vision Resource Center community). The Chancellor's Office assembled and convened the Ethnic Studies Taskforce during the 2021-2022 academic year, focused on accomplishing the following four goals set forth in its charter. The list below presents each goal along with Taskforce updates.

Goal 1. To determine an implementation date for the new CCC ethnic studies requirement.

- While colleges are encouraged to establish the needed ethnic studies programs and courses now, all colleges must have the course offerings needed to fulfill this new ethnic studies graduation requirement by fall 2024.
- The Ethnic Studies Taskforce has created an implementation timeline to help guide local implementation. The attached document on page five presents that timeline, which colleges can adapt as needed to serve as a guide to aid implementation.

Goal 2. To establish ethnic studies core competencies for the California Community Colleges.

- Similar to the [core competencies for the new Area F ethnic studies general education requirement](#) (lower-division California State University general education requirement established to fulfill title 5, §89032) and those recently (June 2022) established by the University of California Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) Area 7 ethnic studies core competencies (to be published on [the ICAS website](#)), the CCC Ethnic Studies Taskforce is drafting CCC ethnic studies core competencies.
- Informed by faculty from the four core ethnic studies disciplines, articulation officers, and the Ethnic Studies Faculty Council, the Taskforce has drafted a set of core competencies that bring together the California State University's (CSU) and the University of California's (UC) core competencies into one unified set of core competencies. These draft core competencies will undergo a vetting process through the ASCCC Course Identification Numbering System (C-ID) review process in fall 2022. Upon completion of the C-ID review process, the Chancellor's Office will formally disseminate the CCC ethnic studies core competencies to all CCCs.

Goal 3. To help coordinate professional development and technical assistance for the California Community Colleges to ensure ethnic studies is implemented with fidelity to the disciplines.

- The Taskforce created a [CCC Ethnic Studies Requirement Professional Learning Survey](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6870062/EthnicStudiesSurvey) to determine the training, support, and guidance desired by California Community Colleges to effectively implement the CCC ethnic studies requirement. The survey is accessible at <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6870062/EthnicStudiesSurvey> and is requested to be completed by September 19, 2022.
- A “CCC Ethnic Studies” community is now accessible in the [Vision Resource Center](#). The purpose of this online community is to share resources and support for implementation of the ethnic studies requirements. There you will find the ethnic studies core competencies, technical assistance, professional development opportunities, and discussion groups to ask questions, share ideas, and find answers.
- The Taskforce is creating a comprehensive Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that colleges can use to support fall 2024 ethnic studies implementation. The FAQs document will be posted in the Vision Resource Center by fall 2022.

Goal 4. To coordinate with California State University for intersegmental alignment.

- The Taskforce regularly engaged with CSU and UC to intentionally align core competencies with the CSU Area F and the UC IGETC Area 7 ethnic studies core competencies. Intersegmental alignment was a key consideration in crafting the core competencies with the goal of easing transferability for all students.
- The Chancellor’s Office is also coordinating with CSU on potential shared professional development opportunities and implementation resources.

Requested Actions

1. Fill out and submit a [CCC Ethnic Studies Requirement Professional Learning Survey](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6870062/EthnicStudiesSurvey) to provide feedback on the professional development and technical assistance your campus needs. There are five demographic questions and seven survey questions. The survey should take no more than five minutes to complete. Please disseminate this survey across your campus, particularly to the appropriate faculty, department chairs, deans, and articulation officers. Please submit this survey by **September 19, 2022**.
2. Carefully review the attached CCC Ethnic Studies Implementation timeline (page 5) and begin to discuss and plan local implementation processes.
3. Join the CCC Ethnic Studies community in the [Vision Resource Center](#).

If you have any questions regarding this guidance, please contact Dean Dr. Candice Brooks at EthnicStudies@cccco.edu.

Attachment: CCC Ethnic Studies Implementation Timeline (page 5)

cc: Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor
Dr. Daisy Gonzales, Deputy Chancellor
Marty Alvarado, Executive Vice Chancellor, Equitable Student Learning, Experience, and Impact Office
Rebecca Ruan-O'Shaughnessy, Vice Chancellor, Educational Services and Support Division
Dr. Candice Brooks, Dean, Educational Services and Support Division
CCCCO Staff

California Community Colleges Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement Implementation Timeline

Term	Month	Task
Summer 2022	June – August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular University of California (UC) Transferable Course Agreement (TCA) submissions.
Fall 2022	September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess local course inventory and begin planning fall 2022 and spring 2023 curriculum response strategy. - Faculty begin curriculum updates for any new/revised courses.
	December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submit courses that already meet requirements into Chancellor’s Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI) for auto-approval. - Submit courses to the Articulation System Stimulating Interinstitutional Student Transfer (ASSIST) for CSU General Education Area F and UC Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) Area 7.
Spring 2023	January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Curriculum update activity continues through spring. - Submit courses to COCI for auto-approval. - Assess need for faculty new hires to support fall 2024 course sections.
	April - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CSU GE Area F and IGETC Area 7 decisions received.
Summer 2023	June - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular University of California (UC) Transferable Course Agreement (TCA) submissions.
Fall 2023	September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Curriculum update activity continues through fall.
	December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submit to ASSIST for CSU GE Area F and IGETC Area 7.
Spring 2024	January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Catalog updates begin for summer term. - Outreach/advising media updates begin for summer term. - Pathways mapping-related updates (e.g., print and digital media, pathway planners) for summer term. - COCI program-level updates. - Assess and recruit faculty new hires to support fall 2024 course sections.
	March - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Catalog revisions are due for final 2024-2025 publication.
	April - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CSU GE Area F and IGETC Area 7 decisions received.
Summer 2024	June - August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular University of California (UC) Transferable Course Agreement (TCA) submissions.
Fall 2024	August - December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CCC ethnic studies course is now an Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degree graduation requirement.