

**ACADEMIC SENATE  
OF  
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-3460-20/AA  
November 5-6, 2020

**ADOPTING THE AMENDED RECOMMENDED CORE COMPETENCIES FOR  
ETHNIC STUDIES**

**RESOLVED:** California Education Code 89032c requires that “The California State University shall collaborate with the California State University Council on Ethnic Studies and the Academic Senate of the California State University to develop core competencies to be achieved by students who complete an ethnic studies course …”; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU adopt the amended Ethnic Studies Core Competencies approved on November 4, 2020, by representatives from the Ethnic Studies Council, the Academic Senate of the CSU, and the CSU Chancellor’s Office.

- I. Analyze and articulate concepts such as race and racism, racialization, ethnicity, equity, ethno-centrism, eurocentrism, white supremacy, self-determination, liberation, decolonization, sovereignty, imperialism, settler colonialism, and anti-racism as analyzed in any one or more of the following: Native American Studies, African American Studies, Asian American Studies, and Latina and Latino American Studies.
- II. Apply theory and knowledge produced by Native American, African American, Asian American, and/or Latina and Latino American communities to describe the critical events, histories, cultures, intellectual traditions, contributions, lived-experiences and social struggles of those groups with a particular emphasis on agency and group-affirmation.
- III. Critically analyze the intersection of race and racism as they relate to class, gender, sexuality, religion, spirituality, national origin, immigration status, ability, tribal citizenship, sovereignty, language, and/or age in Native American, African American, Asian American, and/or Latina and Latino American communities.
- IV. Critically review how struggle, resistance, racial and social justice, solidarity, and liberation, as experienced and enacted by Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans and/or Latina and Latino Americans are relevant to current and structural issues such as communal, national, international, and transnational politics as, for example, in immigration, reparations, settler-colonialism, multiculturalism, language policies.

- V. Describe and actively engage with anti-racist and anti-colonial issues and the practices and movements in Native American, African American, Asian American and/or Latina and Latino communities to build a just and equitable society.

**RESOLVED:** That this resolution be distributed to the Honorable Gavin Newsom, Governor of California, Assembly Member Dr. Shirley Weber, CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor, Timothy P. White, Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic & Student Affairs, Loren Blanchard, CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs, CSU campus Senate Chairs, CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, California Faculty Association (CFA), California State Student Association (CSSA), and the CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty & Staff Association (CSU-ERFSA).

*RATIONALE: The Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) is committed to Ethnic Studies as curricula that deepen the educational experiences of all California State University (CSU) students and benefit our society. The ASCSU has long supported Ethnic Studies curricula for all California State University students, as evidenced by Resolutions including:*

[AS-3164-14/AA/FA \(Rev\) In Support of Ethnic Studies in the California State University](#)

[AS-3331-18/EX In Support of the Advancement of Ethnic Studies in the California State University \(CSU\)](#)

[AS-3380-19/FA/FGA/EX In Support of Ethnic Studies Programs in the CSU](#)

[AS-3403-19/AA \(Rev\) Recommended Implementation of a California State University \(CSU\) Ethnic Studies Requirement](#)

[AS-3420-20/AA Response to the CSU Chancellor's Office Memo on Recommended Implementation of a California State University \(CSU\) Ethnic Studies Requirement \(March 17, 2020\)](#)

*During their fall 2019 meetings, the Academic Affairs Committee of the ASCSU developed Learning Outcomes for Ethnic Studies, after consultation with members of the California State University Council on Ethnic Studies, as well as with experts in writing learning outcomes. This resulted in the approved ASCSU Learning Outcomes (November 2019) shown below:*

***Ethnic Studies Requirement: Student Learning Outcomes***

*Each campus shall include and address the following ethnic studies student learning outcomes in the General Education curriculum. Upon completing their ethnic studies requirement, students will be able to:*

1. *Analyze and articulate core concepts of ethnic studies, including but not limited to race and ethnicity, racialization, equity, ethno-centrism, Eurocentrism, and white supremacy;*
2. *Apply theory to describe critical events in the histories, cultures, and intellectual traditions of communities of color with a particular emphasis on agency and self-affirmation;*
3. *Describe the intersection of race and ethnicity with other forms of difference affected by hierarchy and oppression, such as class, gender, sexuality, religion, spirituality, national origin, immigration status, ability, and/or age;*
4. *Describe how resistance, social justice, and liberation as experienced by communities of color are relevant to current issues (communal, national, and international); and*
5. *Demonstrate active engagement with issues of race and ethnicity to build diverse, just, and equitable communities beyond the classroom.*

*In fall 2020, the following section was added to the California Education Code:*

**California Education Code 89032**

**SEC. 1.**

*The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:*

- (a) *Ethnic studies programs have come about from students of color demanding them. On November 6, 1968, a coalition of student groups at San Francisco State University demanded that the university institute an ethnic studies program.*
- (b) *Ethnic studies are an interdisciplinary and comparative study of race and ethnicity with special focus on four historically defined racialized core groups: Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latina and Latino Americans.*
- (c) *Studies have found that both students of color and white students benefit academically as well as socially from taking ethnic studies courses. Ethnic studies courses play an important role in building an inclusive multicultural democracy.*
- (d) *A report of the California State University Task Force on the Advancement of Ethnic Studies, commissioned by the Chancellor's office, recommended that ethnic studies become a general education requirement throughout the California State University system.*

**SEC. 2.**

*Section 89032 is added to the Education Code, to read:*

- (a) *It is the intent of the Legislature that students of the California State University acquire the knowledge and skills that will help them comprehend*

*the diversity and social justice history of the United States and of the society in which they live to enable them to contribute to that society as responsible and constructive citizens.*

- (b) *Commencing with the 2021–22 academic year, the California State University shall provide for courses in ethnic studies at each of its campuses.*
- (c) *The California State University shall collaborate with the California State University Council on Ethnic Studies and the Academic Senate of the California State University to develop core competencies to be achieved by students who complete an ethnic studies course pursuant to implementation of this section. The council and the academic senate shall approve the core competencies before commencement of the 2021–22 academic year.*
- (d) *Commencing with students graduating in the 2024–25 academic year, the California State University shall require, as an undergraduate graduation requirement, the completion of, at minimum, one three-unit course in ethnic studies. The university shall not increase the number of units required to graduate from the university with a baccalaureate degree by the enforcement of this requirement. This graduation requirement shall not apply to a post baccalaureate student who is enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program at the university if the student has satisfied either of the following:*
  - i. *The student has earned a baccalaureate degree from an institution accredited by a regional accrediting agency.*
  - ii. *The student has completed an ethnic studies course at a postsecondary educational institution accredited by a regional accrediting agency.*

*Meetings were held with representatives of the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies on October 14, October 21, and November 4, 2020.*

**Approved – November 5-6, 2020**