

## Academic Senate Resolution

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**Title: ASR-11-21 Resolution to Align Ethnic Studies Courses with CSU and CCC General Education Requirements**

**Author/Committee: Sang Chi, Jamar London/Legislative**

**1<sup>st</sup> Read/Vote: 10/12/21 Yea: 55 Nay: 0 Abstain 0**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Read/Vote: 11/23/22 Yea: 53 Nay: 0 Abstain 1**

**Approval Date: 11/23/22**

*Whereas*, the Community Colleges Board of Governors approved on July 2021 the creation of an Ethnic Studies general education requirement for students earning an Associates degree and the state legislature in August 2020 passed AB 1460 that created an Area F requirement in Ethnic Studies that must be fulfilled with the completion of a course for California State University students graduating 2024-2025,

*Whereas*, the creation of Ethnic Studies courses will have a significant impact on Santa Monica College students who may fulfill this requirement prior to transfer thus saving students additional expenses and time;

*Whereas*, the California State University (CSU) has made clear that courses used to fulfill this requirement must align with the core competencies for Ethnic Studies as delineated by the CSU system, and for the California Community Colleges (CCC) this alignment is best achieved by offering courses through established Ethnic Studies programs with Ethnic Studies prefixes;

*Whereas*, Santa Monica College needs guidance to develop Ethnic Studies courses in such a way as to support students to meet both transfer and local degree requirements and to matriculate students who demonstrate awareness of and appreciation for the diversity of cultural works, practices, and beliefs leading to ethical, responsible, and equity-minded participation in society;

*Whereas*, the recognition of Ethnic Studies as a clearly defined and valid discipline allows for the establishment of an Ethnic Studies program at Santa Monica College in alignment with current graduation requirements established by the CSUs and the forthcoming CCC Ethnic Studies general education requirement;

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***Be it resolved,*** that the Academic Senate for Santa Monica College 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 Latina/o/x Americans—and each core discipline has distinct epistemologies, theories, and methodologies that center a critical Ethnic Studies lens;

***Be it resolved,*** that the Academic Senate for Santa Monica College work with the Ethnic Studies Task Force, which will act as the official recommending body for the development of SMC’s Ethnic Studies program, and other stakeholders to develop a rubric, professional development materials, and processes to provide guidance regarding curriculum elements, such as core competencies and learning outcomes for Ethnic Studies courses that align student educational outcomes with legislation and regulation; and

***Be it resolved,*** that the Academic Senate for Santa Monica College work with the Ethnic Studies Task Force and other stakeholders to make recommendations on how to sustain and grow an Ethnic Studies-based program that includes Native American, African American, Asian American, and Latina/o/x studies in order to facilitate the transfer and articulation process between the college and the CSU System in regard to the new Ethnic Studies requirements.