

1 **FS 20/21-49/EX** **Feedback Form on Revisions to the Executive Order on**
2 **CSU General Education Breadth, Approval of**
3

4 The Faculty Senate approves the Feedback Form on Revisions to the Executive Order on
5 CSU General Education Breadth to be sent to the Chancellor's Office in response to the
6 Proposed Revisions to the Executive Order on CSU General Education Breadth.
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8 **Lack of collaboration/time for consultation:**

- 9 • This proposal lacks the collaboration required by law and the level of meaningful
10 consultation required by shared governance.
11 • The timeline for feedback is unrealistic and suggests a pre-determined outcome for the
12 proposal.
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14 **Campus Autonomy:**

- 15 • Campuses need to have greater autonomy to determine the best ways to meet the
16 needs of their students with the limited resources currently available.
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18 **Concerns regarding proposed changes to GE:**

- 19 • The proposal goes beyond the requirements of the law by proposing that ethnic studies
20 be required in GE.
21 • Potentially appropriate upper division coursework already exists on our campus. The
22 lower division requirement would exclude these courses from satisfying this requirement
23 and will cause more burdensome and time-consuming curricular development.
24 • The requirement that the ethnic studies course be taught at the lower division level may
25 diminish the rigor of the content for many students who otherwise might have satisfied
26 the requirement by an upper division course.
27 • The ethnic studies requirement is an additional statutory requirement and EO 1100
28 already has an established mechanism for dealing with statutory requirements in 2.2.6
29 and allowing for double counting (2.2.6.1). A relatively simple edit to 2.2.6.2 could have
30 allowed ethnic studies to be addressed in the same way as the other statutory
31 requirements (and similar to other campus-specific, double-counted, supervenient
32 requirements that already double-count with GE).
33 • The proposed approach is complex, burdensome, time consuming, and adds a level of
34 confusion in discussions of GE across different catalogs in a way that a simple
35 adjustment to 2.2.6.2 would be less likely to.
36 • As it currently exists, Area D is already very limited due to its overlap with the American
37 Institutions graduation requirements. In particular, the vast majority of students satisfy
38 Area D and simultaneously American Institutions by taking a Lower Division History
39 course and a Lower Division Political Science course. That leaves one free choice in
40 Area D Lower Division. With the proposed implementation and the decrease in Area D to
41 9 total units (3 of which must be Upper Division), in essence there is no elective Lower
42 Division Area D course remaining.
43 ○ In practice, this means that students will no longer explore the Social Sciences
44 by taking a Lower Division GE course. It should be noted that Anthropology,
45 Economics, and Sociology students, in particular, do not always enter the CSU
46 with these majors. They discover them by taking precisely these courses.
47 ○ Additionally, students may end up needing to take one of these lower-division
48 courses to satisfy the pre-requisite for an upper-division area D course meaning
49 that students will essentially be required to take 12 units in area D and increasing
50 the GE unit requirements.

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Ethnic Studies Departments Requirement:

- AB 1460 requires course completion of an ethnic studies course but does not require the course to hail from the African American, Asian American, Latina/o American or Native American Studies department as is the proposed requirement in EO 1100 revision.
- No other GE area is set up with the type of exclusivity (regarding which departments can offer coursework which satisfies the requirement) that this proposal includes for courses that would satisfy the proposed area F.
- Experts on race and ethnicity from across the university should be a part of a collaborative process to shape this requirement.

Additionally, the Faculty Senate at Sacramento State Endorses the Sentiments of the Sacramento State Ethnic Studies Resolution in Opposition to Chancellors Proposed Implementation of AB 1460 (attached).

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom signed AB 1460 into law on August 17, 2020 providing an explicit Ethnic Studies requirement in the CSU, and

WHEREAS, AB1460, Section 1a states that “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.” And

WHEREAS, AB1460 Section 2b states that Ethnic Studies is a discipline with a “special focus on four historically defined racialized core groups: Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latina and Latino Americans.” And

WHEREAS, AB1460 Section 2b states “The California State University shall collaborate with the California State University Council on Ethnic Studies [CSUCES] and the Academic Senate of the California State University [ASCSU] 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.” and

WHEREAS, the Academic Senate of Sacramento State is in opposition to the Chancellor’s Office’s interpretation of AB1460 which proposed to the CSU Board of Trustees a new General Education Area F of the Ethnic Studies and Social Justice and a simultaneous reduction of Area D by 3 units; and

WHEREAS, the CSU Board of Trustees approved said proposal at their July 2020 meeting. and

WHEREAS, On September 10, 2020, the Chancellor’s Office issued a memo requiring campuses to implement the new General Education requirement, “Area F,” mandating that the ethnic studies requirement be lower division; and

WHEREAS, campuses are strained by contingent emergencies including, but not limited to—the COVID-19 global pandemic, wildfires and other climate-based natural disasters, and economic downturn effecting state allocations; and

101 WHEREAS, campus Ethnic Studies faculty are the experts in designing and executing
102 curriculum; and
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104 WHEREAS, the CSU Chancellor's Office memo issued on September 10, 2020 specifies an
105 impossible and unconstructive timeline to ensure appropriate collaboration as required by AB-
106 1460, consultation, deliberation, and conversation among Ethnic Studies faculty on design,
107 construction, and student-centered implementation of ethnic Studies; and
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109 WHEREAS, there has not been enough time for appropriate consultation within the CSU
110 Council of Ethnic Studies on all aspects of AB 1460 and Title V changes; and
111 WHEREAS, AB-1460 does not specify the Ethnic Studies course be a GE requirement; and
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113 WHEREAS, AB-1460 does not specify the Ethnic Studies course be an upper-division or lower-
114 division course; and
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116 WHEREAS, the Ethnic Studies faculty at Sacramento State oppose placing the requirement
117 solely in lower division and in General Education; therefore, be it
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119 RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of Sacramento State asks the CSU Chancellor's Office to
120 rescind their Title V July 2020 changes; and be it further
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122 RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of Sacramento State ask that the leadership of the ASCSU
123 and the Chancellor's Office rescind their acceptance of the Ethnic Studies core competencies
124 until the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies has met with CSU Ethnic Studies Department or
125 Program experts, to discuss, vet, and officially approve the proposed Student Learning
126 Outcomes (core competencies),
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128 RESOLVED, that students be given flexibility in meeting the Ethnic Studies requirement with
129 either lower division or upper division courses,
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131 RESOLVED, that the CSU Chancellor's Office rescind its GE plan because it does not have the
132 authority to restrict this Ethnic Studies requirement to be a GE and be subjected to GE
133 regulations,
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135 RESOLVED, that the timeline for implementation be extended to allow for effective and genuine
136 collaboration between the ASCSU and Ethnic Studies faculty as defined in AB 1460, and be it
137 further
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139 RESOLVED, that this Resolution be distributed to Chancellor Timothy P. White, Executive Vice
140 Chancellor Loren J. Blanchard, Sacramento State President Robert Nelsen, ASCSU Chair
141 Robert Keith Collins, CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, Council of Academic Senate Chairs,
142 California Faculty Association Sacramento State Chapter President, Respective Sacramento
143 State Deans and Chairs and the Department of Ethnic Studies; and be it further
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145 RESOLVED, that we recognize and extend appreciation to Ethnic Studies colleagues at CSU
146 Northridge and American Indian Studies and Ethnic Studies colleagues at CSU San Marcos for
147 the Resolution template.