
Ethnic Studies

Davis Joint Unified School District

Board of Education
January 16, 2019



Ethnic Studies Background
Current Context
Superintendent's Task Force
Process



History of K-12 Ethnic Studies



Brown vs. Board of Education



Student Activism



Multicultural Education Reform



Ethnic Studies Courses (Tucson)



Ethnic Studies in California

SUPPORT AB 2016
Sign the Petition



AB 2016

AB2772 (MEDINA)
ETHNIC STUDIES FOR ALL!



APPROVED BY
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
5-0 with NO AMENDMENTS

AB 2772



AB 331



Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum



Rationale

- Student Engagement
- Literacy Skills
- Academic Achievement
- Graduation and Dropout Rates
- Attitudes Toward Learning
- Sense of Agency

5



Kids react when the curriculum isn't speaking to their experiences or to the things that really matter to them.

Christine Sleeter, Professor Emerita at California State University



GRADUATE PROFILE



DJUSD
DAVIS JOINT UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

History of Ethnic Studies in DJUSD

7

1970s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native American & Chicano History, Black Studies, Ethnic Studies
1980s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition for College-going courses ended Ethnic Studies programs • Murder of Thong Hy Nguyen
1990s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embracing Diversity curriculum resource guide • English 10 multiculturalism overhaul • Humanities course (interdisciplinary multiculturalism focus)
2000s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Office • Race & Social Justice course • Unconscious Bias trainings
2010s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History/Social Studies Framework • Equity Trainings (Arizona Equity Alliance, National Equity Project) • Title VI - Native Education



Foundational Work

Professional Development and Curriculum

- UCD History Project
- FAIR Act Library Collection
- Ethnic Studies Summit Session
- DJUSD Leadership Equity Work

Research and Outreach

- Literature Review
- CA School Districts
- UC Davis
- Student Focus Groups
- Local, State, and National Experts



Ethnic Studies Task Force

Driving Question: *How can Ethnic Studies best meet the needs of our students?*

1. What problem can Ethnic Studies solve? How does that problem exist in Davis?
2. What does research say about the impact of Ethnic Studies?
3. What can we learn from case studies of Ethnic Studies implementation in other school districts?



9

Ethnic Studies Task Force

Process

1. Task Force member application
2. Four meetings through Spring 2020
3. Report findings and recommendation to the Board in June 2020

Format (Project-based)

- Norms and protocols
- Driving Question and “Need-to-knows”
- Lessons and resources
- Team presentations
- Critique and revision



10

To apply for the DJUSD Ethnic Studies Task Force:

Please email instservices@djud.net, including your name and description of interest

or

Visit www.djud.net/instruction/programs/ethnic_studies to complete an application form