

REVISIONS TO DISCIPLINES LIST FORM

DATE SUBMITTED: 5 April 2021

(Deadline for submission is September 30th each year)

DISCIPLINES LIST TITLE: Asian American Studies

This proposal is for a: New discipline

Reason for the proposal: Create a new discipline

PROPOSAL LANGUAGE: (If this is an existing minimum qualification, please include the original language and change using strikeouts and *italics*).

Master's degree in Asian American studies **OR** a master's in Ethnic Studies and bachelor's degree in Asian American studies **OR** the equivalent.

PROPOSAL EVIDENCE:

Required: (1) Investigation of the following and (2) Statement of Findings:

Contacted an associated professional organization to determine support of proposal.

Letters of support have been requested from:

Association of Asian American Studies. Contact: Dr. Jinah Kim, CSUN
Asian American Studies at UCLA, Dr. Karen Umemoto
Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies, UC Berkeley, Dr. Khatharya Um
CCC Ethnic Studies Council

Included evidence of degrees within the proposed revision of the discipline or new discipline.

Provided a list of the titles of the degrees and programs to document the need for a new or revised discipline using the below criteria:

Asian American Studies was established as a discipline in 1969 – along with African American Studies, Chicano Studies, and Native American Studies. Pasadena City College established its first Asian American studies courses by 1971 and has steadily offered the courses since. In 1993, PCC began to offer a new separate course entitled “Introduction to Ethnic Studies.”

In 1976, the first Master of Arts program in Asian American studies was established at UCLA. Currently, there are 5 universities that offer Master of Arts graduate programs:

1. Asian American Studies, UCLA
2. Asian American Studies, San Francisco State University
3. Asian American Studies, UC Irvine
4. Contemporary Asian and Asian American Studies, Stony Brook University, SUNY
5. Asian and Asian American Studies, Binghamton University, SUNY

This is a partial list known to have a Bachelor of Arts program in Asian American Studies:

Asian American Studies, Stanford University
Asian American Studies, UCLA
Asian American Studies, University of Southern California
Asian American Studies, UC Berkeley
Asian American Studies, San Francisco State University
Asian American Studies, UC Irvine
Asian American Studies, UC Santa Barbara
Asian American Studies, UC Davis
Asian American Studies, Pomona College
Asian American Studies, New York University

❑ Provided evidence of statewide need to show that a change is necessary and is not merely a response to a unique need of one college, district or region.

In the past, ASCCC Disciplines List grouped Asian American studies in “Ethnic Studies.” But as ethnic studies grew into a separate field, and as African American studies and Chicano studies grew into separate fields in the last fifty years, it is necessary for both Asian American studies and Native American studies to also be listed separately and distinctly.

In the California Community College system of 116 campuses, about 15% of the student population is of Asian Pacific descent. This includes City College of San Francisco with a 35% Asian American student population, Pasadena City College with a 24% Asian American student population, and San Diego Community College with a 10% Asian Pacific population.

In the California Community College system, this is a partial list of campuses that have Asian American studies courses. There is a wide range of region:

Berkeley Community College
City College of San Francisco
Chabot College
De Anza Community College
East Los Angeles College
El Camino College
Evergreen Valley College
Fresno City College
Glendale Community College

Laney College
Los Angeles City College
Merritt College
Monterey Peninsula College
Mt. San Antonio College
Pasadena City College
Sacramento City College
San Diego City College
San Diego Mesa College
San Diego Miramar College
San Jose Community College
Santa Monica College
Southwestern College

- **Included a discipline seconder from another district**

- Sang Chi, Santa Monica College chi_sang@smc.edu (310)434-4890
- Roger Viet Chung, Laney College rchung@peralta.edu
- Angelina Fa, City College of San Francisco afa@ccsf.edu (415)239-3865
- Cindy Huynh, San Jose Community College Cindy.Huynh@sjcc.edu (408)298-2181 x 3592
- Richard Kamei, Glendale Community College rkamei@glendale.edu (818)240-1000 x 3029
- Susie Ling, Pasadena City College shling@pasadena.edu (626)585-7335
- Melissa-Ann Nievera-Lozana, Evergreen College, Melissa-Ann.Nievera-Lozano@evc.edu

Explained the impact of proposal across the state using a list of pro and con arguments and included refutation of the con arguments

PRO ARGUMENTS

1. Asian American studies at California's community colleges will be positively impacted by the CSU Area F Ethnic Studies requirement.
2. With MQs having been separately established for African American studies and Latina/o, Chicana studies recently, it is necessary to have parallelism with Asian American studies and Native American studies.
3. Both the fields of Asian American studies and ethnic studies have established different trajectories in the last 50 years.
4. Both the fields of Asian American studies and ethnic studies have grown tremendously in the last 50 years in the California Community Colleges system and in academia.

CON ARGUMENTS

1. Asian American studies is interdisciplinary and not a separate field from ethnic studies.

Refutation: Asian American studies is a formal field recognized by academia in the last 50 years. Asian American studies has its own historiography and its own theoretical and methodological frameworks, but it shares affinities with African American studies, Chicana studies, Native American studies, and ethnic studies. While Asian American studies may not have as strong a national presence of African American studies, it is not “new” scholarship.

Provided other evidence, such as significant changes to the field, that requires a change to the Disciplines List.

SUBMISSION

Contact person (author of proposal): Susie Ling

Phone number (please provide at least two numbers and indicate if cell/home/work, etc.):
(626)309-1337 (cell), (626)585-7335 (office)

Email address: shling@pasadena.edu

Seconded (must be from another District):

- Sang Chi, Santa Monica College chi_sang@smc.edu (310)434-4890
- Roger Viet Chung, Laney College rchung@peralta.edu
- Angelina Fa, City College of San Francisco afa@ccsf.edu (415)239-3865
- Cindy Huynh, San Jose Community College Cindy.Huynh@sjcc.edu (408)298-2181 x 3592
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- Melissa-Ann Nievera-Lozana, Evergreen College, Melissa-Ann.Nievera-Lozano@evc.edu

Phone number (please provide at least two numbers and indicate if cell/home/work, etc.):
(see above)

Email address: (see above)

Signature of College Academic Senate President⁴ Matt Henes

College: Pasadena City College

Email address: mthenes@pasadena.edu

Date approved by College Academic Senate: 4/5/21

OR

Organization _____ President _____

Phone for President: _____

Date Approved by Organization: _____

RETURN FORM TO:

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

One Capitol Mall, Suite 340, Sacramento, CA 95814

Email: disciplineslist@asccc.org

⁴ By signing this document, the Senate President is certifying that the required investigation and statement of findings have been sufficiently addressed.



March 17, 2021

To: California Community Colleges Academic Senate Board

Re: Revisions to the CCC Minimum Qualifications Handbook: Asian American Studies

I have read and understood the 2021 proposal to add "Asian American studies" to the CCC Minimum Qualifications Handbook. It is essential that Asian American studies be recognized by the CCC as a separate and growing field of academic endeavor.

At UCLA, Asian American studies was established in 1969. In 1976, we established the Master of Arts program and then in 1994 we launched the Bachelor of Arts program. Among dozens of book publications, we also publish *Amerasia Journal* (since 1973), a flagship journal in the field, and *Asian American and Pacific Islander Nexus*, an applied journal. Our Center has 60 affiliated faculty who teach or do research on AAPI populations.

At UCLA, our Asian American studies program is divided into two units:

- Asian American Studies Department (academic degree programs)
<https://asianam.ucla.edu/>
- Asian American Studies Center (research, programs, student and community engagement)
<http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/>

The field of Asian American Studies has flourished over the past five decades with a rich volume of scholarship, highly accomplished scholars and alumni, and excellent programs at major universities across the country.

I do hope that equal consideration and support will be afforded to Asian American Studies degrees, certifications and other indicators of training and education in this important area of teaching and knowledge production.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Umemoto".

Karen Umemoto, Ph.D.
Helen and Morgan Chu Chair and Director
Asian American Studies Center

California Community Colleges



ETHNIC STUDIES
FACULTY COUNCIL

March 24, 2021

To: California Community Colleges Academic Senate Board

Re: Revisions to Asian American Studies, CCC Minimum Qualifications Handbook

The California Community Colleges Ethnic Studies Faculty Council represents faculty teaching African American Studies, Asian American Studies, Chicana/o/x Studies, Native American Studies and Ethnic Studies at Community Colleges throughout the state of California.

Our leadership includes faculty who helped to create the California Community College Minimum Qualifications for both African American Studies and Chicano Studies. It is now time to complete the task and create Minimum Qualifications for Asian American Studies and Native American Studies.

I am writing to support the proposal to add "Asian American Studies" to the CCC Minimum Qualifications Handbook. It is critical that Asian American studies be recognized by CCC as a separate and growing field of academic endeavor. Asian American Studies has been taught in California since the late 1960s. UCLA has offered a Master's degree program in Asian American Studies since 1976. As CCC implements the mandates of CSU Area F, Asian American Studies will be taught at a growing number of campuses throughout the state.

Please grant Asian American Studies the independent recognition which has already been given to African American Studies and Chicano Studies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Moreno'.

Melissa Moreno, PhD

Chair, CCC Ethnic Studies Council

Professor of Ethnic Studies, Woodland Community College



April 12, 2021

To: Professor Susie Ling, Professor of Asian American Studies and History, Pasadena City College shling@pasadena.edu
Professor Angelina Fa, Chair of Asian American Studies Department, City College of San Francisco afa@ccsf.edu

From: The Executive Board of the Association for Asian American Studies

We are writing to strongly support your proposal to the California Community Colleges Academic Senate Board (CCC ASB) to include Asian American Studies as an academic discipline in the Minimum Qualifications (MQ) Handbook. The Association for Asian American Studies is the main academic organization that promotes the education, arts, and activism of Asian Americans, including holding an annual conference and publishing the peer reviewed Journal of Asian American Studies: <https://aaastudies.org/>

We agree with your assessment that the inclusion of Asian American Studies as an academic discipline is long over-due, given the growth of the field nationally and California in particular. Asian American Studies emerged out of the student strikes for Third World Liberation and the first Asian American Studies department was established at San Francisco State University in 1968. Numerous institutions across the US and California award MAs in Asian American Studies and nearly every CSU, UC and CC campus offers a program in Asian American Studies. We understand the MQ guides faculty hiring, and we support our Asian American Studies colleagues in the Community Colleges as they seek this formal recognition for the important work that they are already doing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Ho". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jennifer Ho, President, Signing on behalf of the Association for Asian American Studies

CC:

Roger Viet Chung, Laney College rchung@peralta.edu
Cindy Huynh, San Jose Community College Cindy.Huynh@sjcc.edu
Richard Kamei, Glendale Community College rkamei@glendale.edu
Melissa-Ann Nievera-Lozana, Evergreen College Melissa-Ann.Nievera-Lozano@evc.edu