

**REVISIONS TO DISCIPLINES LIST FORM**

**DATE SUBMITTED:** 5 April 2021

**DISCIPLINES LIST TITLE:** Native American/American Indian 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 Native American/American Indian studies **OR** a master's in Ethnic Studies and bachelor's degree in Native American/American Indian 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.**
  - CCC Ethnic Studies Council Co-Chair, Dr. Carlos Guerrero ([guerrecr@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:guerrecr@lacitycollege.edu))
  - UC Davis Native American Studies Chair, Dr. Beth Rose Middleton ([brmiddleton@ucdavis.edu](mailto:brmiddleton@ucdavis.edu))
  - CSUS California Indian History and Curriculum, Dr. Rose Borunda ([rborunda@csus.edu](mailto:rborunda@csus.edu))
  - Native American Studies Curriculum Co-Coordinator of Liberated Ethnic Studies Institute, Dr. Browning Neddeau ([bmneddeau@csuchico.edu](mailto:bmneddeau@csuchico.edu))
  - California Tribal College, Director Juliette Maestas ([jmaestas@californiatribalcollege.com](mailto:jmaestas@californiatribalcollege.com))
- 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:**

Native American Studies was established as a discipline in 1969 – along with African American Studies, Chicano Studies, and Asian American Studies. In 1975, the NAS Major had been established at UC Davis and the minor went into effect in the 1980s. It received departmental status in 1993. In 1993, the Department offered its first graduate seminar. The Graduate Program in Native American Studies at UC Davis was approved in 1998, making UC Davis only the second university in the nation to offer a Ph.D. in Native American Studies.

Native Studies has academic scholarship, textbooks, accomplished scholars, Native American Studies databases and journals, and courses that are offered at community colleges, CSU, UC, and other colleges and universities.

Graduate Degree Programs in Native American/American Indian Studies include (partial list):

1. Native American Studies, UCLA
2. Native American Studies, UC Davis
3. Native American Studies, UC Irvine
4. Native American Studies, University of Oklahoma
5. American Indian Studies, Arizona State University

Bachelor of Arts program in Native American/American Indian Studies include (partial list):

- Native American Studies, Stanford University
- Native American Studies, UCLA
- Native American Studies, UC Riverside
- Native American Studies, Humboldt State University
- American Indian Studies, Chico State University
- Native American Studies, Sacramento State University
- American Indian Studies, San Diego State University
- Native American Studies, UC Berkeley
- American Indian Studies, San Francisco State University
- Native American Studies, UC Davis

**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 Native 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, this is a partial list of campuses that have Native American/American Indian studies courses:

- Mt. San Jacinto
- Sacramento City
- Santa Barbara City
- Solano
- Santa Rosa Jr.
- Palomar
- L.A. Southwest
- Sierra College
- Victor Valley Community College
- Woodland Community College
- Pasadena City College
- Santa Monica College
- Fresno City College
- San Diego Mesa College
- Rio Hondo College
- El Camino College

- Included a discipline seconder from another district.**
  - Dr. Tami Cheshire , Folsom Lake College, [Cheshit@flc.losrios.edu](mailto:Cheshit@flc.losrios.edu) (916) 420-3614
  - Dr. Melissa Moreno, Woodland Community College, [mmmoreno@yccd.edu](mailto:mmmoreno@yccd.edu) (530) 400-0439

- 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. Native American studies at California's community colleges will be positively impacted by the CSU Area F Ethnic Studies requirement.
2. With MQX having been separately established for African American studies and Latina/o, Chicax studies recently, it is necessary to have parallelism with Asian American studies and Native American studies.
3. Both the fields of Native American Studies and ethnic studies have established different trajectories in the last 50 years and need to be recognized broadly across the CCC system
4. Both the fields of Native 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. Some CCC faculty are unaware of Native American Studies.  
The establishment of the Native American Studies MQ will raise awareness of the discipline broadly across the system to better serve and retain students with the use of authentic Native American Studies faculty instruction, and serve as a practice of equity.

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

1. Changes to the field of Native American Studies is that it has grown in terms of course curriculum development and pedagogy. More schools in all systems are offering Native American Studies courses and more schools are offering degree programs in Native American Studies.
2. With AB 1460 it is essential that Native American Studies be recognized by the CCC as a separate, autonomous, and live field of academic endeavor.

#### **SUBMISSION**

##### **Contact person (author of proposal):**

Melissa Leal, Ph.D. Sierra College  
Enrolled Member - Ohlone/Costanoan Esselen Nation  
(916) 949-2939 (Cell). (916) 542-0213 (Google Voice)  
Email address: [mleal@sierracollege.edu](mailto:mleal@sierracollege.edu)

Tami Cheshire, Folsom Lake College  
(916) 420-3614  
Email address: [Cheshit@flc.losrios.edu](mailto:Cheshit@flc.losrios.edu)

Signature of College Academic Senate President<sup>4</sup>:

College: *Signature Page attached*

Email address:

Date approved by College Academic Senate:

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](mailto:disciplineslist@asccc.org)

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

California Community Colleges



**ETHNIC STUDIES  
FACULTY COUNCIL**

March 20, 2021

To: California Community Colleges Academic Senate Board

Re: Revisions to Native 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 Native American Studies and Asian American Studies.

I am writing to support the proposal to add "Native American Studies" to the CCC Minimum Qualifications Handbook. It is critical that Native American studies be recognized by CCC as a separate and growing field of academic endeavor. Native American Studies has been taught in California since the late 1960s. UC Davis has been offering graduate seminars in Native American Studies since 1993 and has had a Native American Studies Graduate Program since 1998. As CCC implements the mandates of CSU Area F, Native American Studies will be taught at a growing number of campuses throughout the state.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carlos Reyes Guerrero".

Carlos Reyes Guerrero, PhD  
Vice-Chair CCC Ethnic Studies Council  
Professor of Chicana/o Studies, LACC

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES  
TELEPHONE: (530) 752-3237  
FAX: (530) 752-7097

March 21, 2021

Re: Revisions to the CCC Minimum Qualifications Handbook to include Native American Studies

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand the proposal to add "Native American Studies" to the California Community College (CCC) Minimum Qualifications (MQs) Handbook. MQs are defined as "the minimum amounts of education or experience and the minimum level of knowledge, skills, abilities, licensures, certifications and other job-related requirements that must be met for a candidate to be considered for a position." In this case, I fully support the request to require MQs to teach Native American Studies in the CCC system. At this time in history, and with AB 1460, it is essential that Native American Studies be recognized by the CCC as a separate, autonomous, and dynamic field of academic endeavor.

Although Native American Studies has social justice roots, it is the NOT the same as the general field of Social Justice. It is also NOT the same as the field of History or Anthropology. Native American Studies has its own foundational history, body of scholarship, accomplished scholars, and decolonizing methodologies that are connected to Native and Indigenous nations and communities. Native American Studies scholarship is global, hemispheric and regional focused, and it is connected to tribal and Indigenous identity, struggles, social movements, sovereignty/autonomy, and unique past and present contributions. Native American Studies scholarship includes key concepts and readings by Native American Studies scholars. We have our own academic associations, including the [Native American and Indigenous Association](#) and the [American Indian Studies Association](#), as well as other annual conferences and symposiums. In our State, the California Indian Conference has taken place for over thirty years. We also have a vibrant [California Indian History Curriculum Coalition](#), housed on the CSU Sacramento website, to help guide the development of improved K-12 NAS curriculum. In addition, we have the emerging [California Tribal College](#), currently located in Woodland, CA, and the [California Indian Nations College](#), located in Palm Desert, CA.

Native American Studies databases and journals include, but not limited to:

American Indian Culture and Research Journal  
The American Indian Quarterly



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American Indian Culture and Research Journal

The American Indian Quarterly  
American Indian and Alaskan Native Mental Health Research  
American Indian Law Review  
Journal of American Indian Education  
Studies in American Indian Literatures  
Journal of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association  
Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education & Society

Native American Studies was established as a discipline in 1969 – along with African American Studies, Chicano Studies, and Asian American Studies. In 1975, the Native American Studies Major was established at UC Davis and the minor went into effect in the 1980s. It received departmental status in 1993. In 1993, the Department offered its first graduate seminar. The Graduate Program in Native American Studies at UC Davis was approved in 1998, making UC Davis only the second university in the nation to offer a Ph.D. in Native American Studies.

UC Davis Native American Studies acknowledges there are other graduate degree programs in Native American/American Indian Studies. This includes, but not limited to:

Native American Studies, Stanford University  
Native American Studies, UCLA  
Native American Studies; UC Riverside  
Native American Studies, CSU Humboldt  
American Indian Studies, San Diego State University  
Native American Studies, UC Berkeley  
American Indian Studies, San Francisco State University  
Native American Studies, UC Davis, Native American Studies  
American Indian Studies, CSU Chico  
Native American Studies, CSU Sacramento  
American Indian Studies, CSU Long Beach  
American Indian Studies, CSU San Marcos

The following CCC campuses have Native American Studies (i.e., American Indian Studies) courses, but are not limited to:

Mt. San Jacinto  
Sacramento City



Santa Barbara City  
Solano  
Santa Rosa Jr.  
Palomar  
L.A. Southwest  
Sierra College  
Woodland Community College

There is a statewide need for CCC to recognize Minimum Qualifications in NAS specifically. This is not merely a response to a local need of one community college, district, or region. This need is apparent in the number of students majoring in Native American Studies and interested in learning about Native American Studies, especially regarding traditional ecological knowledge and history.

In the past, the "ASCCC Disciplines List" grouped Native American Studies in "Ethnic Studies." But as Ethnic Studies grew into a separate field, and as African American Studies and Chicana/o Studies grew into separate fields of study in the last fifty years, it is now necessary for both Native American Studies and Asian American Studies to also be listed separately and distinctly.

In sum, Native American Studies exists as a substantial and expanding field of study. Native American students, staff, and faculty are present on all campuses. For the sake of both academic rigor and equity and inclusion, we hope that this proposal and recommendation for specifically recognizing the importance of Native American Studies degrees, certifications and other indicators of training and education in this important area of teaching and knowledge production will be approved and accepted.

Sincerely,



Elisabeth (Beth Rose) Middleton Manning, PhD  
Professor and Chair Dept. of Native American Studies  
Yocha Dehe Endowed Chair in California Indian Studies  
University of California, Davis  
[brmiddleton@ucdavis.edu](mailto:brmiddleton@ucdavis.edu)





April 21, 2021

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As a new emerging California Tribal College, we relay and share the important message with University of California Davis, Native American Studies Department, in which Native American Studies has social justice roots, it is not the same as the general field of Social Justice. It is also not the same as the field of History or Anthropology. Native American Studies has its own foundational history, body of scholarship, accomplished scholars, and decolonizing methodologies that are connected to Native and Indigenous nations and communities. Native American Studies scholarship is global, hemispheric and regional focused, and it is connected to tribal and Indigenous identity, struggles, social movements, sovereignty/ autonomy, and unique past and present contributions. Native American Studies scholarship includes key concepts and readings by Native American Studies scholars. We have our own academic associations, including the [Native American and Indigenous Association](#) and the [American Indian Studies Association](#), as well as other annual conferences and symposiums. In our State, the California Indian Conference has taken place for over thirty years. We also have a vibrant [California Indian History Curriculum Coalition](#), housed on the CSU Sacramento website, to help guide the development of improved K-12 NAS curriculum. In addition, we have the [California Indian Nations College](#), located in Palm Desert, CA.

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2300 EAST GIBSON ROAD SUITE 869 WOODLAND, CA 95776 530.661.5767

INFO@CALIFORNIATRIBALCOLLEGE.COM

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Sincerely,



Juliet Maestas, Director  
California Tribal College

# Native American Studies

Signature of College Academic Senate President<sup>4</sup>: Soni Verma

College: Sierra college

Email address: SVerma@sierracollege.edu

Date approved by College Academic Senate: 04/14/2021

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](mailto:disciplineslist@asccc.org)

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