

December 1, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: CSU Presidents

FROM: Loren J. Blanchard, Ph.D. 
Executive Vice Chancellor

SUBJECT: Summary of campus input on the proposed revisions to the policy on CSU GE Breadth (formerly EO 1100-Revised)

Attached is a summary of campus input on the proposed revisions to the policy on CSU GE Breadth (formerly EO 1100-Revised) incorporating a 3-unit course requirement in ethnic studies as required by Assembly Bill 1460. This input was solicited and received by the Chancellor's Office from students, faculty and administrators in October 2020. This document also considers public feedback from the November 2020 CSU Board of Trustees' meeting.

When possible, within the context of the timeline mandated by AB 1460 as well as the constraints of previous legislation (such as the Associate Degrees for Transfer program), this feedback will inform decision-making on the revisions. In addition, feedback received during meetings held with the Academic Senate of the CSU, the CSU Ethnic Studies Council, the chairs of the campus Academic Senates, the Board of Directors of the California State Student Association and 12 campus senates will be considered in developing the final version of the policy.

If you have any questions regarding this document, please contact me directly or Dr. Alison Wrynn, associate vice chancellor, Academic Programs, Innovations and Faculty Development. Dr. Wrynn may be reached at awrynn@calstate.edu or (562) 951-4672.

LJB/amw

Attachment

CSU Campuses
Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

- c: Dr. Timothy P. White, Chancellor
- Dr. Joseph I. Castro, Chancellor-select
- Academic Senate CSU
- CSU Ethnic Studies Council
- CSU Campus Faculty Senate Chairs
- CSU Associated Students, Campus Presidents
- California State Student Association
- CSU Chancellor's Office Executive Staff
- CSU Provosts and Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs
- CSU Vice Presidents for Student Affairs

Summary of Feedback to Revised Policy on CSU GE Breadth

The Office of the Chancellor has solicited feedback from campuses and other stakeholders on the revised policy on CSU General Education Breadth required by Assembly Bill 1460. The responses are summarized below in two categories: groups and individuals. The general demographics of respondents, as well as general support or opposition to proposed changes related to AB 1460, are provided in summary charts below. Two appendices (Appendix 1 and Appendix 2) include summaries of the comments received.

The Chancellor's Office received 127 responses in total, of which 57 were from individuals and 70 were from groups across the CSU. One response was from the California Community Colleges. CSU groups providing feedback included: campus-based Academic Senates, the Chancellor's General Education Advisory Committee, individual departments, Ethnic Studies Council (both systemwide and campus-based members) and Associated Students, Inc.

Groups

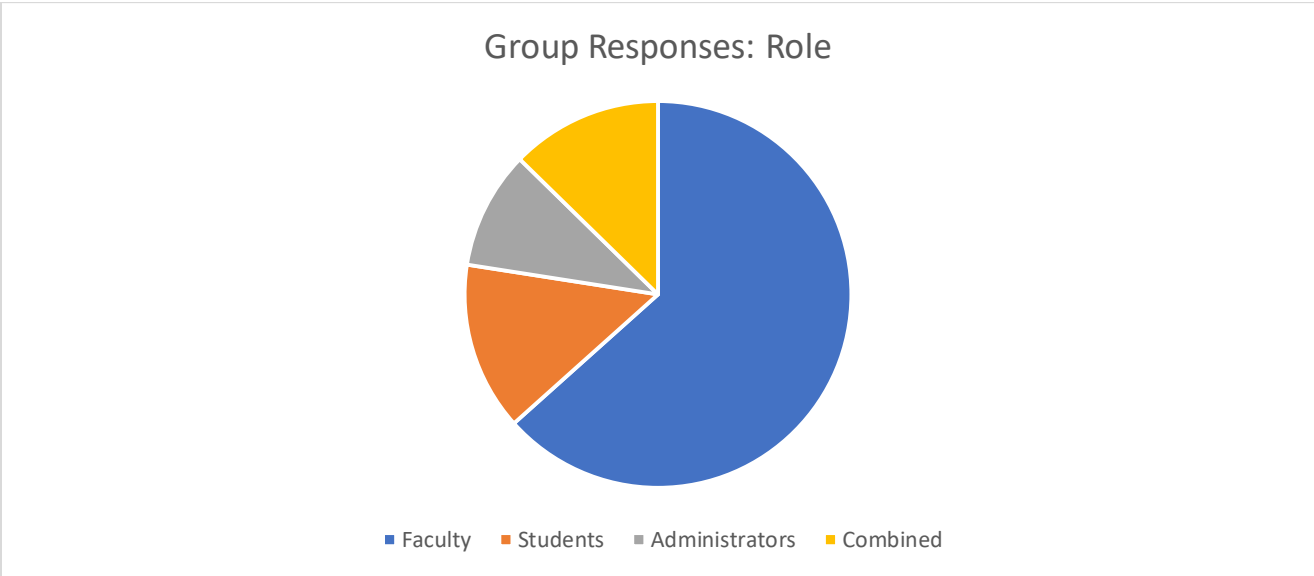
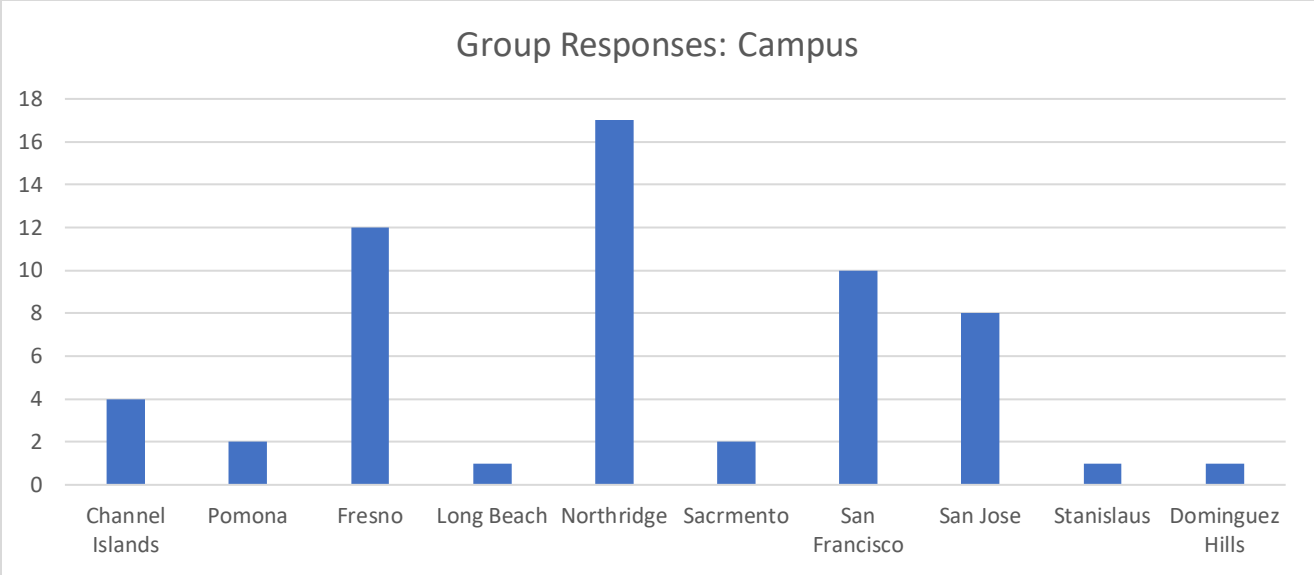
The Chancellor's Office received 69 responses from groups across all 23 CSU campuses.

Faculty groups comprised 45 of the total responses (or 63%) from 18 campuses. Student groups from 10 campuses responded, and administrator groups from seven campuses responded. Combined responses, representing groups of faculty, administrators and students, came from nine campuses.

The majority of comments were opposed to the revised policy (86%). All faculty group responses were in opposition. Student group responses included four in opposition, one in support and five that were neutral. Of the combined responses, five were in opposition, two in support and one neutral.

In general, the comments called for support of the Ethnic Studies Council proposal to make the revised policy a freestanding requirement, returning 3 units to "Area D" and not limiting the ethnic studies requirement to lower-division general education.

No alternatives were provided to ensure that all CSU students could meet the requirements of the new law (including: first time freshmen, transfer students—particularly Associate Degree for Transfer students—or students in high-unit majors) without exceeding the 120-unit systemwide degree caps. See Appendix 1 for a summary of specific group comments.

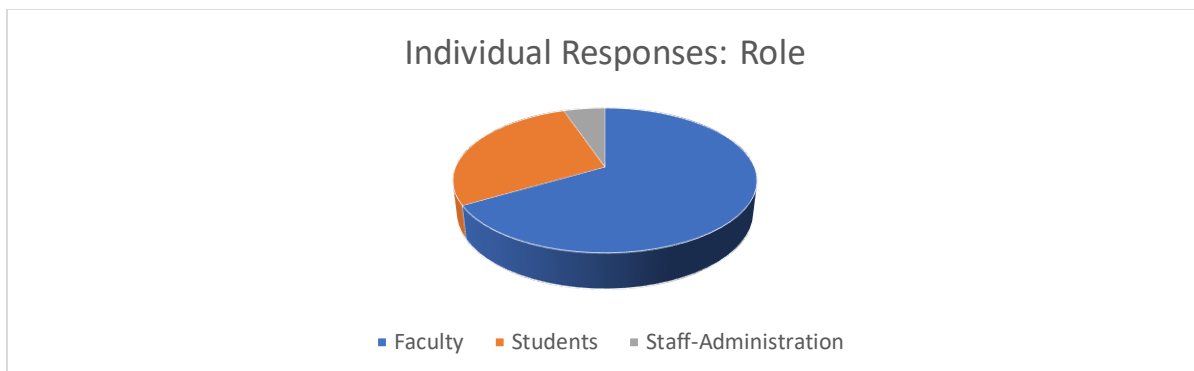
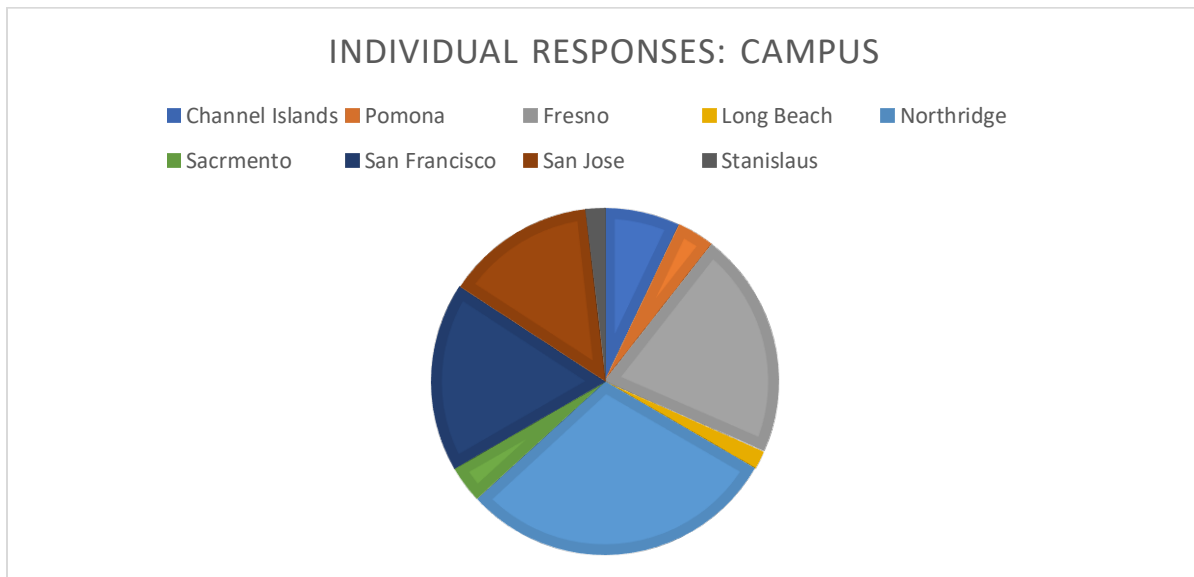


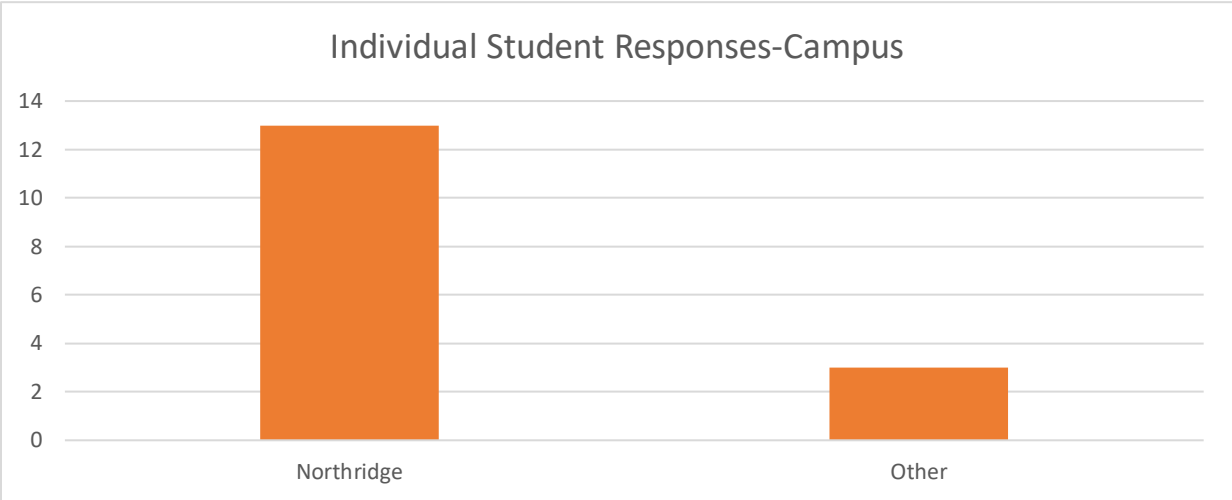
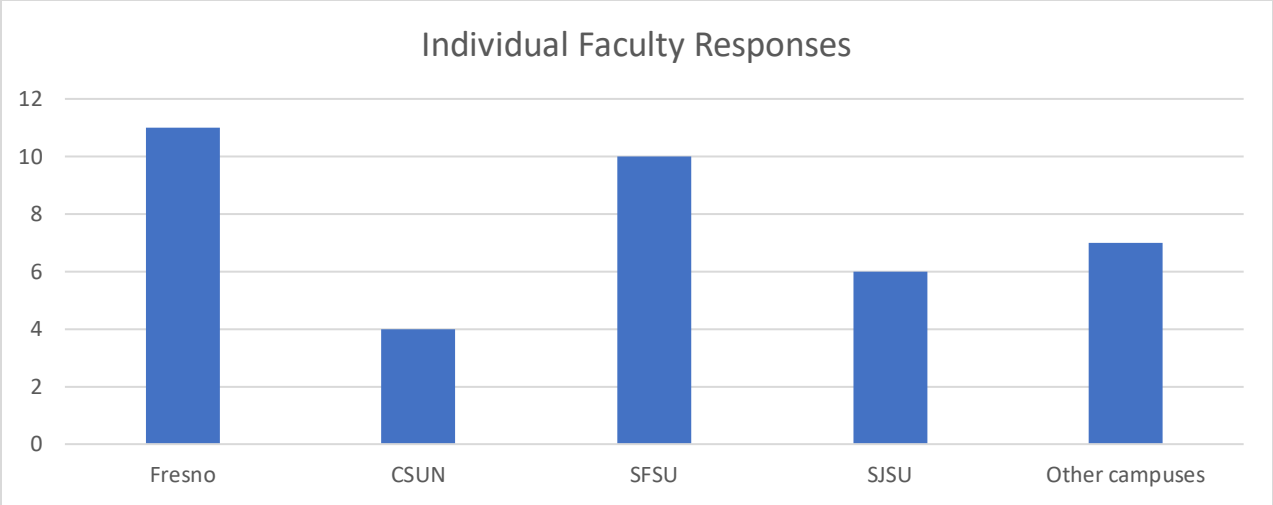
Individual

The Chancellor’s Office received 57 responses in total from individuals. These responses were received from nine CSU campuses, with 83% of all responses originating from four campuses (CSUN, Fresno State, San Francisco State and San Jose State).

Individual faculty responses comprise 38 of the 57 responses (or 67%). Thirteen of the student responses (or 81% of the total student responses) came from one campus. The majority of comments were in opposition to the revised policy (91%). In general, the comments called for support of the Ethnic Studies Council proposal to make this a freestanding requirement, returning 3 units to “Area D” and not limiting the ethnic studies requirement to lower-division general education.

No alternatives were provided to ensure that all CSU students could meet the requirements of the new law (including: first time freshmen, transfer students—particularly Associate Degree for Transfer students—or students in high-unit majors) without exceeding the 120-unit systemwide degree caps. See Appendix 2 for a summary of specific individual comments.





Appendix 1

Specific Group Comments (Summarized)

Put in ethnic studies disciplines, not departments in policy. Concern about Area D. Want Ethnic Studies Council recommendation. Both upper division and lower division. Business department only wants at lower division. Health and Human Services must be lower division. Must be in GE. Yes, replace Area D.
20 faculty responded to survey - want ethnic studies. Wants clarity on how courses will meet the requirement. Don't take units from Area D. Just do what Ethnic Studies Council wants. Want more time.
Any department should be able to offer these classes. Already has critical race studies at upper division.
Asked questions about implementation. Concerned about engineering majors.
Attached their resolution with same points as Ethnic Studies Council.
Campus-based requests (faculty needs and funding). Upper division or lower division. Not in GE.
Concern about resources and desire flexibility in implementation.
Concerned about loss of enrollment for psychology department.
Concerns expressed about Area D, timeline, consultation. Claim there was no consultation. One was in favor of an addition to GE.
Chancellor's Office needs to consult with Ethnic Studies Council.
Don't add Area F; don't take from Area D (impacts their department).
Don't remove units from Area D; it will harm economics departments.
Don't remove units from Area D; it will harm psychology department.
Don't want Area F. One size does not fit all. Timeline too rushed. Want a standalone requirement.
Don't want extra units for graduation. Some think this is good for students to learn about, others did not.
Don't want to change what they are currently doing.
Don't agree with Chancellor's Office plan. Don't want us to say "e.g." in Area C. Registrar is concerned about the catalog production schedule.
Extend timeline. Support Ethnic Studies Council plan.
Faculty outside of ethnic studies should be able to teach this requirement. Don't want an Area F or take away from Area D.
Support freestanding graduation requirement.
This proposal is a good idea. Additional comments about how it will work on their campus.
Support graduation requirement and overlay. Campus autonomy.
Technical comments on the draft Executive Order.
Include the revised core competencies. No GE, no lower division. Make ethnic studies a university requirement.
Keep Area D, no Area F. Don't restrict to lower division. Support ethnic studies departments only. Use updated core competencies.
Keep Area D, no Area F. Don't restrict to lower division. Support ethnic studies departments only. Want autonomy.

Lack of collaboration, time, autonomy. Shouldn't be in GE or take from Area D.
Wants ethnic studies plan. Wants to avoid issues like EO 1100 from a few years ago. Campus autonomy. Questions about competencies. Two unnamed campus students support Chancellor's Office requirement.
One student doesn't want Area D removal, another wants it.
Only ethnic studies faculty should assess courses that meet this requirement.
Oppose the timeline. Oppose Area F. Keep 9 units in Area D.
Campus resolution.
Rescind Title 5 changes. Lower division or upper division. Campus autonomy. Hire faculty.
Same points as CSU Ethnic Studies Council.
Some support, some opposition. Concerns about the timeline and restriction to ethnic studies departments only. Remove Area E instead. Reduce science requirement to one class.
Specific, technical edits.
Support for Area F in GE.
Take out "department" language. Will need to modify several degrees.
Take the 3 units from Area C, not D. Don't add Area F.
This draft administratively provides clarity to implementation of the new ethnic studies requirement and follows the new law. We do think that another year to implement this would be desirable, but nevertheless we have the administrative tools to do this.
Use standalone requirement. Don't remove Area D. Upper division or lower division. Same from ethnic studies college, let them decide which courses meet the requirement.
Want a flexible overlay. Upper division and lower division. Campus autonomy. Let CSUN keep section F. Rescind Title 5 change. Keep Area D intact.
Want a freestanding graduation requirement. Lower division or upper division. Don't take units from Area D.
Want a freestanding graduation requirement. Lower division or upper division. Don't take units from Area D. Want an overlay. Don't "offload" the requirement to the California Community Colleges.
Want an overlay. Want to keep their critical race studies. Want campus autonomy.
Want campus autonomy and flexibility. Don't reduce Area D. Allow for ethnic studies programs not just departments (we do). Take out the two different disciplines requirement in Area D (we'll do that).
Want campus autonomy and flexibility. Don't reduce Area D. Included campus resolution.
Want campus flexibility. Concern about high-unit majors.
Want Ethnic Studies Council plan.
Want Ethnic Studies Council plan. Support their faculty resolution.
Want graduation requirement. Don't take units from Area D.
Want graduation requirement. Suggested removing Area E. Don't want to impose this class on the California Community Colleges.
Want more consultation. Timeline is too fast.
Want resources. Want campus autonomy, flexibility. Keep Area D. Rescind Title 5.
Want the Ethnic Studies Council plan.
Want to keep what the campus currently has in place.

Want to keep what they have (overlay in GE).
Want to keep what they have on their campus. We shouldn't work with the California Community Colleges; focus on CSU.
Want to keep what they have on their campus. Includes their campus resolution; want to keep Area D intact.
Want to make sure that there are no additional barriers to graduation.
Want units to come out of Area C or Area D. Allow for upper division or lower division (essentially what they have now).
Wants to keep Area D. Included revised core competencies.
We have been tracking (and preparing for) AB 1640 for some time, and thus the proposed changes to EO 1100 did not come as a surprise. Thus, we have already developed plans for the integration of the new Area F and the reduction of units in Area D across all of our degree-granting programs. At this time, we have no substantive comments concerning the revisions.
Would prefer an overlay but support CO plan.

Appendix 2

Specific Individual comments (summarized)

Allow implementation as overlay. Keep all units in Area D.
Create freestanding requirement. Allow maximum flexibility. Don't burden California Community Colleges.
Dismayed that 3 units are removed from Area D3. Don't reduce social sciences.
Disregards AB 1460. Make freestanding requirement. Causing undue burden on ethnic studies faculty.
Do not place burden on California Community Colleges. Allow maximum campus flexibility. Make this a graduation requirement.
Don't force political agenda on students.
Don't remove units from Area D. Claims most campuses already have Area F.
Edits look fair.
Fresno will be eliminating D3 to accommodate ethnic studies. Suggestion to eliminate D2 instead.
How will CSU provide resources to ethnic studies departments that will now need them?
Include all Black and Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) faculty who teach related courses. More inclusion and flexibility.
Law does not require course to be lower division GE; no need to reduce Area D. Allow more time for consultation.
Let students pick the group they wish to study. Not helpful for students to see themselves as victims.
Make ethnic studies an overlay, or double count with other GE area.
Make it a freestanding graduation requirement. Do not burden ethnic studies faculty.
Make it Area E, not Area F. Let the faculty decide what is best for their campus. The Chancellor's Office should tell the campuses how to give resources to the ethnic studies departments.
Make this a freestanding graduation requirement. No need to rush or restrict courses.
More restrictive than bill requires. Should be campus decision. Maximize flexibility.
Need more flexibility. Upper or lower division, overlay or graduation requirement. No consultation with Ethnic Studies Council.
Only ethnic studies faculty should review courses. Remove from GE.
Oppose implementation plan. Does not reflect Ethnic Studies Council input. Allow maximum flexibility.
Plan disregards language of AB 1460. Make freestanding requirement. Do not burden ethnic studies faculty.
Questions about transfer and catalog rights, what courses "count" as ethnic studies?
Reflects specific radical approach, Critical Race Theory. Should be broader. Offers an alternative.
Reiterates Ethnic Studies Council position: Make this a freestanding requirement. Need consultation.
Reiterates Stanislaus Senate opposition. Too restrictive, not enough consultation.
Reject Chancellor's Office proposal. It only replaces existing requirement and does not expand or enhance. Support freestanding graduation requirement.
Requesting to discuss with Chancellor and Ethnic Studies Council together.
Retain Area D. Make ethnic studies a graduation requirement. Allow maximum flexibility: upper division or lower division.

Same comments as other students. Oppose implementation due to the claim of no Ethnic Studies Council input.
Should not be stand-alone. Make it an overlay, either lower division or upper division.
Specific edits in FAQs to clarify: catalog year and transfer, semester/quarter counts, etc.
Students should be allowed to choose the culture they wish to study.
Take 3 units from Area C, not Area D. Chancellor's Office, not campus, should determine student learning outcomes. Campus conversation has been silenced.
The law does not require this as GE or lower division. Slow down and allow maximum flexibility. Needs consultation with Ethnic Studies Council.
Timeline and lower division GE requirement are not in the law.
Violates AB 1460. Make it a freestanding graduation requirement. Burdens ethnic studies faculty.
Timeline and lower division GE requirement are not in the law. Need more ethnic studies faculty consultation and release time to support their work.