

Resolution on Equity in Curriculum

Passed by the American River College Academic Senate on February 10, 2022

Whereas, American River College is committed to equity and social justice through equity-minded education;¹

Whereas, equity, diversity, and inclusion are core values of American River College;²

Whereas, American River College's 2017-21 third Strategic Goal states the College will ensure "an equitable, safe, and inclusive teaching learning, and working environment" and acknowledges that "culturally relevant curriculum" is one critical element to "create the best conditions for teaching and learning.";³

Whereas, the American River College Institutional Equity Plan notes that "the curriculum is not inclusive enough of students from marginalized communities," and recommends that we "move toward establishing a requirement of the inclusion of contributions of minoritized communities living in the United States as a condition of the curriculum approval process";⁴

Whereas, the American River College African-American Disproportionate Impact Team's report notes that "white washed" curriculum sustains White supremacy and identifies culturally relevant curriculum as an important factor contributing to African-American student success;⁵

Whereas, the American River College Asian Pacific Islander Disproportionate Impact Team's report identifies culturally relevant curriculum as a "high-impact practice" and notes that, in general, API students at ARC do not see themselves reflected in the curriculum;⁶

Whereas, the American River College Latinx Disproportionate Impact Team's report notes that a lack of culturally relevant curriculum results in disproportionate impact and recommends that the college "require accurate culturally reflective and relevant curriculum";⁷

Whereas, the American River College LGBTQIA+ Disproportionate Impact Team's report notes that "Curriculum that is not inclusive of LGBTQIA+ voices, experiences, and issues, or that includes anti-LGBTQIA+ bias, sustains heteronormativity. LGBTQIA+ inclusive curriculum challenges heteronormativity" and contributes to student success;⁸

¹ [Commitment to Social Justice and Equity](#)

² [Our Values: Equity and Diversity](#)

³ [Strategic Goals 2017-21](#)

⁴ [Institutional Equity Plan](#)

⁵ [African-American DI Team Report](#)

⁶ [Asian Pacific Islander DI Team Report](#)

⁷ [Latinx DI Team Report](#)

⁸ [LGBTQIA+ DI Team Report](#)

Whereas, the American River College Native American Disproportionate Impact Team’s report noted that the “invisibility” and “dehumanization of Native peoples,” “colonial history as the norm,” being surrounded by educators and students who have little or no “true knowledge of American Indian lived history and experience,” and “not finding American Indian identity reflected in any part of the campus,” are barriers and de-motivators for Native American students at ARC;⁹

Whereas, the statewide Academic Senate’s Position Paper *Anti-Racism Education in California Community Colleges* recognizes the importance of curriculum for anti-racism, and recommends that local senates “Enact culturally responsive curricular redesign within disciplines, courses, and programs and with curriculum committees”;¹⁰

Whereas, the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office calls for faculty to “evaluate all courses for diversity of representation and culturally-relevant content”;¹¹

Whereas, the course outline of record is “central to the curricular processes in the California community colleges” and “lays out the expected content and objectives for a course for use by any faculty member who teaches the course”;¹²

Be it resolved that, the Academic Senate will ensure, through direction given to the Curriculum Committee, that equity, diversity, inclusion, cultural responsiveness, and anti-racism are appropriately reflected in the course outlines of record.

⁹ [Native American DI Team Report](#)

¹⁰ [Anti-Racism Education in California Community Colleges](#)

¹¹ [California Community Colleges Family Letter June 5, 2020](#)

¹² [The Course Outline of Record: A Curriculum Reference Guide Revisited](#)