

LOS MEDANOS  
COLLEGE

Contra Costa Community College District  
Los Medanos College

General Education Committee Executive Summary  
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Prepared for  
The Los Medanos Academic Senate

By the

General Education Committee

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## Introduction

Title 5 changes are currently underway in several areas that will affect our local GE pattern. The most time sensitive changes revolve around the newly adopted Ethnic Studies requirement. To diversify and create inclusive curriculum, completion of a transfer-level course in ethnic studies became a requirement for the attainment of an associate degree (title 5, section 65063(e)(3)). This Title 5 change was widely supported by the Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges, Student Senate for the California Community Colleges, and the California Community Colleges Ethnic Studies Faculty Council. The newly adopted ethnic studies requirement also aligns with the Chancellor's Office Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Call to Action.

With the Title 5 changes, the Chancellor's Office established a short-term Ethnic Studies Task Team to inform and guide the implementation of the new ethnic studies requirement. This group coordinated intersegmental alignments and created community college core competencies that aligned to the California State University and University of California requirements. They also provided professional development and technical assistance through webinars and guidance memos such as the [Ethnic Studies Course Certification for CSU GE Breadth Area F \(memo ESS 22-300-011, released June 29, 2022\)](#) and the [California Community Colleges Ethnic Studies Implementation Updates \(memo ES 22-300-008, released June 15, 2022\)](#).

These changes impact our institution because we must implement the ethnic studies requirement by Fall 2024.

The key recommendations for this executive summary include:

- Adding the Ethnic Studies GE requirement as required by law and current Title 5 changes to be implemented with our 2024-2025 academic catalog.
- To ensure the minimum amount of disruption for the current GE model and for courses that currently reside in our diverse perspectives, we recommend that we keep the existing multicultural box intact as Diverse Perspectives and remove Ethnic Studies into its own category box as required by law.

## Summary Contents

The GE committee has been reviewing and discussing the Title 5 changes for adding Ethnic Studies as a requirement for students receiving a local degree. Our proposed changes are as follows:

DP: Diverse Perspectives 3 units (minimum)

Complete one course:

ADJUS-160

CHDEV-050

DRAMA-015, 030

ENGL-110, 120, 121, 127, 128, 129, 133, 135, 136

HIST-037, 047, 052, 054, 055, 056, 057, 060, 061, 062, 066

SJS-110, 135, 136, 150

SPCH-150

ES: Ethnic Studies 3 units (minimum)

Complete one course:

ETHN-045, 101, 102, 103, 110, 120, 121

Both category boxes will align to GESLO 4, Diverse Perspectives. The GE committee wants to solicit feedback from senators and faculty members concerning the category formerly known as “Ethnic and Multicultural Studies,” which we are naming simply “Diverse Perspectives” for now. We recognize that this category can now emphasize even more diversity outside a racial one, which can include more focus on our LGBTQ+ courses, disability studies courses, and many others.

This proposed change will allow the current courses in diverse perspectives to remain in their category box while removing the Ethnic Studies courses into their own box as required by law. Taking this approach will increase our local GE units from 18-units to 21-units. It should be noted that the minimum number of units is expected to increase to 21-units per Title 5 changes, so an increase will need to occur for our local GE pattern no matter what.

## Future Considerations

The GE Committee recognizes that there is still more work to be completed, and we are committed to reviewing and editing the local GE model throughout this semester in preparation for additional Title 5 changes that are coming, such as changes in oral communication and critical thinking and the area for mathematics (quantitative reasoning), which will cause another increase to 24-units when the change is required.

The only change that must be implemented by Fall 2024 is the removal of Ethnic Studies into its own GE category box.

We maintain our focus on providing our local degree students a general education package that is designed to enhance the lives of our students in the broadest sense. We maintain the integrity of our program while giving students who graduate from Los Medanos College the skills to succeed in an increasingly more diverse global community. As emphasized on our GE website, a student who graduates with a local degree from LMC “can ask thoughtful questions, grapple with difficult texts and concepts, reason quantitatively, consider competing perspectives, challenge arguments and question conventional ideas, evaluate sources of information, admit their own limitations, and demonstrate curiosity and a desire for continued learning.”

## Conclusion

Our key recommendations are as follows:

- Adding the Ethnic Studies GE requirement as required by law and current Title 5 changes to be implemented with our 2024-2025 academic catalog.
- To ensure the minimum amount of disruption for the current GE model and for courses that currently reside in our diverse perspectives, we recommend that we keep the existing multicultural box intact as Diverse Perspectives and remove Ethnic Studies into its own category box as required by law.

These changes will impact our current GE model by increasing the total required number of units from 18-units to 21-units, a change which is already being required by Title 5 because of additional requirements that are forthcoming.

Additional changes to our local GE pattern can be integrated throughout the rest of this semester and into next academic year. This will give the GE committee more time to solicit feedback and suggestions from affected faculty members and bring forward a more comprehensive position paper update for review.

## Appendix

How to integrate GE SLOs into COORs

Visit [link to PDF report](#)