

S.F. No. 1476 – Ethnic Studies

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Section 1. Required academic standards. Adds ethnic studies to the required social studies academic standards.

Effective Date: Makes the section effective for the 2027-2028 school year and later.

Section 2. Graduation requirements. Adds ethnic studies to the social studies credits required for graduation from high school.

Effective Date: Makes the section effective for students beginning 9th grade in the 2025-2026 school year and later.

Section 3. Credit equivalencies. Allows an ethnic studies credit to fulfill a social studies, language arts, or science credit if it meets the applicable state academic standards.

Effective Date: Makes the section effective July 1, 2023.

Section 4. Ethnic Studies.

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** Defines “ethnic studies” as the critical and interdisciplinary study of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity with a focus on the experiences and perspectives of people of color within and beyond the United States.

Subd. 2. **Requirements.** Requires a student beginning in 9th grade in the 2025-2026 school year and later to successfully complete a semester-long ethnic studies course to graduate from high school.

Subd. 3. **Rulemaking.** Directs the commissioner to adopt rules for statewide academic standards for ethnic studies curriculum for students in kindergarten through grade 12.

Subd. 4. **School needs assessment.** Requires a school district or charter school to conduct an ethnic studies school needs assessment to determine the priorities for course selection, implementation,

and timeline. Requires an annual evaluation of the implementation of ethnic studies instruction and report its findings to the commissioner.

Subd. 5. **Department of Education.** Directs the commissioner to hire dedicated ethnic studies staff to fulfill the department's duties under the statute. Allows the commissioner to review and revise the ethnic studies standards every ten years.

Subd. 6. **Model Curriculum.** Requires the department to support school districts and charter schools in using the model curriculum identified by the Ethnic Studies Working Group.

Effective Date: Makes the section effective July 1, 2023, except for subdivision 3, which is effective immediately.

Section 5. Ethnic Studies Working Group.

Subdivision 1. **Working group established.** Establishes a 25-member working group to advise the commissioner on ethnic studies standards, curriculum, and resources necessary to implement ethnic studies requirements. The commissioner must appoint the members with input from the Minnesota Ethnic Studies Coalition.

Subd. 2. **Duties.** Directs the working group to review available ethnic studies curricula and instructional resources and provide ethnic studies standards recommendations by October 31, 2024, and model ethnic studies curriculum by July 1, 2025.

Subd. 3. **Meetings and compensation.** Requires the working group to meet on a bimonthly basis. Working group members receive a monthly stipend of \$250.

Subd. 4. **Administration.** Directs the commissioner to provide meeting space and technical assistance for the working group.

Subd. 5. **Statewide academic standards** Directs the commissioner to adopt the academic standards for ethnic studies curricula developed by the working group using the expedited rulemaking process.

Effective Date: Makes the section effective immediately.

Section 6. Appropriations. Appropriates blank amounts for the Ethnic Studies Working Group, ethnic studies implementation, ethnic studies community consultation, and ethnic studies school grants.

Effective Date: Makes the section effective July 1, 2023.