

Leading for Oregon's Social Science Standards

The Integration of Ethnic Studies

Amit Kobrowski-Social Science Specialist

PRESENTATION GOALS

- **Describe Oregon's role in leading the nation in integration of ethnic studies standards**
- **Provide overview of ethnic studies standards adoption process: What has been accomplished so far and what lies ahead**
- **Highlight examples of districts initiative for 2021 school year**
- **Outline ODE's next steps in implementation support**

OREGON LEADS THE NATION ON ETHNIC STUDIES

- **Currently eight states have recent legislation for a form of ethnic studies**
- **Oregon's approach to ethnic studies is unique**
 1. **The standards are K-12. Most states have a secondary approach.**
 2. **The standards are integrated and required. Most states are focused on an elective.**
 3. **The standards are not a curriculum. California's public fight over inclusion and exclusion in the curriculum was avoided by focusing on standards with ethnic studies concepts.**

WHY ETHNIC STUDIES IN OREGON

- In testimony to local school boards and the Oregon Legislature, **students identified the need to see themselves reflected in social science classrooms**
- Students and teachers identified **the benefits to all students** of a more complete and inclusive understanding of U.S. and Oregon history.
- Effective social science teachers have long recognized that instructional materials and social science **topics connected to the lives of students created more engaging lessons and deeper learning.**

The [State Board of Education](#) recognizes the importance of an ethnic studies perspective integrated into social science standards.



Windows, Mirrors, and Sliding Glass Doors

DIVERSITY IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2018

Percentage of books depicting characters from diverse backgrounds based on the 2018 publishing statistics compiled by the Cooperative Children's Book Center, School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison: ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/pstats.asp



Illustration by David Huyck, in consultation with Sarah Park Dahlen

Released under a Creative Commons BY-SA license: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>

The CCBC inventory includes 3,134 books published in 2018. This graphic would not have been possible without the statistics compiled by the CCBC, and the review and feedback we received from Edith Campbell, Molly Beth Griffin, K. T. Horning, Debbie Reese, Ebony Elizabeth Thomas, and Madeline Tyner. Many thanks.



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

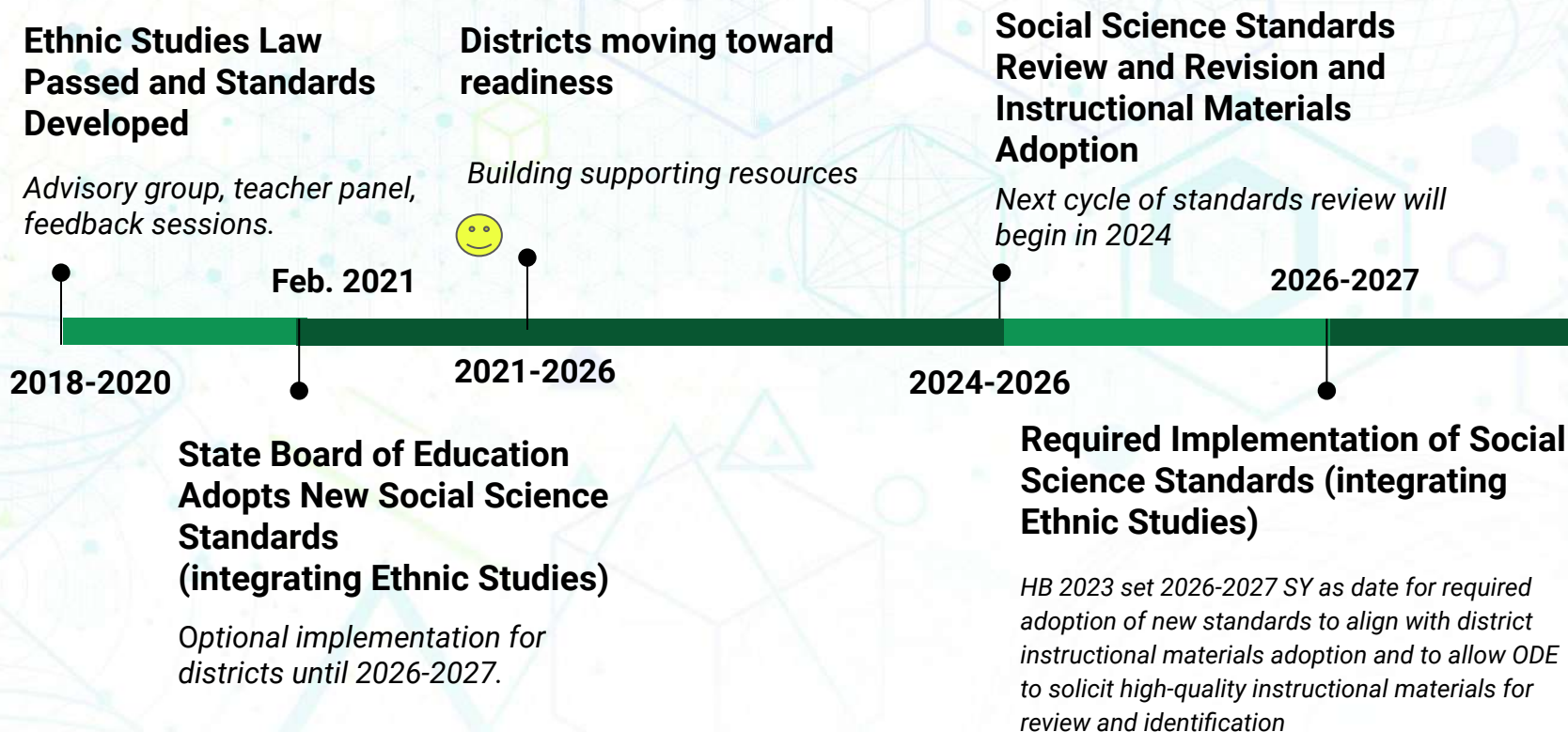
Oregon achieves... together!

2021 SOCIAL SCIENCE STANDARDS

- The ethnic studies law did not create ethnic studies standards or an ethnic studies class
- Ethnic studies concepts and perspectives were integrated into the social science standards (History, Geography, Economics, Civics, Social Science Analysis) - Replaced “Multicultural”
- The changes in the standards from 2018 to 2021 are highlighted for educators, but there is no domain labeled as ethnic studies



ETHNIC STUDIES TIMELINE 2019-2027



ETHNIC STUDIES RESOURCES

- [FAQ for ethnic studies](#) implementation
- [Inclusive Education Reference Guide](#)
- [Information](#) distributed in [Soc. Sci. Newsletter](#)
- Monthly [featured classroom resource](#)
- Continued updates in [Teacher Resources](#) and [Classroom Resources](#)
- Partnerships with local organizations creating [teaching materials](#)
- New resource hub on [Oregon Open Learning](#)
- Collaboration with OJMCHE for [teacher training on ethnic studies content](#)

2021-22 REFERENCE GUIDE

Tribal History/Shared History, Holocaust, and Other Genocides, and Ethnic Studies and Inclusive Education

Tribal History/ Shared History

Senate Bill 13 Curriculum

The law requires instruction to the Tribal approved Essential Understandings across five content areas. [Lessons are available](#) from ODE and local tribes.

Grades:
4, 8, 10

Subject Areas:
ELA, Health/PE, Math, Science, and Social Science



Timeline:

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Full implementation of grade level lessons and Essential Understandings

What can districts do now?

- Select staff to attend on-line [professional development](#)
- Review posted [lessons](#)
- Communicate with local tribes for optional place-based lessons
- Review existing curricula and build content knowledge of Indigenous curriculum

Holocaust and Other Genocides

Senate Bill 664 Learning Concepts

The law identifies nine learning concepts related to Holocaust and other genocides education. Resources and training are available through local and national organizations as well as ODE.

Grades:
K-12

Subject Areas:
Social Science



Timeline:

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Instruction on Holocaust and other genocides that includes the nine concepts of the law.

What can districts do now?

- Select staff to attend Holocaust and other genocides training
- Utilize [grade-level guidance](#) from ODE to assist in the implementation
- [Contact](#) the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education

Ethnic Studies and Inclusive Education

House Bill 2845/House Bill 2023 Standards and Materials

These complimentary laws create standards and ensure instructional materials adequately address the contributions of the full diversity of the people of Oregon.

Grades:
K-12

Subject Areas:
Social Science



Timeline:

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

State Board of Education approved 2021 Social Science Standards March 2021. School District implementation optional until 2026.

What can districts do now?

- Establish equity professional learning opportunities for district and school staff
- Improve teacher [content knowledge](#) in ethnic studies
- Encourage social science teachers to sign-up for [ODE social science update](#)

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION REFERENCE GUIDE

GETTING READY FOR 2026-27

- **Alongside educators, determine what professional learning is needed to lead and teach for the 2026 social science standards.**
- **Create and support conditions for equity learning in the district.**
- **Review/audit your current social science curricula to determine the level of congruence or incongruence with the new standards.**
- **Harness student voice and engage community and families around ethnic studies.**
- **Develop and share with educators, students, and families information about the new Social Science standards and highlight ethnic studies. Share what they are, what they aren't and ensure transparency and communication.**

TEACHING ETHNIC STUDIES IN THIS MOMENT

The Atlantic

The Ongoing Battle Over Ethnic Studies

NEWS

California school districts approves \$40M mandatory 'ethnic studies' course based on critical race theory

By Lee Brown

July 14, 2021 | 4:35pm

Oregon school board votes to ban Black Lives Matter, Pride signs from district buildings

"This feels so draconian ... this feels so anti-everything," one board member said. "Anti-free speech, anti-free expression, anti-safety."

Los Angeles Times

Today's Headlines: A backlash over ethnic studies

LOCAL NEWS • News

Ethnic studies, CRT forum venues changed after estimate for legal protection hits \$96,000

ETHNIC STUDIES ≠ CRT

- **The attacks invoking the dangers of Critical Race Theory are centered on concerns about the teaching of history and social science**
- **How we define America and Americans and how the American story is re-evaluated**
- **Every Student Belongs, Pride Symbols, BLM Flags, Ethnic Studies, ABAR Trainings, challenge tradition, status, and identity**
- **The 2021 Standards provide social science teachers with state support AND raises the potential for conflict in certain communities**
- **Through all of this the kids are listening and feeling and responding. How do we continue to hold our students most underserved by the system at the center?**

Southridge girls soccer team protests at Newberg

September 17 2021

Skyhawks kneel during national anthem in solidarity with Newberg's Black students



COURTESY PHOTO - The Southridge High School girls soccer team knelt during the national anthem in solidarity with Black students on Wednesday.



ODE SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS



Guidance for School Districts

[Hate Symbol Explainer](#)



**Communicating about Racial
Equity in a Charged
Environment**

[Toolkit PDF](#)



Bias Incident Response Guide

SUPPORTING DISTRICTS IN DIFFERENT STARTING PLACES

**Adopted Standards and
Materials in 2018-2019**

**Adopted in 2018 or
Behind on Adoption**

Behind on Adoption



**Use 2018
Provide professional
development in preparation
for 2026**

**Adopt 2021 with district
supported trainings**

**Adopt 2018
Standards and Inst. materials**



2026 & 2027 SY
ODE Reviews and Identifies Instructional Materials.
All districts adopt and implement 2026 Ethic Studies Social Science Standards.

