

January 21, 2022

To: Jody Kreiman, Chair, Academic Senate

From: Kathleen Bawn, Chair, Undergraduate Council

**Re: Systemwide Senate Review: Proposed Revision to Senate Regulation 424.A.3**

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At its meeting on January 7, 2022, the Undergraduate Council reviewed the Proposed Revision to Senate Regulation 424.A.3. The proposed revision involves the addition of an Area “H” Ethnic Studies course to the existing A-G requirements for freshman admission to the University. Area H aligns with a new ethnic studies requirement for California K-12 without adding to the total number of required courses in the A-G pattern.

While members consider the interest in Ethnic Studies to be important and laudable, several noted that the inclusion of Area H may inadvertently disadvantage non-resident and international student applicants, who would may not be able to meet the requirement at their local schools. Some members pointed out that the requirement appears to mandate high schools to teach curriculum that may not be offered outside of California, and that is in effect illegal in certain states which have banned the teaching of ethnic studies from certain theoretical perspectives (e.g. critical race theory).

Thank you for the opportunity to opine. If you have any questions, please contact me via the Undergraduate Council’s analyst, Julia Nelsen, at [jnelsen@senate.ucla.edu](mailto:jnelsen@senate.ucla.edu).

CC: Jessica Cattelino, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Academic Senate  
April de Stefano, Executive Director, Academic Senate  
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Shane White, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate