



Action4Equity Follow-up Statement on K-12 Infusion Model for Social Studies Curriculum

March 24, 2023

The North Carolina State Board of Education adopted new content for social studies K-12 on February 4, 2021. The [preamble](#) of the new standards offers some guidance for the implementation of the infusion curriculum in WS/FCS:

...the North Carolina State Board of Education believes that our collective social studies standards must reflect the nation's diversity and that the successes, contributions, and struggles of multiple groups and individuals should be included." (NCDPI, N.D. Par 2)

It is important to remember, however, that history itself doesn't provide the sole explanation for why we have injustices, racism, and discrimination today, be they institutionalized or localized. Our human failings have at times taken the form of racism, xenophobia, nativism, extremism, and isolationism. **We need to study history in order to understand how these situations developed, the harmful impact they caused, and the forces and actors that sometimes helped us move beyond these outcomes.**

The K-12 infusion programs advocated by A4E will not only meet those guidelines, but also address the concerns of advocates for a required African History course required for graduation from WS/FCS.

At the end of the K-12 infusion sequence, students would select one of three culminating courses: African American Studies, Latinx Studies, North Carolina Studies. The courses will emphasize the use of primary resources to support the development of critical thinking and problem solving. The outcomes for the courses, i.e. what the students will know and understand will need to be discussed thoroughly by all the relevant stakeholders. This process will allow those who are committed to an African American and Latinx history courses as a requirement to assure that the outcomes they desire are included in the K-12 infusion program. The entire K-12 infusion curriculum will be vertically integrated with the culminating courses to assure student success.

Reference

North Carolina of Public Instruction, NCDPI (N.D.) Newly approved K-12 Social Studies standards, found at [Social Studies - Newly Approved K-12 Social Studies Standards \(google.com\)](#)