## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION fldoe.org

## State Board of Education

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Commissioner of Education

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Florida College System Presidents

**FROM:** Commissioner Manny Diaz, Jr.

**DATE:** August 8, 2024

SUBJECT: Instructional Materials Review for Anti-Israeli and Antisemitic Material

This memo is regarding an instructional materials review process to be conducted during the Fall Term 2024 for specified courses being offered this academic year with the purpose of identifying antisemitic and/or anti-Israeli bias in all instructional materials. Effective immediately, please take prompt action to identify all courses being offered this academic year that have the following terms in course syllabi or in course descriptions: Israel, Israeli, Palestine, Palestinian, Middle East, Zionism, Zionist, Judaism, Jewish or Jews.

Once institutions complete this search, institutions should use the attached form and submit the list of identified courses to <a href="ChancellorFCS@fldoe.org">ChancellorFCS@fldoe.org</a> by Friday, August 23, 2024. Every course with any of the terms included above should be reported to the Division of Florida Colleges (Division). The Division will review each college's submission to create a course inventory. The Division will distribute the course inventory to all colleges.

Once the course inventory is distributed by the Division, each institution should begin a review of all instructional materials utilized in *each course listed in the course inventory* and offered by the school to identify any instance of antisemitism or anti-Israeli bias. This review must be completed by the end of the Fall Term 2024. Institutions may use existing curriculum committees or create or modify these committees (as needed) to complete this review. Utilizing the course inventory provided by the Division will ensure that there is consistency in the courses reviewed across the Florida College System.

To record the results of this review, each institution will return the course inventory provided by the Division, which will include columns to report instances of antisemitic and/or anti-Israeli bias found in all instructional materials used in identified courses.

Thank you for your attention to this process. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Cc: Kimberly Richey, Senior Chancellor, Florida Department of Education Kathy Hebda, Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges

Emily Sikes, Interim Vice Chancellor, Florida Board of Governors

FCS Chief Academic Officers

Attachment

KATHRYN S. HEBDA
FLORIDA COLLEGE SYSTEM CHANCELLOR