

**Modesto Junior College
Academic Senate
Resolution FL04-D:
“C” or Better Grade Requirements for Degrees and Certificates**

Proposed by: Jim Howen

Whereas: Modesto Junior College constantly strives for excellence in its instruction of students and the quality of their education;

Whereas: All degrees and certificates awarded by MJC represent to the public an indication of the ability and preparedness of the recipient in the specific educational or vocational area described by such degrees and certificates;

Whereas: Employers and other educational institutions rely on the integrity of accredited colleges to issue such degrees and certificates only to students who have completed the required courses in a satisfactory manner;

Whereas: Title 5, Section 55758(a) of the Education Code refers to a course grade of “C” as “Satisfactory,” a grade of “CR” as “Credit (at least satisfactory),” and a grade of “D” as “Passing, less than satisfactory:”

Whereas: Due to nationwide grade inflation, the “D” grade has even less value than in the past;

Whereas: The current policy of MJC allows a student to receive a degree or certificate with a minimum overall grade average of “C” or better;

Whereas: It is possible for a student to complete required and elective courses in the designated major with “Passing, less than satisfactory” grades and still achieve an overall “C” average with offsetting higher grades in non-major classes;

Whereas: It is currently possible for MJC to issue degrees and certificates to students with “Passing, less than satisfactory” abilities and preparedness in their major areas;

Whereas: CSU GE-Breadth and IGETC transfer patterns require grades of “C” or better in each course in order for the college to certify completion of the pattern;

Whereas: It is currently possible for a student to earn a Transfer Studies degree by completing one of these patterns at a level insufficient to allow the college to certify it;

Therefore: **Be it resolved,** that Modesto Junior College shall require students desiring any MJC degree or certificate to earn a “C” grade or better in all required major courses and earn a “C” grade or better in enough major options to meet the requirements of the desired degree or certificate, and

Therefore: **Be it further resolved,** that Modesto Junior College shall require students desiring a Transfer Studies degree to earn a "C" grade or better in each course used to meet the CSU-GE or IGETC transfer pattern requirements of the degree, and

Therefore: **Be it further resolved,** that if degrees, programs, or certificates currently exist or are later created which have requirements for grades or grade averages that are higher than “C”, the requirements for the higher grades or grade averages shall prevail.

First Reading: Rules suspended February 3, 2005 to take final action.

Final Action: February 3, 2005.

Disposition: Carried

The resolution has been forwarded to Interim President Bill Scroggins who sent it to the YCCD Board for approval. Chancellor James Williams also approved the resolution.