



THE JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL

Grading Provisions

1. **Grading System:** The grading system of The John Marshall Law School (at all academic levels, including JD, LLM, and MJ programs shall be:

A+	4.01
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D	1.00
F	0.00
WF	0.00

2. **The Grading Curve:** The law school has a policy requiring faculty members to engage in reasonable post-examination review with students.

- a. **Curve I**

In Civil Procedure I, Constitutional Law I, Contracts I & II, Criminal Law, Property, and Torts, provided the enrollment is 20 or more students, faculty shall conform their grades to the following standards:

- i. **Required Grades**

Grades of A+, A, and A- shall be awarded to no fewer than 20% and no more than 30% of the class.

Grades of B+, B, and B- shall be awarded to no fewer than 35% and no more than 45% of the class.

Grades of C+, C, and C- shall be awarded to no fewer than 15% and no more than 25% of the class.

Grades of D and F shall be awarded to no fewer than 10% and no more than 20% of the class.

ii. **Required Cumulative Average**

For the class as a whole, the cumulative average grade shall fall between 2.40–2.80, inclusive.

b. **Curve II**

In every JD course not subject to Curve I, other than *Lawyering Skills* and *Trial Advocacy*, provided the enrollment is more than 30 students, faculty shall conform their grades to the following standards:

i. **Required Grades**

Grades of A+, A, and A- shall be awarded to no fewer than 25% and no more than 40% of the class.

Grades of B+, B, and B- shall be awarded to no fewer than 35% and no more than 50% of the class.

Grades of C+, C, and C- shall be awarded to no fewer than 10% and no more than 25% of the class.

Grades of D and F shall be awarded to no fewer than 0% and no more than 10% of the class.

ii. **Required Cumulative Average**

For the class as a whole, the cumulative average grade shall fall between 2.70 and 3.10, inclusive.

3. Other Grading Provisions

Because of the required 2.25 cumulative grade point average, a student must earn a number of grades above C to remain in school and graduate. A student who receives only Cs during the first two semesters and summer will have a cumulative average of 2.00 and will be ineligible to continue in school. For these reasons, any grade of C is considered marginally acceptable.

A student on probation must take a minimum of 12 semester hours in the full-time program or eight semester hours in the part-time program. Failure to register for the required number of hours without prior approval of the Registrar will be treated as the equivalent of failure to attain a 2.25 grade point average for the semester.

Students with questions about grade point averages or other academic matters should make an appointment to see The Academic Services Office (3rd floor of the 315 S. Plymouth Ct. Building).

4. Repeating Courses

A student who receives a failing grade (F or WF) in a required course must repeat that course at the earliest opportunity; there is no restriction on the grade level that can be earned upon repetition. All grades received by the student, including failing grades, will be computed in the grade point average. Tuition will be charged for repetitions.

Otherwise, a student may not repeat for academic credit any course in which a grade has been received.

5. Class Rank

After grades have been issued at the end of each fall and spring semester, students are ranked according to their respective class level and their cumulative grade point average. The highest grade point average is ranked number one, followed by the rest of the class, with the lowest grade point average ranked last.

The percentage is derived by dividing the rank by the total number of students. (For example: A student in the class level 2L1 had a cumulative grade point average of 3.24. There were 238 students in that class level. The student was ranked 79/238; 79 divided by 238 is .33, so the student was in the top 33 percent of the class).

Class rankings are unofficial until the date of graduation. After graduation, final ranks are a part of a student's transcript.

6. Dean's List: JD students qualify for the Dean's List at the completion of each fall and spring semester. To qualify, a student's semester GPA must be in the top 25 percent of his or her class level.

7. CALI Excellence for the Future Award: The CALI Excellence for the Future Award, sponsored by the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction, is given each semester to the student or students who receive the highest grade in each JD section of an exam course. An instructor may elect not to designate a CALI winner.