March 21, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

Beginning in the fall semester of 2011, the Master of Science in Foreign Service (MSFS) instituted a grading standard for all courses carrying the “MSFS” course prefix. Prior to fall of 2011, courses taught in the Master of Science in Foreign Service were not subject to any specific grading standard.

In an effort to provide for greater consistency in grades across the MSFS curriculum and to combat grade inflation, a standard has been imposed on all MSFS courses, whereby faculty assessment of student performance will result in final course grades distributed as follows.

MSFS Grade Distribution
20% A
30% A-
30% B+
20% B and below

Whereby an (A) is Outstanding; (A-) is Excellent; (B+) is Very Good; (B) is Good; (B-) is Acceptable; and a (C) is Minimally Passing.

The Master of Science in Foreign Service is a select graduate program that consistently attracts exceptional students from around the world. Please view transcripts of students enrolled in MSFS courses with the understanding that the above standard has been established as of fall 2011.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please call 202-687-5763.

Sincerely,

Erin E. Guild
Director of Academic Affairs