

Ft Ord Educational Needs Assessment

(Preliminary Results – 3/21/05)

During February 2005, the Office of Institutional Research (OIR) at MPC conducted a survey to determine the educational and support service needs of residents in the Fort Ord area. The OIR sent 6,000 surveys to a random, representative sample of households in Marina and Seaside. As of 3/21/05 the OIR received 437 surveys, which is a typical response rate for mail surveys. Of the 437 surveys, 410 have been tabulated. The following pages review the survey questions and briefly describe the preliminary survey results.

1. Monterey Peninsula College will be developing a new education center on the former Fort Ord. We are interested in learning about types of courses you would like to take at the new education center on the former Ft Ord. Please review the courses below and indicate the courses you would be interested in taking now or in the future.

The table below shows the number of responses for each course area. Courses are listed according to the number of responses in descending order. Please note that this is a multiple response item and that respondents may have indicated more than one course area.

Number of responses		Type of Course
Yes	No	<i>General Education Courses</i>
285	50	<i>World Languages</i>
261	65	<i>Arts & Humanities</i>
215	87	<i>Natural Science</i>
209	88	<i>Social Science</i>
180	132	<i>English</i>
178	117	<i>Math</i>
Yes	No	<i>Occupational Courses</i>
256	51	<i>Computer Software Applications</i>
194	87	<i>Business</i>
193	87	<i>Computer Networking</i>
150	118	<i>Real Estate</i>
145	111	<i>Office Technology</i>
143	125	<i>Child Development</i>
126	130	<i>Human and Social Services</i>
125	135	<i>Medical Office</i>
122	140	<i>Medical Assisting</i>
117	140	<i>Interior Design</i>
115	137	<i>Administration of Justice/ Law Enforcement</i>
115	145	<i>Hospitality</i>
92	156	<i>Restaurant Management</i>
86	154	<i>Fire Protection Technology</i>
79	155	<i>Retail Management</i>
Yes	No	<i>Personal Development Courses</i>
326	32	<i>Physical Fitness</i>
165	122	<i>English and Math Skills Development</i>
124	116	<i>Study and Learning Skills Development</i>
99	158	<i>English as a Second Language</i>

2. What support services would you need to take classes at the new education center? (mark all that apply)

The table below shows the need for student support services. Services are listed according to the number of responses in descending order. Please note that this is a multiple response item and that respondents may have indicated more than one support service.

Number of responses		Support Service
Yes	No	
239	61	Library/Online Information Resources
211	79	Learning Assistance and Computer Labs
179	109	Academic Counseling
166	113	Financial Aid
161	118	Job Placement Services
154	118	Career Development and Counseling
113	137	Transfer Support Center
109	145	Child Care (ages 2 – 5)
107	141	Veterans' Services
98	144	Disadvantaged, Re-entry, & Multicultural Support Services
87	152	Disabled Student Services

3. What time of day and days of the week would you like classes offered at the new education center? (mark all that apply)

The table below shows when respondents would like courses offered. Please note that this is a multiple response item and that respondents may have indicated more than one day and time.

The most popular time was **Monday through Friday evenings**. **Saturday morning** was the next choice, followed by **Monday through Friday mornings**, then **Saturday afternoon & evening**.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Early morning (before 8:00)	68	65	64	64	67	68	42
Morning (8:00 – 12:00)	151	142	150	141	145	188	95
Afternoon (12:00 – 5:00)	126	122	121	123	118	152	93
Evening (after 5:00)	290	293	294	287	257	144	91

4. How long would you prefer courses to run? (mark all that apply)

The table below indicates how long respondents would like courses to run. Please note that this is a multiple response item and that respondents may have indicated more than one course length. The most popular choice was **semester length**, followed closely by **8 week courses**.

	1 day	1 week	4 weeks	8 weeks	Semester (16 weeks)
Number of responses	73	68	143	207	265

5. Where and how would you prefer courses offered? (mark all that apply)

The table below confirms that Marina and Seaside residents prefer courses **at Fort Ord** than at other locations in Marina or Seaside or distance learning courses. Please note that this is a multiple response item and that respondents may have indicated more than one location.

	On campus at Fort Ord	Off campus, at another location in Marina or Seaside	Distance learning
Number of responses	326	187	93

6. Why would you like to take courses? (mark all that apply)

The table below shows the number of responses for each reason. Reasons for taking courses are listed according to the number of responses in descending order. Please note that this is a multiple response item and that respondents may have indicated more than one course area.

Overall, intellectual development & enrichment was the most frequently cited reason for taking courses, followed by physical fitness & well-being. Job and career reasons also rated high.

Number of responses	Reason for taking courses
261	Intellectual development & enrichment
241	Physical fitness and well-being
220	Update or acquire new job skills
152	Explore career goals or interests
103	Earn an Associate degree
89	Improve basic skills in English, reading or math
89	Transfer to a 4-year college
84	Earn a vocational Associate degree
82	Earn a vocational certificate
41	Earn college credits while in high school

7. If you are not interested in taking college courses at the new education center, why? (mark all that apply)

Overall, there was high interest in courses offered at MPC. Residents not interested in courses at MPC probably did not respond to the survey. Among respondents who indicated they were not interested in taking courses, the most frequently cited reason was “too busy”, followed by “course days and times not convenient”. Please note that this is a multiple response item and that respondents may have indicated more than one course area.

Number of responses	Reason for not taking courses
	Not interested in course offerings
	Too busy
	Course days and times not convenient
	Course location(s) not convenient
	No childcare
	Too expensive
	No transportation

Characteristics of Respondents (N = 410)

Education level

- HS grad or below – 12%
- Some college – 28%
- Associate degree or Vocational certificate – 22%
- Bachelors degree or higher – 38%

Gender

- Male – 27%
- Female – 73%

Age

- Under 18 years – <1%
- 18-24 years – 6%
- 25-34 years – 21%
- 35-44 years – 22%
- 45-54 years – 24%
- 55-64 years – 15%
- 65 years and over – 12%

Employment

- Work FT – 56%
- Work PT – 17%
- Unemployed – 7%
- Retired – 11%
- Military – 2%
- Other – 7%