Katie Howard

**Write about one of your failures within your academic career and what you learned from it**

My biggest failure from my academic career came during my second year attending Cuesta College. During this time I was a business major and this failure was one of the main reasons I choose to switch my major to child development. I failed the class business calculus and I was devastated and at the same time very mad at myself.

To this day that is still the only class I have failed and only class I have gotten below a C in. It was really hard for me because I was and still am not used to failing anything, especially failing a subject I put a lot of effort into learning. Before I took the class I knew that calculus would be a difficult subject for me because I have always struggled in math; so I took precautions and got a tutor. It just did not seem to help because the information would not stick in my head.

My professor also really discouraged me. After not doing well on a test I went to ask my professor for help and she blatantly asked me if I was stupid. I can still remember her asking me, “Are you stupid or something? How do you not understand this?” I had tears welling up in my eyes and I just excused myself and after that attending that class became torture.

However, I did learn a lot from taking that class. I realized not everything in my academic career would come easy to me. I realized some classes I would have to put in extra hard work to receive the grade, I wanted to receive. I also realized during this time that I did not want to be a business major and I wanted to ultimately work in the field of child development.