

# AVID Syllabus

*Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)* is an elective program that helps students to achieve the necessary requirements and skills to be eligible for university acceptance. AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. The program has two major components: tutorials and AVID curriculum. Tutorials occur 2 times per week. Tutorials are small study groups that are facilitated by college students who assist students with their studies. Each AVID student is to come prepared for the tutorial with questions from their core or college classes. Field trips may be scheduled to visit local colleges and universities, providing students with the opportunity to visit the institutions firsthand.

AVID students are expected to be motivated and determined to achieve university acceptance at the end of their high school career. It will be necessary for AVID students to manage their time so that school and studies become a top priority. This means that they will need to be responsible for making wise and sometimes difficult choices.

Some of the many topics covered in the 9th-12th grade AVID program include:

- Research Skills • Research Papers • Public Speaking (including how-to speeches, informational speeches, and persuasive speeches) • Cornell Notes • Philosophical Chairs • Socratic Seminars • Scholarship & Financial Aid Research • Goal Setting • Mission Statements • Self Discovery & Reflection • Character Development • Tips for Success • Binder Checks • Interpersonal Relationships • Organizational Skills & Projects • Time Management • Money Management (including how to balance a check book and using credit cards responsibly) • College Readiness Skills • Tutorials • College Exploration • Career Exploration • The Process of Getting a Job (including resumes, preparing for interviews, mock interviews, filling out job applications, and thank you letters) • Study Skills • Guidance Lessons • Starting Your Own Business • Community Service Projects • Financial Literacy

## **Required Materials:**

The following materials are required in class every day:

- 2 ½ or 3 inch 3-ring view binder
- 1 inch 3-ring view binder (for your portfolio)

- Color dividers (a minimum of 1 per class)
- At least 14 sheet protectors (3 for your AVID Binder and 11 for your portfolio)
- 2 black ink pens
- 1 red pen
- 2 #2 pencils
- Zipper pouch to store supplies
- 2 different colored highlighters
- 1 pack of filler paper (college ruled)
- A school provided planner
- 1 USB flash drive
- 1 scientific calculator (with sin, cos, tan, and probability functions)

### **Expectations:**

This is an Early College High School. Students are expected to demonstrate maturity, responsibility, and respect for others. The work that they submit must be their own. Gum chewing, eating & drinking, personal grooming, and wearing hats in class are not allowed. Repeated offenses will be regarded as defiance and students are subject to referral to administration for appropriate disciplinary action.

### **Cell Phones and Computers:**

1st offense – Verbal warning to turn off and put out of sight.

2nd Offense – Device is confiscated and a referral to administration accompanies phone and student to office. Student may retrieve the electronic device at the end of the day.

3rd Offense – Electronic device is confiscated and student receives a one day suspension for defiance. Electronic device will only be returned to a parent or guardian.

Continued defiance will result suspension and/or expulsion for defiance

### **Attendance & Late work**

You are responsible for *all* material presented in class. You will be given 1 day for each day absent to submit missed assignments.

Late work will *not* be accepted. All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. It is your responsibility to print essays or have assignments ready *before* the class period begins. If you have a serious extenuating circumstance, speak with me as soon as possible. Waiting until the class period when something is due is not acceptable.

**Evaluation:** Final grades will be based on the following categories:

## **Binders**

Binders will be checked and graded in the AVID class weekly. Binders and/or backpacks will be graded for organization, Cornell notes, materials & supplies, a completed daily planner, and daily “to do” lists. If you are absent for Binder Check, due to illness, you may request a Binder Check on the day you return. Additional binder checks may randomly occur throughout the year so binders must be organized at all times. A minimum of three (3) pages of Cornell notes/learning logs are required for five classes per week.

## **Class work , Homework, & Projects**

Class work and homework assignments are designed to help students to develop personally and academically and to ultimately prepare them for college and a career. Essays will be written in MLA format. There will be numerous individual and group projects each semester.

## **Tutorial**

Students will be graded on each tutorial session. Students earn points for their questions, participation, and reflection during the tutorial process. Since tutorials are a collaborative effort, students must be present and participate to receive credit. Students who are absent due to illness may make up points by completing a one page writing assignment from a provided list. Tutors will assist students on their path towards arriving at answers, but they will not provide the answers for students.

## **Portfolio**

Students will collect specified documents to be placed in a portfolio. Portfolios will be assessed at least once per semester.

**Grading Scale:** Final grades will be assigned as follows:

100% - 90% = A                      89% - 80% = B      79% - 70% = C      69% - 60% =  
D      Below 60% = F

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