  

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)

Course Syllabus

Mr. Bryant

**General Description:**

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. Together we will be embarking upon a long and challenging journey ending with priceless rewards including an acceptance to a 4-year university! We have a lot of work ahead of us on our path. I sincerely hope that each of you are *ready and willing* to put forth the dedication and determination this course will require throughout the duration of your high school career!

The program has two major components: tutorials and AVID curriculum. Tutorials will occur twice a week. Tutorials are small study groups that are facilitated by college students or peer tutors who will assist students with their studies. Each AVID student is to come prepared for the tutorial with questions from their core classes. AVID curriculum will include activities that focus on organization skills, study skills, reading, writing, collaboration and inquiry. Guest speakers and field trips to visit local colleges and universities may also be scheduled to provide students with information on colleges and careers.

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.

**Objectives of the AVID Course**

1. Students will take courses that meet four-year college entrance requirements.

2. Students will participate in tutorials for academic success.

3. Students will learn and apply AVID skills including note taking, organization, time management, and goal setting.

4. Students will improve their oral communication skills through a variety of activities including presentations and Socratic Seminars.

5. Students will participate in writing to learn activities including note taking, learning logs, and essay writing.

6. Students will learn to evaluate their own writing and the writing of others using the rubrics and scoring guides modeled after UC and CSU requirements.

**Required Materials:**

The following materials are required in class every day.

• 2 ½ - 3 inch sturdy 3-ring binder

• Colored subject dividers with tabs (a minimum of 1 per class - including AVID)

• 2 black or blue ink pens

• 2 #2 pencils

• Eraser

• One ruler (at least 6" long)

• 2 different colored highlighters

• 1 Black Dry Erase Marker for tutorials (optional)

• Zipper pouch to store supplies

• Clean notebook paper (college ruled)

• An assignment planner

**Expectations:**

1. The student will be *respectful*

\* Be courteous and polite \* Maintain self-control \* Allow others the opportunity to learn \* Clean up after yourself \* Take pride in school

property

2. The student will be *trustworthy*

\* Do your own work \*Don’t allow others to copy your work*.*

3. The student will be *responsible*

\* Attend school \* Be in your assigned seat when the bell rings \* Bring proper materials to class \* Follow instructions \* Complete assignments \* Be an active member of your group \* Accept consequences for your actions

4. The student will be *fair*

\* Listen \* Share \* Be open-minded

**Additional Rules:**

Repeated offenses will be regarded as defiance and students are subject to referral for appropriate disciplinary action.

* No food or drink, with the exception of water, is permitted in class. This includes gum.
* Personal grooming is not allowed in class.
* Hats/beanies, sunglasses and ear buds must be removed when entering class.
* Electronic devices (including cell phones, music players, video games, laptops etc.) are not allowed unless permission is granted.

**Attendance & Late Work**

* You are responsible for *all* material presented in class. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to ask for missing assignments.
* You will be given 1 day for each day absent to submit missed assignments. Tutorials will be made up at the following tutorial session.
* Late work is discouraged. Late work that is turned in within a reasonable time period will receive partial credit. All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period unless specifically stated.
* 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.

***Students will not be allowed to make up work if they have been suspended.***

**Evaluation:** Final grades will be weighted by the following categories:

**Binder Checks (40%)**

* Binders will be checked and graded in the AVID class every Friday. Binders will be graded for organization, Cornell notes, materials & supplies, a completed daily planner with 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 is required for each class each week. This includes AVID.

**WICOR (20%)**

* Class work is designed to help students to develop personally and academically and to ultimately prepare them for college and a career. In class participation is mandatory. Outside of class, students should prepare and review Cornell notes for weekly binder checks.
* There will be numerous individual and group projects each semester. Occasionally this may require work outside of the AVID classroom.
* Essays will be written in MLA format

**Tutorial (40%)**

Students will be graded on each tutorial session. It is your responsibility to complete the Tutorial Request Form (TRF) *before* entering the class. There will be a five-point deduction for forms not completed prior to the start of class. 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 an excused illness may make up points by completing two tutorials on the next tutorial day they are present. Tutors will assist students on their path towards arriving at answers, but they will not provide the answers for students.

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

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

Grades are posted on PowerSchool and updated several times a month.

**Citizenship**

The following will result in either an "N" or "U" in citizenship:

• Disruptive behavior in class

• Excessive tardies

• Cheating

• Suspension

• Numerous missing assignments

**Moodle**

Moodle is a tool that is used to access information for my class. A calendar listing what is done each day in class as well as Tutorial Request Forms (TRFs), project instructions and beginning of the year handouts are kept on this website.

It is important that both you and your parents are aware of what is expected in AVID to ensure success in my class. After you have read these policies, please sign this form and return it to me on or before **8/12/16.** This will be worth 20 points towards your grade. The class rules/grading policy handout must be kept in your notebook for reference.

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail me at tbryant@avhsd.org.

**Cut and return to school**

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I have read and understand the requirements for the 9th Grade AVID elective.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/ \_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_ /\_\_\_

Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have access to the Internet at home Parent's Email Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not have access to the Internet at home Parent's Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_