

# READINESS PROFILE & COURSE EXPECTATIONS

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## AVID 1-2

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success, and it is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long course. Each week, students receive instruction utilizing a rigorous college preparatory curriculum provided by AVID Center, tutor-facilitated study groups, motivational activities and academic success skills. In AVID, students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading to support their academic growth.

Some students will have previous experience with AVID at the middle grades, and some students will be experiencing AVID for the first time. Either way, the ninth grade AVID Elective course will serve as a review of the AVID philosophy and strategies. Students will work on academic and personal goals and communication, adjusting to the high school setting. Students will increase awareness of their personal contributions to their learning, as well as their involvement in their school and community. There is an emphasis on analytical writing, focusing on personal goals and thesis writing. Students will work in collaborative settings, learning how to participate in collegial discussions and use sources to support their ideas and opinions. Students will prepare for and participate in college entrance and placement exams, while refining study skills and test-taking, note-taking, and research techniques. They will take an active role in field trip and guest speaker preparations and presentations. Their college research will include financial topics and building their knowledge on colleges and careers of interest.

### COURSE CONTENT AND EXPECTATIONS

#### **Expectations:**

- Maintain a 2.6 point average.
- Pass AVID with a C or higher.
- Maintain satisfactory citizenship and attendance in all classes.
  - no major referrals / suspensions.
  - no major classroom disruptions.

#### **Student Weekly Responsibilities:**

- Complete and submit a weekly grade check to both parents and teacher.
- Complete a weekly Binder Check with quality Cornell notes.
- Attend 1 documented Wolverine Time every week on either Tuesday or Thursday.
- Complete a weekly TRF form and Tutorial.

**Please see syllabus for additional course rules and information**

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## Student Year Long Responsibilities

- Plan for a rigorous course of study.
  - You must choose an academic track.
- Complete 9th Grade A-G Courses.
  - In the event of receiving a D or F in any A-G course you must attend summer school or plan to retake the course in your schedule.
- Complete 40 total hours of community service per school year. (20 per term.)
  - Summer hours apply to upcoming school year.
  - Proper evaluation form must be completed to receive credit.
- Create a professional email that includes your first name (or initial) and last name.
- Draft a professional resume.
- Build a “College List”
- Take the PSAT

It is important to note that good grades, a competitive GPA, and maintaining an organized binder is only part of the AVID commitments; AVID students must also get involved in school leadership, athletics, performing arts, action oriented clubs, community service, or other extra-curricular activities. Getting involved in the school and local community will shape students into responsible participants and leaders in a democratic society--another goal of the AVID class. It is expected that AVID students continue down the college pathway and eventually enter into a four-year college or university. During the year you will...

- develop your ability to read and comprehend challenging texts;
- participate in Socratic seminars or other higher level discussions about texts;
- engage in content and literacy tutorials;
- write summaries and analyses of expository texts;
- develop and maintain an AVID portfolio;
- work collaboratively on assignments and projects;
- participate in short presentations;
- prepare for various college tests (ACT, SAT, SAT II, ELM, EPT, etc.);
- and participate in technology based lessons and activities.

## MAJOR UNITS OF STUDY

- Controlling Your Destiny: How can we influence our futures?
  - Academic Summary
  - Rhetorical Précis
  - Personal Reflection
- Attaining Success: What does it take to achieve greatness?

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- Academic Summary
- Rhetorical Précis
- Personal Reflection
- Four Year Planning
- Career Interest/Academic Major Research
- University Research

### **STUDENT BACKGROUND**

Below is a list of possible characteristics of an AVID 1-2 student:

- Currently has a 2.0 – 3.5 G.P.A.
- Is highly motivated to succeed and has the desire and determination to take challenging courses, such as AP and honors classes, and do well in them.
- Capable learner but possibly disorganized and wants to change.
- Works hard but may underperform on tests.
- Determined to succeed but struggling with obstacles outside of school.
- Demonstrates potential but needs additional direction or guidance.
- Desires direct instruction on high school graduation and college entrance requirements.
- Desires direct instruction on college major and career planning.
- Interested in pursuing more rigorous courses and demonstrates potential if supported.
- Would benefit and contribute to peer study groups, tutoring and additional reading and writing help.
- May need a consistent adult mentor and personal advocate throughout their high school career.

Students entering AVID 1-2 should also be able to...

- Maintain an organized binder.
- Take at least 1 page of notes a day in each academic class.
- Work effectively in collaborative groups.

Suggested preparatory courses...

- Pass middle school Language Arts with a C or better.
- Be prepared to take at least Algebra 1-2 as a Freshman
- Possibly have taken and passed 8<sup>th</sup> grade AVID with a C or better.

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