



AVID 12th Grade Elective Syllabus

Reynolds High School – School Year (2022-2023)

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Course Description 12th Grade AVID Elective Class

Major Concepts/Content: 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 survival skills. The course emphasizes rhetorical reading, analytical writing, collaborative discussion strategies, tutorial inquiry study groups, preparation for college entrance and placement exams, college study skills and test-taking strategies.

The twelfth-grade AVID Elective course is the second part in a junior/senior seminar course that focuses on writing and critical thinking expected of first- and second-year college students. In addition to the academic focus of the AVID seminar, there are college-bound activities, methodologies and tasks that should be undertaken during the senior year to support students as they apply to four-year universities, pursue scholarships towards college and confirm their postsecondary plans.

Materials Needed for Class

1. Computer – school provided or own device
2. 2-3 Inch Binder(s) with tabs/dividers. College Ruled Notebook Paper
3. Pens (black, blue, red)
4. Pencil Pouch
5. Supply of Notecards/sticky notes

Grading Scale

Grade Percentage	Letter Grade	Description
90-100	A	The student fully understands the content and the course objectives have been mastered.
80-89	B	The student understands the content and course objectives at an above average level.
70-79	C	The student understands the course content and course objectives at an average level.
60-69	D	The student does not understand the course content and a minimum of course objectives are met.
Below 60	F	The student has not met a sufficient number of course objectives to pass a minimum level and receives no credit.

Late Work Policy

- Portfolio deadlines are subject to a 30% penalty if not on time.
- College and scholarship deadlines will receive no credit if late, because if they are late, they are not accepted by the committee reviewing your application.
- Other projects and essays will have a 10% “on time” score added into the first grading category.

Grading will be based on the following:

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| 1. Classwork: Tutor Forms (CSG) | 20% |
| 2. Mastery: Portfolio/College and Scholarship Applications | 60% |
| 3. Homework: Community Service and taking SAT or ACT | 20% |

AVID 12 Expectations – 1st Semester

1. Maintain a 2.5 GPA, no exceptions. No F or D grades on transcripts. If these requirements are not met at the conclusion of the first semester, you will not be able to continue in AVID 12 for the second semester. **No exceptions.**
2. Demonstrate exemplary citizenship. Abide by the AVID contract.
3. Take the SAT or ACT in the Fall if score is less than 1000.
4. Complete 30 hours of community service, 15 each semester.
5. Participate in extracurricular activities (sports, clubs, leadership, school sponsored events). One of the most important elements to your application process. More activities = more money!!!
6. Complete **at least five college applications** within the guidelines set by the college. One should be a large state school (OSU, UO, PSU) one a small regional state school (WOU, SOU, EOU, OIT, OSU-Cascades); and three should be private schools; others are your choice.
7. Complete an *approved* scholarship application approximately every two weeks, beginning early October. We must find you a lot of money. The only way to do it is to complete a lot of applications. You must have six scholarship applications completed for the 1st semester.
8. With your parents, complete the FAFSA (Free Financial Aid Form) or the ORSAA (Oregon Student Aid Application). This opens late fall/early winter. I can answer some questions, but you and your parents will have to complete it together. This will be a key place to get the money you need for college. **Even if you don't qualify for any federal aid, you must still complete the FAFSA.**
9. **Keep track of deadlines.** I will provide many tools to you to track your deadlines. I will post items on Schoology, I will have you write them down, I will post them in the classroom - but you must actually track your own dates and requirements. It is all about you.
10. If you need something outside of class time, see me after school or an email is best.

Classroom Expectations

PREPARED AND PUNCTUAL – on time, ready to work on either class activity, tutorial, or your personal work.

ORGANIZED – handouts and readings are in the binder and available for class use. You will also have to write out and track your activities weekly. These lists remain in your binder.

WRITERS – be prepared to write daily. Be prepared to re-write essays for admissions and scholarships.

ENGAGED – this is all about you. You must be involved in deep questions and deep thinking about your future. You don't know this automatically. You learn, you change, you grow. I can't make it happen for you. And those electronic devices remain away until or unless I say it is time.

RESPECTFUL – “Teamwork makes the dream work.” You have yourself, you have the others in the class. You need to listen to each other, trust each other, and fully support the goals each of you has.

Course Outline

The 12th grade AVID theme is “Time to drive your own bus.” AVID 12 carries great responsibilities and rewards. As in past years in AVID, you can expect essays, projects, assignments, CSG forms, etc. But this is all about YOU. If I tell you your essay needs work, it is because you aren't going to get the scholarship with what you have written. If the deadline for a college application is December 1st, well- they won't accept it December 2nd.

First Semester Assignments:

AVID 12, 1st Semester Portfolio – the culmination of your 1st semester's work. A rubric and guide will be provided.

College Applications – You will need to complete at least four college applications over the course of the year. One needs to be a community college, one a state school, and others of your choice. We will discuss these options to identify the best choices given your GPA, interests, and test scores. Many of you will do more than five. **Remember to be an AVID graduate for our spring ceremony, and to receive the AVID medal, you must have been accepted to at least one 4-year university.**

Scholarship applications – Aim for every two weeks completing a scholarship application. For those applications on paper, you will just need to make a copy to hand to me. For applications done online, you will need to print for me the email that designates “Your application has been received.” You must complete six scholarships for the semester. I will post scholarships in Schoology, including large scholarships that will count for two (or even three) scholarships. The colleges you apply to will also likely have scholarships!

SAT/ACT – unless you had over 1000, you need to take either the SAT or ACT again this semester. For your college applications, it would be best to take this before December. If you are applying to colleges or scholarships that need SAT subject tests, that also should be on your radar.

Community Service – 15 hours, listed on the Community Service sheet and signed.

Assignments – To include grade checks, essays, vocabulary activities, short writes, test prep activities, etc.

CSG Forms – will be completed each Wednesdays and Thursdays, beginning the first week of October. Completion of the CSG form before arriving to class, and active and sincere participation in the tutorial is essential for you and your classmates

AVID 12 Course Syllabus Contract for 2023-2024

I, _____, have read through the course syllabus for AVID 12 with my parents and I understand the course objectives, description, curriculum, grading scales, expectations for the school year, and the material to be covered. I set high expectations for myself, and I will do my best to have a successful academic year. I understand that I am responsible for my academic achievement in this class.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Parent email: _____

Parent phone: _____

Student email/phone: _____

(if you cannot accept text messages, please note that.)

Parents, do you have questions or concerns about what will happen in AVID 12 this year? Any questions at this point about the college application process?

Students, what do you most want to focus on this year?