

The AVID Course Syllabus

It is imperative that students know what to expect in class. The purpose of this syllabus is to outline our expectations, grading rules, class procedures and outline for the course. We will do everything that we can to ensure the success of each of you.

Course Overview

AVID is a non-profit, proven college readiness system that closes the achievement gap. Established in 1980 in one school in San Diego, today AVID is implemented in approximately 4,900 schools in 46 states and 16 countries/territories. AVID impacts more than 700,000 students in grades K-12 and postsecondary, helping them learn and develop the skills they need to be successful in college and their career. The AVID College Readiness System transforms an institution's academic culture to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges and succeed in higher education and training. AVID stands for **Advancement Via Individual Determination**.

Not only are students enrolled in their school's toughest classes, such as Honors and Advanced Placement, but also in the AVID elective. For one period a day, they learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and asking probing questions, get academic help from peers and college tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable. Their self-images improve, and they become academically successful leaders and role models for other students.

Prerequisites:

Students must either complete an application for the AVID Elective and be interviewed or be previously enrolled in the AVID elective class.

Required Supplies

- PURCHASE YOUR FAVORITE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SHIRTS
- 3" view binder (the kind you can slip a sheet down the front)
- Loose Leaf Paper (plenty for notes & work)
- Pencil Pouch & Pens in these colors: Black, Blue, Green, Red
- Composition Book (College or wide rule) SENIORS ONLY
- Transparent Tape and/or Glue Sticks
- #2 pencils (mechanical) for use with scantron answer sheets
- Highlighters: yellow, pink, green, blue, orange (to highlight and color-code essays/assignments)
- Ear buds
- 4GB Flash Drive

***** \$15 for 1 AVID T-SHIRT OR \$20 for 2 AVID T-SHIRTS *****

**WE ENCOURAGE ALL AVID STUDENTS TO WEAR THEIR SHIRTS
ON ALL FIELD TRIPS AND TO ALL AVID EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES.**

Teacher Responsibilities

It is our responsibility and privilege to give each of you the best education possible. We understand that each of you deserves the best that we can offer and we pledge to do just that.

- We will treat each of you with respect
- We will monitor your learning and adjust our teaching to fit your needs.
- We will maintain a safe and comfortable environment conducive to learning.
- We will enforce all rules and regulation without prejudice.
- We will work hard to ensure that you get an effective and accurate education.
- We will strive to become better teachers.
- We will be committed to your success as a student

Student Responsibilities

- Maintaining satisfactory citizenship and attendance in class.
- Maintaining an organized notebook of all my work.
- Completing all homework assignments and commit to studying each night.
- Discussing your school work with your parents/guardians.
- Being committed to excellence
- **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL TECHNOLOGY THEY BRING TO SCHOOL**

Parent Responsibilities

- Discussing school (assignments, projects, etc...) with your child.
- **Checking** and discussing your child's "**progress reports**" and report cards. *(Please do not wait until the end of the quarter or semester to try to discuss your child's grade.)*
- Contacting teachers/administration if there is a problem/concern with your child.

AVID Program Expectations Overview

- Students are expected to participate in all their classes and to do their COLLEGE best.
- Students are expected to follow school and classroom rules and policies.
- Students are expected to maintain exemplary behavior in and outside of class and school

Materials

- Write Path: English, Science, Math, History/Social Science, Life & Physical Science
- College and Career/Planning For College
- Student Success Path: High School
- Strategies for Success set * College and Careers set * Tutorial Set * Writing Curriculum set

Learning Expectations

- No one has the right to disrupt the learning of another student.
- **No one can refuse the right to learn in my classroom.**
- Mastery of each course objective, because everyone learns at different rates and has different learning styles. You will have several opportunities to master each objective.

Quality Expectations

There are standards that each student is required to meet for success of any assignment. If you do not meet this requirement you will modify your work until this standard is met. Students are expected to work to the highest level in order to be successful in this course.

Preparation for Class

It is imperative that each student come to class prepared each day. You can expect your teacher to be prepared each and every day. If for any reason you are lacking the equipment you need to be successful let your teacher know so that you can get the materials you need.

Assignments

- All work is expected to be done at the highest quality and turned in on time. In case of an emergency see your teacher. Students who are absent will receive 5 days to complete missed assignments. It is the students' responsibility to make up any work missed.

Grading

Test / Quiz / Project	70%	<i>*MIDTERM</i>	20%
Classwork / Homework	30%	<i>**FINAL EXAM</i>	25%
TOTAL	100%		
<i>* Midterm accounts for 20% of the Semester Grade.</i>		<i>** Final Exam accounts for 25% of the Final grade.</i>	

Cheating

Cheating will not be tolerated. If you cheat, all parties involved will not receive any credit (0) on that assignment and will be required to stay for remediation along with disciplinary referral.

Testing

To ensure that students learn and understand materials necessary for success, they will be given parallel assessments. Students will have the opportunity to retake all tests (*exception being the Quarter/Final exam*). **It is the student's responsibility to schedule a make-up test.** Students will have 3 days to schedule a make-up test.

AVID and School Pride

Being a member of the AVID college readiness system is a great honor. One way to show your pride for being in the program and being proud of your school is to show school spirit through dress. Below is the recommended dress code for AVID students (and for all students at West Meck).

1. **DRESS CODE*** *OPTIONAL*
 - a. **MONDAYS: DRESS FOR SUCCESS DAY**
 - i. Allows students to experience dressing in a professional manner. This benefits our students as they enter both the professional and business worlds. Male students: dress pants, button shirts, and ties. Female students: Blouses/dresses or dress pantsuits.
 - b. **TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS: STUDENT CHOICE**
 - i. Students are encouraged to dress appropriately for school.
 - c. **WEDNESDAYS: AVID/COLLEGE DAY**
 - i. AVID/College Day is a weekly celebration dedicated to promoting the traditions and spirit that embody the AVID/College experience by encouraging students to wear their AVID T-Shirts or favorite college or university apparel throughout the day
 - d. **FRIDAYS: SCHOOL SPIRIT**
 - i. In order to build tradition and establish pride in school students will be encouraged to wear their West Meck Apparel and/or school colors weekly. AVID T-Shirts Qualify.

Course Objectives

- **Content Standard 1.0:** Students will develop strategies to identify and fulfill personal and academic goals.
- **Content Standard 2.0:** Students will develop strategies to ensure academic success in core studies required for entrance to four-year colleges and universities.
- **Content Standard 3.0:** Students will develop proficiency in "Writing to Learn" across the curriculum
- **Content Standard 4.0:** Students will develop college awareness within a school wide, college-going culture so they have the opportunity to be ready for the application process for a four-year college or university.
- **Content Standard 5.0:** Students will be proficient in using "The Writing Process" in core classes in order to write clear, coherent, and focused essays that exhibit awareness of audience and purpose and contain formal introductions, bodies of supporting evidence and conclusions.
- **Content Standard 6.0:** Students will develop cross curricular reading skills.
- **Content Standard 7.0:** Students are able to evaluate the content of oral communications and deliver focused, coherent presentations that convey a clear interpretation of ideas and unity in relation to purpose and audience.

Content Standard 8.0: Students become proficient in the mathematical skills and concepts that prepare them for the rigorous courses required for admission to four-year colleges and universities.

Departmental Policy on Late Work

- *Excused absence*: the student will have one day for each day absent to complete assignments missed.
- Assignments one day late will *lose 20 points*. **Students will receive a grade of 50%** for any assignment that is more than one day late.

Consequences

- Warning - Teacher/Student Conference - Parent Call - Administrative Referral

Students with Disabilities

The Reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and the implementation of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) require that schools use more inclusive practices for educating students with disabilities. The implementation of the inclusive practices across CMS has created an environment where schools can successfully provide academic instruction and improve achievement for students with disabilities. The Exceptional Children's Department will continue to provide increased access to the general curriculum with continued support from EC modifications /accommodations and EC Study Skills classes for these students with Disabilities.

Thank you in advance for working hard for me as I will be working hard for you. I am enthusiastic about having the opportunity to teach you; I hope that you enjoy this class, but more importantly that you succeed. Let's have a great year!

Student Name

Student Signature

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Teacher Signature

"Without struggle, there is no progress"

****Note for me:**

Parents,

Feel free to contact me whenever you need to discuss your child's progress or college progress.

Email: tracy.forst@cms.k12.nc.us

Website: missteacherlady98.weebly.com

School: 980-343-6080 Ext 414

Remind 101 for AVID Senior Parents: Text 81010 and type in this code in the message box: @f7dc6a

for AVID Junior Parents: Text 81010 and type in this code in the message box: @bfg78