



Mrs. Bowker's Classroom Syllabus AVID



Disclaimer: This syllabus is essentially carved in soft clay. It is subject to change, and changes will be communicated to the class as they arise.

Contact me: The best way to contact me is through Schoology message or e-mail:
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Class Description: AVID is the acronym for Achievement Via Individual Determination. AVID serves to support students by teaching and reinforcing study and organizational skills, encouraging students to take more rigorous and challenging classes, providing skills necessary to succeed in college, and ultimately preparing them for success at a four-year university/college.

What Materials Will AVID Students Need?

- 2-3 inch three-ringed binder (one will be provided by the school, if needed)
- Divider tabs
- Zippered pencil pouch
- Pencils (at least two at all times)
- Pens (at least two at all times)
- Notebook paper
- Student Planner (will be provided by the school)

Expectations of an AVID Student:

Focused Notes and Learning Logs

Students will receive instruction during the first weeks of school on how to complete Cornell notes and/or Learning Logs in order to use higher level thinking skills and become an active participant in their learning. AVID students are expected to take DAILY Cornell notes or complete Learning Logs for each academic class (Math, Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Foreign Language, and AVID). These Cornell notes and/or Learning Logs will be checked weekly as part of the required Binder Checks (see below).

Completed Tutorial Request Forms each Tuesday and Thursday

Every Tuesday and Thursday during the AVID class period, students will participate in Tutorial sessions. Trained tutors assist students in small groups with academic questions that students bring to tutorial. Tutorial Request Forms (TRFs) need to be completed as homework on Monday and Wednesday evenings in preparation for these Tutorial sessions. Students are required to take notes during tutorial and use class and textbook notes to inform their discussions during tutorial. Tutors help students with the process of learning through inquiry, rather than giving students the answers to their questions. Tutorial Request Forms are graded after the Tutorial sessions are complete and students have reflected on their participation and learning.

Weekly Binder Checks

Each AVID student is asked to carry only ONE binder in which he or she will keep materials from all academic classes. In the first full week of school, students will work during the AVID class period to set up their binders and establish a system of organization that will be used through the year. In addition to keeping their daily learning logs and Cornell notes behind each subject tab, students will be expected to keep track of assignments and prioritize their “to-do” lists in their planner. Student binders are graded weekly (usually on Fridays) for content and organization. The planner is included in this grade.

How Will AVID Students be Graded?

AVID students will be graded weekly for the completion of Cornell notes and/or Learning Logs, Tutorial Request Forms, and the organization of their binder, as well as other activities based on the AVID curriculum. It is extremely important for students to keep up with their daily responsibilities in order to maintain a satisfactory grade and benefit from the strategies encouraged by the AVID program. Please use Skyward to monitor your student’s progress in the AVID program.

Other AVID Policies and Procedures:

Late Work: Sometimes, late work happens. If a student wishes to turn in assignments late, they will be accepted as long as they are turned in before the end of the trimester. There is a catch though. Everyday that an assignment is late, it will lose 10% of its possible points. This happens until 50%, an F. Remember though, 50% is a lot better for your grade than 0%. The reason this is our policy is because doing the work is important. In the world of college, jobs, careers, and life, time management is just as important.

Absent Work: If a student is absent from school, it is their responsibility to check in with me to see what work they missed and the new due date, if there is one.

Rules and Consequences: Tech High School expects students to follow the three pillars: Showing Pride, Being Responsible, and Being Respectful. In each teacher’s room, there is a poster describing how these qualities can be shown during class time and what the consequences will be if behavior problems occur. It is vital for AVID students to demonstrate appropriate behavior so that our time together during class is productive and worthwhile. It is just as vital that these expectations are followed in other areas of the school. Students that are unable to follow expectations in this and other classrooms are subject to removal from the AVID elective.

AVID students are expected to meet high standards in order to remain in the elective. Students need to maintain the following to avoid being put on probation or being removed from the class.

- Maintain a 2.0 or higher GPA
- Less than 2 Office Discipline Referrals

I understand the rules, goals, and procedures in Mrs. Bowker's class, and I will do my very best to be a positive member in the classroom.

Student Name

Student Signature

For Parents: Please tell me about your child. What should I know? What do they like? What do they dislike? What do you wish for your child? Use the back of this sheet if needed.

Parent Signature

Date