



WEST POINT MIDDLE SCHOOL AVID

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AVID ELECTIVE

Course Title: Determination)	AVID (Advancement Via Individual
Year Developed/Revised:	1988 curriculum revised 1996
Course Length:	One year
Recommended Prerequisites:	These are West Point requirements. Between 2.0 and 3.5 GPA, average or above standardized test scores, especially in math and reading, enrollment in Spanish and/or algebra. student interview, high student motivation, positive attitude, parent contract.
Grade Level:	7/8

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will develop and reinforce attitudes, skills, and knowledge to successfully enter and complete a college prep academic program in high school. Students will learn and apply study skills and learning strategies to improve performance in the content areas: Note taking, outlining, writing, speaking, reading, test strategies and the use of technology to improve performance will be stressed.

MAJOR GOALS & OBJECTIVES OF COURSE

The students will:

develop and enhance academic survival skills in college-prep courses
participate in motivational and decision-making activities
enhance writing skills
demonstrate **adequate note-taking** skills and knowledge of the several types of lectures
demonstrate adequate test taking skills
demonstrate adequate vocabulary development and critical reading skills
demonstrate a working knowledge of the general areas of study skills (learning theory, test taking, time management, reading, reviewing, note along listening etc.)
be exposed to the college environment through field trips, guest speakers college tutors teacher's personal experiences, and use of technology to access college web pages on the Internet and virtually explore college life demonstrate adequate oral ability in front of a group through various report/demonstration activities

AVID (ADVANCED PLACEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION)

MAJOR GOALS & OBJECTIVES OF COURSE - Continued

demonstrate active listening skills by modeling appropriate responses, positive evaluations, note-taking products, and appropriate participation in classroom discussions
work successfully in collaborative groups led by tutors

COURSE CONTENT

- A. Essay writing
- B. Note taking (Cornell Notes)
- C. Study skills (WIC: Writing Inquiry and Collaboration)
- D. Test-taking skills
- E. Vocabulary development and critical reading
- F. Listening skills
- G. Oral presentation skills
- H. Goal setting
- I. Exploration of colleges
- J. Group interaction

TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

A variety of instructional activities will be incorporated, including:

- cooperative group activities led by tutors
- student projects
- student presentations
- reading and writing for understanding
- listening and speaking activities
- individual research
- supplemental readings
- technology (computer software) Field trip to USMA

- multimedia presentations (videos, slides, tapes, music)

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

The following assessments and assignments will be graded by using total points. No weighted categories will be used.

Observation of student involvement – classroom projects

Teacher-developed tests

Writing samples and the AVID portfolio

Student presentations: oral, written, visual

Peer tutoring

Binder checks weekly

Cornell Notes to be included in weekly Binder checks

Learning Logs

Reading at Home R.A.W. (Reading outside of class)

Class work/homework assignments

Weekly tutorial grades will be based on participation and pre-written tutorial questions

EXTRA CREDIT: AVID students have the opportunity to earn extra credit so please take advantage of every opportunity.

Grading Categories

Binders-35%

Agendas-35%

Class work- Projects-Participation-Behavior-20%

Tests-quizzes-10%

Grading Scale

90% A
80% B
70% C

Deselection procedures: We expect AVID students to be respectful, on time, prepared, and maintain their grade point averages.

In the event that an AVID student earns a D or F on a report card, they are placed on AVID probation. The student has one quarter to bring the grade up before being deselected from the AVID class. A formal letter will be sent home as a result of disciplinary action, attitude, or failure to follow AVID guidelines (keeping binders, agendas and homework completion, etc.)

Classroom Behavior Plan:

Behavior: West Point discipline policy will be followed as stated in the student handbook. AVID students may be dismissed from AVID for serious behavior infractions. AVID students are expected to set examples for other students in our school.

Behavior Policy: Discipline problems will be dealt with using the following steps:

- *Warning by the teacher, teacher aide, or substitute teacher*
- *Teacher-student conference (deduction from daily points)*
- *Parent contacted via email, phone, etc.*
- *Possible conflict resolution practices*
- *Student detention*
- *Parent conference with teacher*
- *Parent conference with teacher, counselor, and student*
- *At any time the teacher has the right to remove a student from class for serious infractions.*



I understand the rules and the grading policy that have been listed and reviewed on these pages. I also understand that breaking any rule may result in disciplinary action.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Email address _____

Comments: _____
