



8th grade AVID Elective

Instructor: Mrs. Cindy Crawford
Tutoring: Mon – Fri AM 7:45 – 8:15am or Mon – Thurs PM 3:30 – 4:15pm (by appt. only)
Conferences: 8:25am – 9:10am daily or Before/After School by appointment only
Phone: (817)847-9210 x5483
E-Mail: ccrawford@ems-isd.net
Remind: Text @avidpvms to 81010

Class Materials:

1. **Sturdy 3+ inch 3-ring binder** -- This is not just for AVID! It will be used in all classes. Your binder is the key to success and should be brought to school with you every day and kept neat and organized. Your 3-ring binder should be **at least 3 inches** and **include dividers** to separate your different classes. You will be learning how to be organized for your classes and your binder will be graded frequently.
2. **Spiral Notebook** -- Your spiral notebook will be used during weekly tutorials.
3. **Zipper Pouch** -- This will be kept in your binder. You should always have at least 2 pencils and two pens available. This is so you do not have to ask a classmate or teacher to borrow.
4. **Colored Pencils, Pens, Highlighters**
5. **Duct Tape**: you only need duct tape **IF** you are using a composition notebook for your other classes.

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description:

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a college preparatory elective course for college bound students who want to take on challenges and enroll in a Pre-AP course, in addition to the AVID elective. AVID students participate in inquiry-based tutorials to support academic success in their core content courses, including their advanced course(s). This foundational course focuses on writing and critical reading skills, note taking, organization and study skills. Students may participate in a college visit. District selection process is applicable.

Course Goals:

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- identify college academic vocabulary
- accurately create and utilize focused notes for studying
- read and analyze a variety of texts
- communicate in a collegiate manner to express opinions, ask for assistance, or assist classmates
- ask higher-order questions to deeper understanding of concepts and assist peers with tutorials
- create beneficial tutorial groups that ensure success for all members of the group

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum ten per six weeks

- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student's conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), "The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

Students will be required to complete up to 6 focused notes per week in core content classes reflective of grade needs.

Students will be required to complete 2 tutorial request forms per week in preparation for in-class tutorials. Students may be asked to research information for assignments on occasion; however, this will be minimal if students use class time effectively.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Late Work/Make-Up Work:

- Be present **every day** for class. Additionally, make sure you are **always** on time! Instructional time is bell to bell, so if you are not physically present and engaged, you are missing valuable learning.
2 Tardies = Verbal Warning; 3 Tardies or more = After School Detention
- Late Work: Per district guidelines, any assignment turned in late, points will be deducted. 1 school day late – maximum score is 90. 2 school days late – maximum score is 80. 3 school days late – maximum score is 70. No work will be accepted after 3 school business days and a zero is recorded in the grade book.
- Should students become ill and unable to attend class, parents may email Mrs. Crawford to obtain missing assignments, or students may see Mrs. Crawford upon their return to school. Please note: **STUDENTS** are responsible for any assignments, notetaking, or learning that is missed.

Classroom Expectations:

Show Respect.

Work Hard.

Be Responsible.

Be Honest.

Students are expected to be in their seats and prepared to work when the tardy bell rings. Classroom procedures will be in place for students to gather materials and sharpen pencils before the tardy bell sounds.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

Students will learn academic vocabulary such as GPA, college specific testing, major, minor, etc. to prepare for high school and college readiness. Students will participate in a variety of lessons requiring positive collegiate conversations with peers.

Students will participate in 2 days of in-class tutorials with college tutors, which will require them to complete a tutorial request form as homework. Students will learn how to seek assistance in core classes as well as use time management skills to reduce stress.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.