

9th Grade AVID Elective Syllabus



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AVID's mission is to close the opportunity gap by preparing all students for college and career readiness and success in a global society.

What is AVID?

The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Elective is a multi-year course for grades 6-12 that builds college and career readiness skills. It is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long, academic elective. Students receive instruction in a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum aligned to the AVID College and Career Readiness Framework. Students engage in learning tasks that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading (WICOR®) to support academic growth. They participate in facilitated tutorials twice a week to support academic preparedness in their content classes. Additionally, students engage in learning tasks centered around exploring college and career opportunities as well as motivational activities to develop relational capacity and student agency.

9th Grade AVID

The 9th grade AVID Elective aids students' transition into, through, and beyond high school. It promotes early college awareness by guiding students to explore colleges based on academic, financial, and social fit. The course emphasizes goal setting, fostering motivation and strategic planning. The exploration of symbolic representation in both reading and writing enhances students' interpretative and expressive skills. Critical thinking is applied through research on post-secondary options. This course combines academic, financial, and social learning, preparing students for a successful high school journey.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Unit 1: "How to AVID" • Organization • WICOR • Focused Notetaking • Tutorials • Goal Setting • Costa's Questions • Relational Capacity: Stage 1	Unit 2: Goal setting – essay writing Continuous Units: • Tutorials • WICOR • Vocabulary Building • Socratic Seminar • Field Trip - Concordia • Relational Capacity: Stage 2	Unit 3: What is your blueprint? – Socratic Seminar & critical reading Continuous Units: • Tutorials • WICOR • Vocabulary Building • Organization Checks • Socratic Seminar • Relational Capacity: Stage 3	Unit 4: College and Career unit Continuous Units: • Tutorials • WICOR • Philosophical Chair • Critical Readings • Field Trip – NDSCS • Relational Capacity: Stage 4

Weekly Schedule: This schedule will be followed on most weeks but is subject to change based on class projects or school schedules.

Example 1:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Content Day		Tutorials		Content or CHOICE Day
Weekly lesson/ project days, organization checks, WICOR, etc.		Tutorial Day!		Continuation of project
*Things we need to do to begin our week		*Complete TRFs, engage in tutorials, tutorial mini-lesson, etc.		<u>OR</u> AVID CHOICE Day curriculum

Example 2:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Content Day		Tutorials	
	Weekly lesson/ project days, organization checks, WICOR, etc.		Tutorial Day!	
			*Complete TRFs, engage in tutorials, tutorial mini-lesson, etc.	

Student Expectations: Reminder, you will agree to all the following when signing your AVID contract.

As an AVID student who wishes to be completely eligible for four-year college enrollment upon graduation:

1. I will take responsibility for my own learning and maintain satisfactory citizenship and attendance in all my classes.
2. I will maintain a minimum 2.0 overall GPA or will be placed on a probationary contract.
3. I will maintain enrollment in college-prep courses, including at least one honors or Advanced Placement course, as appropriate for my situation.
4. I will attend before- or after-school help sessions as needed to raise my grades.
5. I will be an active learner, be prepared for all classes with all assigned work completed, take notes, and be an active participant in all activities.
6. I will come prepared for tutorial sessions by bringing higher-level questions, my AVID binder with notes, and my textbooks or iPad. I will also ask questions to help my peers and participate with my classmates and tutors to find the answers to my questions.
7. I will pursue participation in extracurricular activities and community service.
8. I will prepare for and take college entrance exams such as the PSAT, PLAN, SAT, and ACT.

Materials Needed for Class – All AVID students at WFHS (and across the country) are held to high standards for organization of their course materials. Students are expected to take good care of these materials. If you destroy or lose these required materials, you will need to buy replacements for them.

- Folders / clear organization system for every individual class
- Notebook(s)
- School Planner
- Pencil pouch that houses two pens, two pencils, and a highlighter
- iPad with all notes and materials housed there for each course

Grading and General work guidelines: Organization and collaboration are an essential part of your high school years.

- 30% = Weekly binder organization, note-taking, and planner checks
- 30% = Tutorials (completed forms, notes, and reflections)
- 40% = Class activities such as critical reading, writing projects, other major projects, class discussions etc.

Grading Scale: A = 90% or higher B = 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F = 59% or lower

Semester Grade: Each quarter grade is 50% of your semester grade. KEEP THIS IN MIND!

Late Work: The late work policy will be dependent on the unit / activity, see expectations below.

- Organization/ binder checks, agenda checks, focused note taking checks, quick writes, tutorials and any other check-in or daily assignment will be due at the end of the block. Work time will be provided in class, and it is expected for you to utilize the time given. Any assignments not turned in by the designated due date will result in a zero and cannot be made up.
- All unit projects will have a specific designated due date, and all materials will be expected to be turned in by that time. There may also be daily check-ins along the way that are due by the end of the block. Any assignments not turned in by the designated due date will result in a zero cannot be made up.
- If a student is sick, has an appointment, has an excused absence, etc, they will be given the number of days gone to complete the assignment. Example, if a student is sick and misses three days of class, students will be given an additional three class periods to turn in their assignments.
- If a student has an unverified absence, they are ineligible to make up any missing assignments. The grade will remain a zero for as long as the UV remains.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is critical to student success, if a student is not in the room, they aren't able to learn. The WFPS attendance policy will be enforced in the classroom. – link [here](#)

- If a learner comes to class after the bell has rung, they will be marked tardy. Additionally, per West Fargo High School policy, every fifth tardy will result in detention.
- If a learner is over 20 minutes late for class (without a pass), that will be counted as an unverified absence (UV). This will result in detention, and the learner will not be able to complete that day's assignment for a grade.
- According to the new WFPS attendance policy, after the 10th absence students will not be able to earn points on assignments completed those days. This applies for excused absences as well on those days.
- After the 13th absence the learner will lose credit for the course. As health is a required course, this means it will need to be retaken the following year.

Communication

- All course information will be housed on Schoology within weekly folders.
- The best way to contact me is via email at kkleffman-moen@west-fargo.k12.nd.us
- Messages will be returned each weekday Monday-Friday, during my scheduled teaching hours 7:50 am-3:40 pm.
- Do not expect a response after 3:40 pm on weekdays or on weekends.

Other Important Information

- Plagiarism: Plagiarism is unethical! Show the respect you would want for your hard work and do not claim something that is not yours, this includes utilizing Artificial Intelligence, copying off a classmate or copying and pasting information from the internet. Graded assignments that are plagiarized will receive a 0 and a behavior log will be made. If the issue continues there may be other consequences.
- Cell Phone Use:

- Per school policy, phones and smart watches must be out of sight and out of use from 8:25am – 3:35pm. This means phones must stay either in the learner's backpack, in their locker, in their car etc. Phones CANNOT be in the learner's person during school hours.
 - *First Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the student at the end of the student's day
 - *Second Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day
 - *Third Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, behavior plan assigned to the student
 - *Fourth Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, 1 day ISS
 - *Fifth Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, 1 day OSS
 - *Sixth Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, transition to Virtual Program for the at least the remainder of the semester
- Headphone Use: No Air Pods or headphones will be allowed in class unless directed by the teacher. If it becomes a continued issue, I will ask for them to be placed on the teacher's desk or bring them to the main office.
 - Inappropriate Language: The words we use are powerful. We must choose them wisely and make sure they are not used to put one another down or degrade the classroom environment. School is a professional space and your language in our classroom should reflect this
 - Food and Drink: All drinks must have a spill-proof lid, the plastic caps from the school store do not count. The only food allowed is teacher-provided.

Note to parents/guardians:

Please initial next to each area showing you have read and understand the expectations of you and your students' responsibilities.

_____ *Students are expected to make use of and interact with their agendas. These will be checked by the AVID instructor often. Parents/guardians are encouraged to check their learner's agenda to see what they need to be working on at home.*

_____ *AVID students in all grades take two off campus college visits each year. Parents sign a field trip waiver at registration time. This same waiver covers these visits, so you will not be receiving a separate permission slip at the time of these trips. The AVID instructor will send out email notifications letting you know when these field trips will be.*

_____ *Students are not allowed to have cell phones or smart watches during the school day. State law regarding usage and confiscation will be enforced. AI / Meta glasses are also not allowed in the classroom.*

I believe that students can be more successful if parents/guardians, your student, and the teacher work together. If you ever have any questions and/or would like an update on your student's progress; please feel free to contact me. My contact information is on the front of this syllabus.

Thank you and I am looking forward to a great AVID experience!

Sincerely,

Keelie Kleffman-Moen

