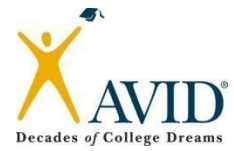


# Dickinson High School Course Syllabus

## Senior Seminar- AVID 4



**Instructor:** Jennifer Edwards  
**Conference:** 9:20 am- 10:20 am  
**Email:** JEdwards@Dickinsonisd.org

**Course Length:** Full Year  
**Tutorials:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:35-4:15 pm  
**Phone:** 281-229-7874

### I. Course Description:

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is offered as a rigorous academic elective course that prepares students for success in four-year colleges. Each week students receive instruction utilizing a rigorous college preparatory curriculum provided by AVID Center, tutor-facilitated study groups, motivational activities and academic survival skills. There is an emphasis on analytical writing, preparation for college entrance and placement exams, study skills and test taking, note-taking, and research. In AVID, students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, and reading to support their academic growth.

The AVID Elective twelfth grade course is the second part in a junior/senior seminar course that focuses on writing and critical thinking expected of first- and second-year college students. This course continues around the theme of "Leadership as a Catalyst for Change in Society." Students will complete a final research essay project from research conducted in their junior year in AVID. In addition to the academic focus of the AVID senior seminar, there are college-bound activities, methodologies and tasks that should be achieved during the senior year that support students as they apply to four-year universities and confirm their postsecondary plans. All AVID seniors are required to develop and present a portfolio representing their years of work in the AVID program, as well as complete the requirements for the seminar course.

### II. Expectations:

- Maintain an organized binder or e-binder that is shared with Ms. Edwards
- Participate in class activities (Field trips, community service etc.) and discussions (Philosophical Chairs, Socratic seminars)
- Take focus notes on a daily basis in all classes and be prepared to have a note and binder check.
- Come prepared for collaborative study groups and actively participate.
- Be respectful of others' thoughts, opinions, and property.
- Turn in all assignments in all classes. (Assignments must show 100% effort)
- Maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher. (No D's or F's)
- Be GREAT! ☺

### III. Grades:

- **50% - Formative Assignments/Assessments**
  - *Weekly Binder Checks, Cornell Notes, Daily Work, Reflections, Quick Writes*
- **50% - Summative Assessments**
  - *Collaborative Study Groups, Nine Week Binder Check, Major Grades*

**IV. Homework and Late Work:** As an AVID student, you are held at a higher standard. My expectation is that all assignments are turned in on time, in all classes. If by some chance, you cannot get your work turned in on time, it is 10 points off for one day late, 20 points off for two days late, 30 points off for three days late and 50 points off for four or more days late. If you have missing or late work because of a school absence, you have one day for every day you were absent to turn in missing assignments.

### V. Required Materials:

- Pens, pencils, erasers, and at least one highlighter
  - A pack of sheet protectors (Optional)
- Also helpful--Post-It notes,*

### VI. Special Notes:

- As an AVID student you should know that an adult in your life recommended you for AVID because he or she believes that...
- YOU are college bound.
- YOU are responsible and respectful.
- YOU are a leader and you show good citizenship.
- YOU are destined for success.
- **YOU have the drive and determination to succeed when challenged!**

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**Please read, sign and return to Ms. Edwards by the date given.**

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_