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## Preliminary Application for Advanced Study Project

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The Advanced Study Program (ASP) offers students the chance to engage in an exciting and relevant academic, professional or hybrid study of their own design while earning credit and preparing for the challenging work of college and beyond. During this semester-long, five-month project, students have the opportunity to develop a specific area of interest by working with both a local mentor and an Oak Meadow faculty advisor, who guides them through the essential, initial process of shaping and fine-tuning their proposal, outline and planning sheet, all the way to the completion of the final project.

**To begin the process**, once a student has enrolled in the course he/she submits a paragraph (see Initial Proposal below) describing his/her preliminary ideas for an ASP to Alan Fortescue (afortescue@oakmeadow.com). Once the proposal has been approved, the student is assigned a faculty advisor. The student has five months to complete the ASP, which includes one month to develop the proposal, and four months to explore and fulfill the ASP and present a final project.

**Students are required** to provide documentation of their final project in the form of photographs or a video, which may be shared at our Oak Meadow graduation ceremony, on our website, or in other ways. Oral presentations can be filmed, or special arrangements can be made to present the ASP in person to an Oak Meadow audience.

Students **must be enrolled** in Oak Meadow School to take advantage of this opportunity; the semester tuition fee applies. The Advanced Study Program earns 0.5 credit. Students may design and complete two advanced study projects throughout their Oak Meadow career (earning one full credit).

There are three Advanced Study Program options: an **academic** project, a **professional** work experience, or a **hybrid** approach, which allows students to develop projects that combine the benefits of both the academic and professional programs, incorporating on-site, experiential learning with academic research, writing, and presentation. This hybrid option can be used to blend academic, professional, and creative elements, or to incorporate several threads of study and experience.

**Step 1:** Student enrolls in the ASP course and submits an **Initial Proposal** (to Alan Fortescue, High School Program Director via email (afortescue@oakmeadow.com) or mail: Alan Fortescue, Oak Meadow, PO Box 1346, Brattleboro, VT 05302.

**Step 2:** Upon approval, the student is assigned a **faculty advisor** with whom he/she will further develop a project plan and complete the ASP (one month for development and four months to complete the project).

**Step 3:** Student completes the **Project Plan** and **Planning Sheet** for submission to the faculty advisor, who works with the student to further develop and fine tune the proposal and outline for the course of study, including reading lists, assignment descriptions and deadlines, and final project evaluation measures. During each phase of the project, the student will have the opportunity to incorporate feedback from the faculty advisor. The student has one month from the ASP start date to complete this part of the process. (Please note: the Planning Sheet can be modified or re-created for those pursuing a hybrid ASP.)

**Step 4:** Once the initial phase has been completed, the student has four months to complete the ASP, including a **final project**, which is submitted for evaluation by the enrollment end date. Regular communication and check-ins with the faculty advisor are required throughout the project, yet students are truly empowered to create a course of study that is meaningful and relevant to their future goals.

**Step 5:** When writing the **evaluation**, the faculty advisor considers the development phase, project evolution, and the final presentation, in addition to the student's overall growth and progress throughout the five-month process.

# Oak Meadow Advanced Study Project Initial Proposal

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Student's name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of application \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Type of ASP:     Professional         Academic         Hybrid

**Please describe your project in 1-2 paragraphs.** Provide the following information:

- Background: What sparked your initiative to pursue this advanced study?
- Content: What is the goal of the project?
- Justification: How will this project enhance your education?

# Oak Meadow Advanced Study Project Plan

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1. Describe your project in detail:

- What shape will your finished project take—a web page, a novella, a PowerPoint presentation, a research paper, etc.?
- Are there new skills you need to acquire to create this project? Explain.

2. At least two books are required for each ASP. Include the titles and your complete book list here.

3. How will your finished project be used or shared? Do you intend to share this project with a wider audience?

4. Action steps: Map or outline your plan.



# Oak Meadow Advanced Study Project Planning Sheet

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If you are pursuing an academic ASP, please fill out this page with your Oak Meadow faculty advisor. (If you are engaging in a professional ASP, see reverse). Sign, copy, and send this page to your faculty advisor. Be sure to keep a copy for your records.

Students are encouraged to make modifications to the planning sheet as necessary. Those designing a hybrid ASP, especially, may need to create their own planning sheet, if this one does not work for their particular project.

## Academic Advanced Study Program

After general approval of your advanced study, you must complete this form with your locally-based mentor.

### GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ACADEMIC PROJECT ONLY

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_

OM faculty advisor's name \_\_\_\_\_

Title of project/study \_\_\_\_\_

### RESEARCH SCHEDULE

To earn .5 credit for the semester, you must work at least 4.5 hours per week on your project for 12 weeks. The following chart outlines your proposed submission schedule. Your advisor will assist you in planning your written work. This will serve as a working contract between you and your Oak Meadow faculty advisor.

DATES		DESCRIPTION	SUBMISSIONS
	INITIAL RESEARCH		
	OUTLINE		
	DRAFT		
	SECONDARY RESEARCH		
	REVISE/EDIT		
	FINAL		

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_