



Oak Meadow
YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER IN JOYFUL LEARNING

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Oak Meadow Preliminary Application for Advanced Study Project

The Advanced Study Project (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 **full-year or single-semester 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.

Students are required to provide documentation of their final project in the form agreed upon with their advisor.

Students **must be enrolled** in Oak Meadow School to take advantage of this opportunity; semester or full year tuition fee applies. The Advanced Study Program earns 0.5 credit for a single-semester project. Students may choose to design and complete a full-year study project or two single-semester projects throughout their Oak Meadow career, earning one full credit.

There are three Advanced Study Project 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 postal 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

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

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/Outline your plan.

If you are pursuing a Professional ASP, please fill out this page with your locally-based Mentor. (If you are engaging in an Academic Project, see reverse). Be sure that both you and your Mentor agree on the terms of your work. Sign, copy, and send this page to your Faculty Advisor. Be sure to keep a copy for your records.

Professional Advanced Study Program

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONAL PROJECT ONLY

Nature of work _____

To earn .5 credit for the semester, you must work at least 4.5 hours per week for 12 weeks. Complete the chart below with your proposed work plan. This will serve as a working contract between you, your mentor, and Oak Meadow.

[illegible]

Oak Meadow Advanced Study Project Planning Sheet

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 | | |
| | | | |
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| | OUTLINE | | |
| | | | |
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| | DRAFT | | |
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| | SECONDARY RESEARCH | | |
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| | | | |
| | REVISE/EDIT | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | FINAL | | |
| | | | |
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