



Sage Creek High School
Course Syllabus

Mrs.Hacker's Directed Studies

2021-2022

Course Title

Directed Studies

Purpose of the Course

Directed Studies is a course for students who qualify for special education services through an Individual Education Plan (IEP). The course is designed to provide specialized academic instruction of general education content to students with IEPs. The course uses a variety of approaches to meet the individual needs of the students. Approaches used to help special education students be successful in their general education courses include strategy intervention, differentiated instruction, and tutorial assistance. The course is intended to provide special education students with the skills that are necessary to successfully transition into the academic life of a high school student.

Course Materials

Students are expected to have the following material daily:

- 3 ring binder with dividers
- Writing utensils
- Necessary materials to complete content course assignments (i.e. course notes, books, calculator, etc.)
- Personal Planning System (i.e hard-copy planner or electronic device for planning)
- Book to read for pleasure

Grading Formula

Points	Grade	Points	Grade
24-25	A	18	C
23	A-	17	C-
22	B+	16	D+
21	B	15	D
20	B-	14	D-
19	C+	13>	F

Assignment Values

The SCHS Student Support Services department will use the following categories to organize students' "H.A.B.I.T." grades. Each day is awarded 5 points per category, totaling 25 points possible a day. Those points are then averaged for the week to provide a weekly "HABIT" score.

Homework Preparedness	20%
Agenda/Planner	20%
Behavior	20%
Initiative	20%
Time on Task	20%

Grades will also be earned on transition planning assignments which will be completed in class (or at home if needed). Point values will vary between 10-20 points each. Finals will be more heavily weighted to be worth 50 points.

Homework

Throughout the week students will participate in cooperative learning groups to help provide them additional instruction in their core academic courses. The groups will be formed based on student needs. Students will also be working independently on homework while in Directed Studies. It is necessary that they bring all assignments, materials and directions to complete homework thoroughly. Most tasks assigned during Directed Studies (such as transition activities) will be completed in class, however, occasionally students may need additional homework time to complete these assignments, particularly if they are needing Directed Studies support to work on other classes' assignments.

Agenda/Planner

Through the Directed Studies Curriculum and course activities, organizational skills are taught and reinforced. Students are expected to participate in activities that will improve their ability to organize both their materials and their time. Students will be expected to create and use a personal planning system to help them to manage and prioritize their assignments, activities and responsibilities within a timely manner.

Behavior

Students are encouraged to work cooperatively and independently while in Directed Studies. They will earn credit for positive attitudes, compliance and following directions the first time given.

Initiative/Self Advocacy

In Directed Studies students will have opportunities to improve and master their self-advocacy skills. They will participate in lessons and activities with the intent that they will be able to transfer these skills into the general education setting.

College and Career Readiness Grade (ie: "Time on Task")

In efforts to prepare students for the expectations found in the college setting and/or in the workforce and in support of the CCSS' expectations for anchor standards, directed studies students will be awarded a "Time on Task". This includes, but is not limited to:

- Being in class on time and ready to work
- Having appropriate materials
- Being on task
- Being respectful

Schoolloop.com _____

School Loop is our school-wide system that provides communication regarding grades and assignments. It can also be used as a tool for parents and students to communicate with teachers. Our school-wide goal is to update schoolloop.com on a weekly basis. The SCHS Student Support department intends to meet this goal. It is our expectation that students also regularly check their grades and assignments on SchoolLoop. Students will be given an opportunity to check SchoolLoop daily in Directed Studies, and update their planning as needed. We also encourage them to check SchoolLoop again after school either at home or in the library as teachers may not post grades and assignments during the school day.

Student Expectations

Be your **B.E.S.T.**

Establish Community

Show Respect

Take Responsibility

- Students are expected to behave professionally and respectfully both in and out of the classroom.
- Students are expected to treat their peers, teachers, and themselves with respect.
- Students are expected to be in your assigned seat with your materials ready when the time the bell rings. The bell starts the class, and the teacher dismisses the students.
- Students are expected to communicate appropriately with teachers and peers.
- Unless directed by the teacher for instructional use, electronic devices (iPods, Cell Phones, Gaming Devices, etc.) must be off and put away during class.
- When absent from class, it is the student's responsibility to get the missed notes and assignment(s).

Course Topics and Objectives:

Topics:

- Goal Setting
- Organization/Prioritizing
- Study Skills
- Time Management
- Test Taking Skills
- Self-Advocacy
- Transition: College and Career Readiness

Objectives:

At the end of this course students will improve their ability to:

- Maintain an organized binder and planner
- Organize and track assignments in general education courses
- Complete assignments in a timely manner
- Prepare for exams
- Effectively communicate individual needs with teachers and support staff