CTE Advanced Studies--Contract
Course Number: CS95

Prerequisite: Must be a current senior. Three technical credits in any one CTE Career Cluster (two courses are to be a first and second level course and one enhancement or additional foundation course)

This culminating course is for seniors who have earned three technical credits, one of which is a completer course, in one Career Cluster. The Advanced Studies course must augment the content of the completer course and prepare students for success in transitioning to postsecondary education and future careers. The four parts of the course include writing a research paper, producing a product or working portfolio, developing a portfolio, and delivering a presentation. As a base for developing the course project, students use knowledge, skills, and attitudes attained from previous courses taken. The project must be of sufficient depth and with assistance of the teacher mentor should lend itself to identification of a problem, examination of possible solutions, or directions, and analysis of the impact of solutions. Students work under the guidance of a Career-Technical Education teacher in collaboration with community partners, business representatives, and other school-based personnel.

The student in CTE Advanced Studies will be evaluated by using the four course rubrics in this guide.

COMPONENTS of ADVANCED STUDIES

Components
Requirements in the Advanced Studies courses include a paper, a portfolio, presentation, and a project. Students select a problem to solve within their career pathway.

Paper
Students are to select a topic that has application and implications within their career pathway and lends to performing a skill or producing a project. Guidelines for selecting the topic should be established by the teacher. The paper uses the acquisition of knowledge through researching, writing, interviewing, and synthesizing in conjunction with applying real-world skills of time management, organization, self-discipline, persistence, and problem solving. The recommended length of the paper should be 8 to 10 typed, double-spaced pages, with a minimum of five primary and secondary sources. Paper may include additional supporting documentation such as pictures, charts, graphs, etc.

Project
The project is an appropriate and logical extension of a research paper. It demonstrates the application of acquired knowledge through a reflective, physical, and/or intellectual stretch. The project may reinforce real-world skills, such as decision-making, problem solving, and time management. Outside class work is required.

Presentation
A presentation must be delivered before a panel of evaluators or to an entry level CTE class. A question and answer period should follow the presentation.

Working Portfolio
The working portfolio consists of two types of evidences. One type of evidence includes the student's efforts, progress, and achievement during the entire time span of the course. Examples of this type of evidence are representative samples of work correlated to course competency goals, such as homework tasks, quizzes and tests, logs, written work, survey results, self-
assessment tools, independent and cooperative projects, video and audio tapes, observation checklists, rough drafts of assignments, and completed individual and group projects. The second type of evidence includes such items as the project or project components and a résumé to be used in employment attainment or further education pursuit. The final project should be a part of the student’s portfolio that can be shared with an employer or postsecondary institution.

**Work-Based Learning**

For additional enrichment, the student may choose to be involved in a work-based learning opportunity. The student may wish to work with the CTE teacher to set up a week mini internship in the student’s career area.

**Topic Selection**

- Selected by the student, broad enough to allow access to sufficient information, yet specific enough to make the research scope reasonable
- Integrated topic is encouraged; should be challenging and require both academic and creative pieces
- Should further the student’s knowledge in a particular area of study, be research-based and/or advance the student’s knowledge and skills for the purpose of pursuing a career or further education in that field
- Be of a relative safe nature and should not endanger themselves, others, or the school environment, facility, or grounds

I understand that the components of this course and attest that I am responsible, mature, and academically ready to be challenged by the CTE Advanced Studies curriculum. Additionally, I understand that my placement in a CTE Advanced Studies course in my schedule is at the discretion of teacher and placement availability. Additionally, with my signature on this document, I am attesting that I have read the necessary pieces of work that will need to be completed in this course and will work with my assigned teacher to complete the work. Additionally, I understand that this agreement for placement is ONLY valid with my signature, parental/guardian signature, and the assigned CTE teacher signature.

CTE Career Cluster: ________________________________

CTE Courses Taken: (1) ________________________ (2) ________________________
(3) ________________________ (4) ________________________

Student Signature __________________________________ Date __________

Parent Signature _______________________________________ Date __________

CTE Teacher Signature ________________________________ Date __________