



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. 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; 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.