AF University Prep students exhibit personal growth and contribute to the vitality of our small school community through actively participating in electives and after-school programs. All students take electives that are embedded in the school day. In addition, 75% of AF University Prep students participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

SUMMER PROGRAMS: During their high school careers, members of the Class of 2019 will participate in at least three summer enrichment programs, allowing them to augment their rigorous academic experience with exploratory learning experiences beyond the classroom. The broad array of summer opportunities are crucial to AF University Prep’s mission: they foster college persistence by pushing students beyond their comfort zones as they engage in experiences and discover traits and preferences that allow them to make informed college decisions around choices of major, career and social affiliation. All AF University Prep students are required to complete summer programs after 9th, 10th and 11th grades. Within the Class of 2019, over the course of their AF University Prep career, 50% of students participated in a pre-college summer program and 70% of students participated in a summer internship.

In every class and in every discipline, students employ advanced critical thinking skills as they identify, gather and mold evidence to effectively communicate verbally and in writing. The faculty employs common rubrics for annotation, frequent, multi-draft, evidence-based essays, honing their ability to confront complex problems, interpret evidence and effectively communicate verbally and in writing.

AF University Prep’s school day allows for a rigorous, high-expectations curriculum built with a heavy emphasis on core academic subjects and the foundational skills essential for college success. The academic day at AF University Prep runs from 7:50 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., two hours longer than the traditional New York City public school day. Students also attend classes for nearly two weeks longer than their peers at traditional district public schools. Students develop the ability to navigate complex texts, write cogently and convincingly, and form complex and persuasive evidence-based arguments in many ways.

A deep understanding of college application and financial aid processes equips students with the tools they need to make informed college choices and thrive academically and socially on college campuses.

School Overview
The mission of Achievement First University Prep High School, a college-preparatory public charter school in Brooklyn, New York, is to provide historically underserved students with a top-quality education geared to prepare them for the rigor of college work and help them flourish on college campuses. AF University Prep’s approach includes a rigorous, college-preparatory course of study, tutoring, intensive college counseling and explicit character education.

The school’s college readiness framework, modeled after the work of David Coryell, a researcher at the University of Oregon, includes four pillars:

- Key Cognitive Skills: An emphasis on the transferable strategies critical to college-level work equips students with the ability to confront complex problems, interpret evidence and effectively communicate verbally and in writing.

- Content Knowledge: A rigorous curriculum ensures that students master core academic content, such as the impact of important historical movements and the literary and rhetorical devices authors commonly employ, preparing them for success in college-level courses.

- Self-Management: A sharp focus on self-awareness, self-monitoring and self-control helps students build foundations for academic persistence and success.

- College Application: A deep understanding of college application and financial aid processes equips students with the tools they need to make informed college choices and thrive academically and socially on college campuses.

School Demographics
AF University Prep serves predominantly African-American and Latino students from historically underserved communities in Brooklyn, a borough facing challenges including high rates of crime and entrenched, multi-generational poverty. Approximately 70% of AF University Prep student’s families will take seven AP courses by the time they graduate from AF University Prep.

Academic Rigor
AF University Prep’s school day allows for a rigorous, high-expectations curriculum built with a heavy emphasis on core academic subjects and the foundational skills essential for college success. The academic day at AF University Prep runs from 7:50 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., two hours longer than the traditional New York City public school day. Students also attend classes for nearly two weeks longer than their peers at traditional district public schools. Students develop the ability to navigate complex texts, write cogently and convincingly, and form complex and persuasive evidence-based arguments in many ways.
Grading Policy & Philosophy

AF University Prep uses a 100-point grading scale, with 70 as the minimum grade to pass a course and 50 as the lowest published grade. Weighted Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated as the arithmetic average (total quality points divided by credits) of all weighted courses taken. AF University Prep’s faculty, across all disciplines, commit to holding extremely high expectations for intellectual contribution and academic product in grades 9 through 12. By ensuring that the grading systems and policies mirror those of the nation’s most elite secondary schools, faculty protect against grade inflation. “A”s and “B”s are hard-earned, and faculty strive to foster a culture of re-do and re-learn for graded work that has not met minimum grade to pass a course and 50 as the lowest published grade. Weighted Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated as the arithmetic average (total quality points divided by credits) of all weighted courses taken. 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