

**Murrieta Valley Unified School District
High School Course Outline
April 2011**

Department: Electives

Course Title: Academic Seminar (Academic Seminar – CR)

Course Number: 5562 (5561 for credit recovery)

Grade Level: 9-12

Length of Course: Year

Prerequisite: None

UC/CSU (A-G) Requirement: None

Brief Course Description: The course is designed to provide additional instructional time to be utilized as an instructional reinforcement opportunity between a collaborative teaching-team within the content areas. Instructional time will also be utilized to further develop essential skills needed to support student success. Essential skills include the development of: time management skills, goal-setting skills, note-taking skills, oral language skills, critical thinking, test-taking skills, vocabulary development, effective collaborative teamwork, and independent practice. Students will be assessed through portfolio assessment and presentations.

I. Goals

The student will:

- A. Develop time management skills
- B. Practice goal-setting skills
- C. Create a four-year academic plan
- D. Demonstrate note-taking skills
- E. Practice oral language skills
- F. Work effectively in collaborative groups
- G. Learn strategies for test preparation
- H. Explore critical and creative thinking strategies

II. Outline of Content for Major Areas of Study

- A. Time management

- B. Listening skills
- C. Note-taking skills
- D. Study skills
- E. Collaborative teamwork
- F. Oral skills
- G. Reading skills
- H. Goal-setting skills
- I. Vocabulary development
- J. Standardized test-taking skills

III. Accountability Determinants

- A. Key Assignments
 - 1. Daily goal-setting agenda and development of self-monitoring skills of academic assignments
 - 2. Practice of essential skills, such as note-taking, listening, reading, and study skills
 - 3. Utilization of instructional time to achieve academic goals
 - 4. Practice in developing effective collaborative teamwork skills
 - 5. Increasing academic vocabulary development
 - 6. Working on test-taking strategies
- B. Assessment Methods
 - 1. Observation and monitoring of daily goal-setting
 - 2. Presentations
 - 3. Projects
 - 4. Portfolio assessments

IV. Instructional Materials

A. Required Text(s)

None

B. Supplemental Text(s)

Access to required texts utilized in English, Biology, and Mathematics courses.