

Murrieta Valley Unified School District
High School Course Outline
November 2001

- Department:** Electives
- Course Title:** Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Senior Seminar
- Course Number:** 1947
- Grade Level:** 12th
- Length of Course:** Year
- Prerequisite:** Successful completion of 2 years of AVID lower-level courses as well as a GPA of 2.5 or above. In conjunction with taking AVID Senior Seminar, student must be enrolled in at least 1 Advanced Placement (AP) class and take the AP exam. Successful completion of AVID Senior Seminar will result in students receiving high school and UC elective credit (upon UC approval). Students who have completed less than 2 years of AVID, will receive high school credit but will not be eligible for UC credit.

UC/CSU (A-G) Requirement: G

I. Goals

The student will:

- A. Complete the A-G requirements for entrance to UC/CSU
- B. Successfully complete college applications and financial aid packages
- C. Demonstrate analytical writing at the college level in a variety of discourse modes
- D. Improve their oral communication skills through a variety of means, including presentation, debate and Socratic Seminar
- E. Learn to peer edit and evaluate their own and others' writing, using UC/CSU rubrics and scoring guides
- F. Prepare for college entrance and placement exams
- G. Prepare for external AP exam/s
- H. Complete and present a portfolio of their work in AVID
- I. Continue to utilize and refine AVID "basics" (notebook, note taking, participation in tutorial)

II. Outline of Content for Major Areas of Study

Semester I

1. Ongoing tutorials with focus on support for AP classes
2. Collaborative group study and peer tutoring with a focus on AP classes
3. Socratic Seminar training
4. Ongoing timed writings and analytical discourse
5. SAT I/II and ACT preparation, scheduling and registration
6. Practice for taking and/or retaking SAT I/II and ACT
7. Study of sample AP exams
8. Career and college exploration
9. The college application
10. Writing and revising the personal statement
11. Consider applying to take college level classes at community colleges, four year colleges and universities in addition to AP courses
12. Continue development of AVID portfolio for final presentation

Semester II

1. Financial aid application (FAFSA)
2. Application for scholarships and additional options for financial aid
3. Introduction to and practice for the college placement exams
4. Lead Socratic Seminars for AVID classmates
5. Continue aligning academic and career interests through ongoing research
6. AVID Senior Portfolio preparation and presentation
7. Follow-up on the SAR for the FAFSA, grants, loans and scholarships
8. AVID students and parents receive support in making college choices
9. Students mail Intent to Enroll cards and apply for academic orientation, college open house, etc.
10. Career exploration research paper

III. Accountability Determinants

- A. Teacher observation of day to day classroom, participation, effort, behavior and achievement
- B. Evaluation of rudimentary AVID “basics” such as: a well organized notebook, participation in tutorials and note taking
- C. Individual projects and presentations
- D. Final portfolio and presentation will include but not be limited to the following: personal statement, career exploration research paper, transcript, timed writings, notes taken in content areas and dialectical journals from core literature work

IV. Required Text(s)

Bloom, Lynn Z. The Essay Connection. 4th Ed. Massachusetts: D.C. Heath and Company, 1995.

Glencoe. Writer's Choice and Grammar and Composition. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1996.

Swanson, Mary Catherine et. Al. *The AVID High School Libraries*, San Diego, CA, The AVID Center, 1996.

V. Supplemental Materials

Covey, Sean. The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1998.

Elster, Charles Harrington and Elliot, Joseph. Tooth and Nail – A Novel Approach to the SAT. San Diego: Harcourt, 1994.

Jewell, Joe. Mistry, Manek and Rossi, Paul. Up Your Score – The Underground Guide To The SAT. New York: Workman Publishing, 2000.

Pope, Lauren. Looking Beyond The Ivy League – Finding the College That's Right for You. New York: Penguin, 1995.

The Princeton Review - Inside the SAT Deluxe. CD-ROM. Learning Company Properties Inc. 1998.

The Princeton Review - Inside the ACT Deluxe. CD-ROM. Learning Company Properties Inc. 1998.

VI. Recommended

Rottenberg, Annette T. The Structure of Argument. 2nd Ed. Boston: Bedford Books, 1996.

VII. Teacher Materials

Dunn, Kathleen, Ebert, Daniel J., Kovacs, Mary Anne and Manear, John. Advanced Placement Writing 1- Strategies for Honors, Gifted and AP Students. U.S.A.: The Center for Learning, 2001.

Kovacs, Mary Anne, Reed, Jo and Strobel, Shirley H. Advanced Placement English – Practical Approaches to Literary Analysis. U.S.A.: The Center for Learning, 1998.