

Chino Valley Unified School District

Instructional Guide

AVID Senior Seminar
(Advancement Via Individual Determination)

Course Number	5979
Department:	English
Length of Course:	Two semesters / One year
Grade	12
Prerequisite:	Previous enrollment in A.V.I.D. lower-level elective courses for three years. Concurrent enrollment in at least one honors or Advanced Placement course
Credit:	10 credits – elective
Board Approved	April 7, 2005

Description of Course The A.V.I.D. Senior Seminar follows the weekly structure of all A.V.I.D. elective classes, with two days of teacher led curriculum per week, two days of tutorials, and a day allocated for guest speakers, lessons taught by college instructors, and visits to colleges or other appropriate events. As seniors progress through the year, this additional day is also used for students to work with the A.V.I.D. teacher and tutors to plan their Socratic Seminar activity, to select appropriate text materials to be discussed, and to plan the activity itself.

Throughout the school year, the A.V.I. D. teacher serves as a conduit to colleges and universities as well as to academic departments on campus. This individual assists A.V.I.D. students in applying to colleges, researching financial aid and housing, registering for entrance and placement exams, and in preparing for external examinations in the spring. A.V.I.D. tutors also assist in these procedures by providing actual information and giving feedback to A.V.I.D. seniors regarding their college applications and essays.

The A.V.I.D. Senior Seminar is divided into four quarters of emphasis, leading to the student's acceptance at a four-year college or university.

The A.V.I.D. Senior Seminar curriculum and course outline is developed by the A.V.I.D. Center and fulfills the University of California "G" requirement for admission.

Rationale for Course A.V.I.D. elective courses at all grade levels are designed to prepare, in an academic context, disadvantaged students for entrance into four-year colleges and universities, with emphasis on analytical writing, preparation for college entrance and placement exams, college study skills and test taking, Cornell note taking, and research.

Standards for the A.V.I.D. Senior Seminar

Standard 1 – Gaining Admission to a College or University

Standard 2 – Becoming a College Student

Standard 3 – Placement and External Exam Preparation

Standard 4 – Selecting a Major and Career Emphasis

Objectives of the A.V.I.D. Senior Seminar

1. Students will complete the a-g course requirements for entrance to the University of California.
2. Students will successfully complete college applications and financial aid packages.
3. Students will demonstrate analytical writing at a college level in a variety of discourse modes.
4. Students will improve their oral communication skills through a variety of means, including presentation, debate, and Socratic Seminar.
5. Students will learn to evaluate their own and others' writing, using rubrics and scoring guides modeled on UC and CSU entrance exams.
6. Students will prepare for college entrance and placement exams, using the A.V.I.D. Senior Supplement, and other materials.
7. Students will prepare for an external exam such as the Advanced Placement exam.
8. Students will select a college area of study which leads to an anticipated career.
9. Students will complete and present a portfolio of their work in A.V.I.D.
10. Students will learn to act as moderators for Socratic Seminars.

Assessment Procedures

A.V.I.D. seniors will be evaluated using a variety of performance-based assessments. While they will be evaluated on basic A.V.I.D. expectations, such as a well-organized notebook, participation in tutorials, and Cornell note taking, they will also be assessed according to their performance on timed writings, practice placement examinations, participation in scoring of practice exams, leadership in Socratic Seminars, and external exam preparation. In addition, A.V.I.D. seniors will be required to complete a research paper exploring issues in college access. This paper will be presented to the class. Finally, A.V.I.D. seniors will be required to develop and present a portfolio, representing their four years of work in the A.V.I.D. program.