

Driver Education Content Outline (Example)

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The following documents are an ongoing effort to better define driver education. Working with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; State Agencies responsible for driver education and professionals throughout the United States, ADTSEA has developed these documents for public use.

Driving a car must be a life long learning process. Technology changes, environmental changes and society changes demand an ever changing driver. The content outcomes and delivery systems described here are meant to be a continuing process of traffic safety training. These three documents are titled:

1. Classroom and In-car Content – Segment I and Segment II
2. Delivery of Driver Education
3. Driver Development Outcomes

To provide an immediate need for driver education teachers, a sample driver education content outline is provided. This outline can be the basis of developing a complete driver education curriculum.

Your comments, input and direction for this project is encouraged. I would appreciate your comments and suggestions as we continue this ongoing project.

Please contact me through the Web Master and please continue to be concerned about safety on our highways.

Sincerely,

Allen Robinson, Ph.D.

I. Introducing Operator and Vehicle Control Tasks in a Controlled Environment

- A. Occupant Protection
 - 1. Adult
 - Safety Belts
 - Head Restraints
 - Air Bags
 - Dash/steering wheel
 - Side Impact
 - 2. Children and Youth
 - Back Seat
 - Infant/Rear Facing
 - Child Seats
 - Booster Seats
- B. Pre-entry Checks
- C. Preparing to Drive
- D. Vehicle Control and Information Devices
 - 1. Operating Vehicle Control Devices
 - 2. Safety, Communication, Comfort and Convenience Devices
- E. Basic Maneuvering Tasks
 - 1. Pre-Drive
 - Valuables
 - Doors
 - 2. Enter Vehicle
 - Adjustments
 - Seat
 - Mirrors
 - Restraints
 - 3. Enhanced Mirror Settings
 - Advantages
 - Settings
 - Concerns
 - 4. Starting Procedures
 - Parking Brake
 - Foot Brake
 - Ignition
 - Lock Door
 - Gear Selection
 - Ignition to Start
 - Gauges
 - Accessories
 - 5. Preparing for Moving to Roadway
 - Brake Pressure
 - Select Gear
 - Traffic Check
 - Signal
 - Release Brake
 - Select Gap in Traffic
 - Move to Lane



- 6. Moving to Curb/Side of Roadway
 - Backing Procedures
 - Seat/Steering Position
 - Restraint Adjustment
 - Traffic Check
 - Foot Brake
 - Gear Selection
 - Signal
 - Release Parking Brake
 - Control Movements
 - Steering Direction
 - 7. Securing Procedures
 - Parking Area
 - Parking Brake
 - Gear Selection
 - Accessories
 - Ignition
 - Key
 - Restraints
 - Doors and Windows
- F. Traffic Laws
- 1. Police Officers
 - 2. Summons
 - 3. Traffic Control Devices
 - 4. Turning at Intersections



II. Space Management System

- A. Vision and Perception Requirements
- B. Referencing Vehicle to Path of Travel
 - 1. Visual Functions
 - Central
 - Fringe
 - Peripheral
 - 2. Open Line of Sight
- C. Space Management System (S.E.E.)
 - 1. Searching
 - Space Areas
 - High Risk Situations
 - Evaluation Information
 - 2. Evaluating – Risk Probability and Consequences
 - Determining High Risk Situations
 - Decision Making
 - Controlling High Risk Situation
 - Steering Control
 - 3. Executing – Responding to Risk
 - Speed Changes
 - Lane Position
 - Space Control
 - Appropriate Communication
 - Communicating Intent
- D. Managing Visibility, Time and Space
 - 1. Visual Search Categories
 - Highway
 - Traffic Controls
 - Motor Vehicles
 - Non-motorized Users



III. Basic Maneuvering Tasks

- A. Performances for Turning
 - 1. Intersections
 - 2. Changing Lanes
 - 3. Controlling Space to the Rear
 - 4. Mid-Block Turnarounds
 - Diagrams for Turnarounds
 - Explain Performances (Steps)

- B. Parking Procedures
 - 1. Uphill and Downhill
 - 2. Angle
 - Entering
 - Exiting
 - 3. Perpendicular
 - Entering
 - Exiting
 - 4. Parallel
 - Entering
 - Exiting

- C. Intersection Maneuvers
 - 1. Crossing
 - 2. Traffic Signals

- D. Lane Selection and Positioning
 - 1. Controlling Space to the Front
 - 2. Lane Positions
 - 3. Driving on Roadways with Lanes
 - 4. Staggered Stops
 - 5. Curves
 - 6. Hills
 - Cresting
 - Down Grades

- E. Passing
 - 1. Passing Process
 - 2. Being Passed
 - 3. Estimating Passing Gap
 - 4. Procedure
 - Prepare
 - Overtake
 - Return to Lane

- F. Items Requiring Alertness in Moderate to Heavy Traffic on Complex City Street System
 - 1. Flow of Traffic
 - 2. Lane Blockage
 - 3. Lane Changes
 - 4. Intersection Blockage
 - 5. One or Two-way Streets
 - 6. Reversible Lanes
 - 7. Plan Turns
 - 8. Shared Left Turn Lanes



9. Pedestrian Traffic
10. Multiple Turning Lanes
11. Position for Turning



IV. Risk Reducing Strategies For High Speed Multi-Lane Expressways

- A. Define “Expressway”
- B. Safety Design Features
 - 1. Rumble Strips
 - 2. Barriers
 - 3. Breakaway Supports
 - 4. Guard Rails
 - 5. Crash Barrels
 - 6. Turn Bays
 - 7. Collector/Distribution Lanes
 - 8. Message Signs
- C. Traffic Controls
 - 1. “Interstate” Sign
 - 2. Signals
 - 3. Lane Markings
 - 4. Speed Limits (Maximum)
 - 5. Speed Limits (Minimum)
- D. Advantages of Expressway Driving
- E. Interchange Types
- F. Vehicle Preparation
 - 1. Short Trips
 - 2. Extended Trips
 - Vehicle
 - Loading
 - Basic Equipment
 - Emergency Equipment
 - Personal Preparation
- G. Before Entering Expressway
- H. Entrance
 - 1. Entrance Ramp
 - 2. Acceleration Lane
 - 3. Merge Area
- I. Steps for Entering Expressway
 - 1. Correct Entrance
 - 2. Entrance Ramp
 - 3. Acceleration Lane
 - 4. Merge Lane
- J. Problems Associated with Expressways
 - 1. Entrance Ramps
 - 2. Reducing Risks on Entrance Ramps
 - 3. Acceleration Lane



4. Reducing Risks on Acceleration Lane
 5. Merge Area
 6. Reducing Risks on Merge Areas
 7. Left Entering Ramps
 8. "Weave" Lanes
- K. Expressway Driving
1. Challenging
 2. Lane Choice
 3. Driving Speed
 4. Changing Lanes
 5. Passing
 - Passing Maneuver
 - Risk Reducing Strategies
 6. Leaving (Exiting)
 7. Special Conditions
 - Through Cities
 - Disabled Vehicles
 - Construction Areas
 - Toll Booths
 - "Emergency/Official Vehicle" Crossovers



V. Personal Factors Influencing Operator Performance

- A. Session Introduction
 - 1. Recognizing Seriousness of Problem
 - 2. Controlled by Laws
 - 3. Moral Responsibility
 - 4. Video "Driving Drunk: Your Choice?"
- B. Class Discussion
 - 1. Why People Choose to Use Alcohol/Drugs
 - 2. Stopping Another Person from Driving Drunk
 - 3. Consequences of Using Alcohol/Drugs
- C. Nature of Alcohol-Related Crashes
- D. Factors Influencing Drinking
 - 1. Peer Pressure
 - 2. Parents
 - 3. Sociological Factors
 - 4. Anxiety
 - 5. Have a Good Time
 - 6. Media
 - 7. Custom
 - 8. Hospitality
 - 9. Happy Hour
 - 10. Special Occasions
- E. Definitions
 - 1. Intoxication
 - 2. Alcohol & Driving Laws
 - 3. Alcohol Measurements
 - 4. Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages
 - 5. Operating a Motor Vehicle
- F. Illegal Use of License
 - 1. Restriction
 - 2. Statutes
 - 3. Restriction Penalties
- G. Penalties for Driving Intoxicated
 - 1. Loss of License
 - 2. Court Fines
 - 3. Jail
- H. Implied Consent
 - 1. License Application
 - 2. Refusal Laws
- I. Preliminary Breath Test (PBT)
 - 1. Request by Officer
 - 2. Advice to Person to be Tested
 - 3. Test Failure/Refusal
 - 4. Result of Test



- J. Physiological and Psychological Effects
 - 1. Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)
 - 2. Weight
 - 3. Time Spent Drinking
 - 4. Gender
 - 5. Food
 - 6. Alcohol Content

- K. Alcohol Removal from Body
 - 1. Brain
 - 2. Liver
 - 3. Heart
 - 4. Stomach

- L. Affects Persons Differently
 - 1. Tolerance
 - 2. Personality
 - 3. Mood
 - 4. Experience
 - 5. Fatigue
 - 6. Medication
 - 7. Weight
 - 8. Age

- M. Psychological Factors Relating to Consumption
 - 1. Attention
 - 2. Memory
 - 3. Emotions
 - 4. Aggression
 - 5. Tolerance

- N. Affects on Driving
 - 1. Searching
 - 2. Eye Focus
 - 3. Double Vision
 - 4. Distance Judgment
 - 5. Side Vision
 - 6. Visual Acuity
 - 7. Color Distinction
 - 8. Night Vision
 - 9. Response Time
 - 10. Motor Skills

- O. Greater Risk Taking

- P. Common Signs of a Drinking Driver

- Q. Drugs Other Than Alcohol
 - 1. Over-the-Counter
 - 2. Prescription
 - 3. Tranquilizers
 - 4. Stimulants
 - 5. Narcotics



- R. Affects of Other Drugs
 - 1. Perception
 - 2. Judgment
 - 3. Coordination
 - 4. Vision
 - 5. Mood
 - 6. Tracking Ability
 - 7. Following Distance
 - 8. Vigilance
 - 9. Divided Attention

- S. Fatigue
 - 1. Types
 - 2. Effects
 - 3. Physical Fatigue Symptoms
 - 4. Mental Fatigue Symptoms
 - 5. What Won't Help
 - 6. Delaying Fatigue Onset
 - 7. Delaying Fatigue Symptoms
 - 8. Drowsy Driving

- T. Carbon Monoxide
 - 1. Symptoms
 - 2. Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

- U. Emotions Affecting Driving
 - 1. General Effect
 - 2. Physical Effect
 - 3. Controlling Emotions
 - 4. Passengers
 - 5. Aggressive Driving
 - 6. Video: "Road Rage"



VI. Environmental Conditions That Affect Safe Vehicle Operation

- A. Changing Weather and Conditions of Visibility
 1. Driving at Night
 2. Sources of Glare
 3. Countermeasures
 4. Fog, Smoke, Rain or Snow
 5. Strong Winds

- B. Automotive Technology Designs

- C. Controlling Consequences
 1. Head-on
 2. Driving off Road vs. Skidding off Road
 3. Hit Something Soft
 4. Hit Something Traveling in Same Direction
 5. Hit Stationary Objects with Glancing Blow
 6. Steer to Avoid Oncoming Traffic

- D. Changing Traction Conditions
 1. Define – “Traction”
 2. Road Surface Conditions
 3. Vehicle Factors
 4. Driver Actions
 5. Hydroplaning
 6. Front – Wheel Skid
 7. Rear – Wheel Skid
 8. Off – Road Recovery



VII. Vehicle Functions, Malfunctions And Collision Reporting

- A. Vehicle Equipment Functions/Malfunctions
 - 1. Warning Symbols
 - 2. Tire Failure
 - 3. Accelerator Failure
 - 4. Brake Failure
 - 5. Engine Failure
 - Flooding
 - Overheats
 - 6. Power Steering Failure
 - 7. Fire

- B. Other Highway Vehicles
 - 1. Trucks
 - 2. Trains
 - 3. Sport Utility
 - 4. Recreational Vehicles and Trailers
 - 5. Motorcycles
 - 6. Bicycles
 - 7. Mopeds and Motor Scooters
 - 8. Construction Vehicles
 - 9. Oversized Vehicles
 - 10. Farm Machinery
 - 11. Horse-Drawn Vehicles

- C. Emergency Vehicles
 - 1. Yield Right-of-Way
 - 2. Stopping

- D. Collision Reporting
 - 1. Stop
 - 2. Identify Yourself
 - 3. Insurance Information
 - 4. Written Notice
 - 5. Report to Insurance Company
 - 6. Crash Scene



**VIII. Final Assessment
And
Student/Parent/Guardian/Mentor Debriefing**

- A. Skills Log Review
- B. Responsibilities of the Student/Parent/Guardian/Mentor
 - 1. Guided Practice
 - 2. Safe Driving Environment
 - 3. Car Control
 - 4. Skills Log Requirements
 - 5. Driving is Complex
 - 6. Driving Experience to be “Good”

