

PALOMAR COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

_____ Transfer course x A.A. degree applicable course
(Check all that apply)

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: AJ 80 – Vehicle Operations

UNIT VALUE: 1

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS: 32

BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS: Appropriate language skills

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

PREREQUISITE: None

COREQUISITE: None

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: None

SCOPE OF COURSE

Students will learn how to prevent vehicle collisions; basic defensive driving principles and techniques in order to develop safe driving habits. The successful student will become proficient in the actual operation of the vehicle, and knowledgeable about the dynamic forces at work.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Describe the routine driving movements that most frequently contribute to collisions involving law enforcement vehicles.
2. Explain the types of collisions involving law enforcement vehicles.
3. Understand the importance of initial and ongoing training in the effort to reduce the number and severity of collisions involving law enforcement vehicles.
4. Demonstrate the types of law enforcement driving and the purpose for each.
5. Explain the statutory conditions exempting peace officers from certain rules of the road when operating law enforcement vehicles in the line of duty.
6. Knowledge of vehicle pursuit policy and community implications.

CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:

1. Differences and causes of the following types of vehicle skids:
 - a. Under steer skid
 - b. Oversteer skid
 - c. Locked-wheel skid
2. Acceleration skid

3. Cause and contributing factors of vehicle hydroplaning
4. Longitudinal and lateral weight transfer
5. Spring loading as it relates to a vehicle weight transfer
6. Proper techniques for two-handed shuffle steering
7. Causes for vehicle oversteer and understeer
8. Differences between the following methods of braking:
 - a. Threshold braking
 - b. Straight line braking
9. Extended release braking
10. ABS vs. other brake systems commonly used in law enforcement vehicles
11. Objectives of emergency response driving
12. Importance of agency specific policies and guidelines regarding emergency response driving
13. Statutory responsibilities of non law enforcement vehicle drivers when driving in the presence of emergency vehicles acting under emergency response conditions
14. Guidelines for entering a controlled intersection (with the signal and against the signal) when driving under emergency response conditions.
15. Legislative intent of Penal Code section 13519.8
16. Responsibilities of the primary unit and supervisor in managing a vehicle pursuit
17. Role of agency policy and guidelines governing interjurisdictional vehicle pursuits

REQUIRED READING:

California P.O.S.T. Basic Course Workbook Series, Learning Domain #19 – Vehicle Operations: Sacramento, CA 2000

SUGGESTED READING: None

REQUIRED WRITING: None

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:

Students shall be provided with a minimum number of instructional hours on vehicle operations. This instruction is designed to satisfy the requirements for law enforcement high-speed vehicle pursuit training as required in Penal Code section 13519.8.

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short-term classes.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

This course may be offered as a distance learning course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes No

If yes, check all that apply.

- _____ Television Course (Video one-way, e.g. ITV, video cassette, etc.)
- _____ Online Course (Text one-way, e.g. newspaper, correspondence, electronic file, etc.)
- _____ Two-Way Video Conferencing (Two-way interactive video and audio)
- _____ One-Way Video Conferencing (One-way interactive video and two-way interactive audio)
- _____ Computer Assisted Instruction (A specialized form of mediated instruction relying primarily on student access to information and prepared lessons or teaching materials through a computer terminal, but not under immediate supervision of a qualified instructor.)

GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

1. The POST-constructed knowledge test on the learning objectives in Domain #19.
2. Given an exercise test that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle, the student will demonstrate the ability to accurately steer the vehicle including:
 - a. Proper hand position
 - b. Inputting steering in a timely and smooth manner
 - c. Maintaining control of the vehicle
3. Given an exercise test that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle, the student will demonstrate the ability to accurately steer the vehicle in reverse including maintaining:
 - a. Seating position
 - b. Steering control
 - c. Minimal front-end swing
 - d. Speed control
 - e. Visual awareness of obstacles
 - f. Smoothness and coordination
4. Given an exercise test that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle, the student will demonstrate the ability to maintain control of the vehicle that is skidding including:
 - a. Steering control
 - b. Proper use of throttle
 - c. Smoothness and coordination
 - d. Speed judgment
 - e. Brake application
 - f. Weight transfer
5. Given an exercise test that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle, the student will demonstrate a threshold braking technique including:
 - a. Maintaining rolling friction
 - b. Maximum braking
 - c. Retaining steering control
6. Given an exercise test that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle, the student will demonstrate the ability to safely drive and control the vehicle while operating under emergency conditions including proper:
 - a. Brake application
 - b. Steering control
 - c. Use of throttle
 - d. Roadway position
 - e. Speed judgment
 - f. Use of radio
 - g. Use of lights and siren
7. Given an exercise test that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle, the student will demonstrate the ability to safely drive and control the vehicle while operating under pursuit conditions including proper:

- a. Brake application
 - b. Steering control
 - c. Use of throttle
 - d. Roadway position
 - e. Speed judgment
 - f. Use of radio
 - g. Use of lights and siren
 - h. Performance under stress
 - i. Hazard awareness
 - j. Space cushion
8. Given an exercise test that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle, the student will demonstrate proper vehicle acceleration methods including:
- a. Maximum acceleration
 - b. Maximum throttle
 - c. Full throttle

The California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training is the accrediting body for this course. Within this course is a practical/hands-on test and at the conclusion a state generated test. Passing is 75%.

- 90 – 100 = A
- 80 – 89 = B
- 70 – 79 = C
- 60 – 69 = D
- 50 – 59 = F

The POST state generated test counts towards 100% of their grade. The practical/hands-on test is pass/fail.

IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?

Yes ___ No x Number of times course may be taken for credit: 1

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s), 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

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SIGNATURES ON FILE