The Traffic Function

Course Design
2009-2010

Course Information

Division: Social Sciences
Course Number: AJS 140
Title: The Traffic Function
Credits: 3
Developed by: Cornel Stemley
Lecture/Lab Ratio: 3 Lecture/0 Lab
Transfer Status:

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Activity Course: No
CIP Code: 43.0107
Assessment Mode: Pre/Post Test (70 Questions/70 Points)
Semester Taught: Spring
GE Category: None
Separate Lab: No
Awareness Course: No
Intensive Writing Course: No

Prerequisites
None

Educational Value
An excellent course for both Administration of Justice majors and citizens who desire to obtain a better understanding of Arizona traffic laws, traffic enforcement and vehicle accident investigation.

Description
This course examines the traffic laws of Arizona most commonly used by law enforcement officers. Included is a study of traffic control procedures along with the theory and application of vehicle accident investigation.

Supplies
Accident Investigator's Template
Access to a personal computer and the Internet. (Both free at the EAC Media Center)
Competencies and Performance Standards

1. Describe the proper procedures of conducting traffic control.

   Learning objectives
   What you will learn as you master the competency:
   a. Identify considerations for directing citizens to assist in traffic control.
   b. Identify examples of what constitutes "disobedience to peace officer directing or controlling motor vehicles."
   c. Identify methods and precautions for channeling traffic and blocking or closing roadways.
   d. Demonstrate proper techniques for directing and controlling vehicular and pedestrian movements by means of standard hand signals, gestures, whistle and voice commands, and the use of protective equipment.

   Performance Standards
   Competence will be demonstrated:
   o by completion of online quizzes and examinations
   o through Internet web based assignments
   o through an objective cumulative final exam
   o by observing a mock court hearing involving a traffic citation
   o by directing traffic at a moderately busy intersection

   Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when:
   o learner discusses liability issues when having citizens assist with traffic control
   o learner explains how simple and specific instructions are needed when having citizens assist with traffic control
   o learner explains how to assess the reliability of the citizen when having them assist with traffic control
   o learner discusses why citizens should be used only when absolutely necessary to assist with traffic control
   o learner describes the elements of ARS 28-622, ARS 13-2403 and 2509 as they relate to disobeying a peace officer when directing traffic
   o learner identifies methods and precautions to be taken when directing traffic to prevent additional accidents at the scene
   o learner describes how barriers (including patrol car), flares and traffic cones should be used to channel traffic and block or close a roadway
   o learner demonstrates the proper techniques for directing and controlling vehicular and pedestrian movements while directing traffic at a moderately busy intersection

2. Describe the proper methods of investigating traffic collisions.

   Learning objectives
   What you will learn as you master the competency:
   a. Identify the proper procedures for a traffic collision investigation.
   b. Describe techniques for interviewing drivers and witnesses at a traffic collision investigation.
   c. Explain the procedures for taking and recording evidence, measurements, and photographs of the collision scene.
   d. Identify how to properly complete the Arizona traffic accident report forms.
Performance Standards

Competence will be demonstrated:
- by completion of online quizzes and examinations
- through Internet web based assignments
- through an objective cumulative final exam
- by observing a mock court hearing involving a traffic citation
- by answering the chapter questions for each chapter
- by participating in a mock traffic collision investigation
- by completing an Arizona traffic collision report and other needed forms

Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when:
- learner identifies the information which should be exchanged between parties to a motor vehicle accident per ARS 28-663
- learner explains that liability may result from failure to restore the traffic way to a safe condition, protect persons and property, provide for medical assistance, and prevent additional accident
- learner identifies when an Arizona traffic report form must be completed per ARS 28-667
- learner properly completes an Arizona traffic report form after investigating a mock traffic collision
- learner defines common terms associated with traffic collision investigations such as coefficient of friction, contact damage, feet per second, final position, flat tire scuff marks, gap skid, induced damage, skip skid, tire prints and yaw scuff marks
- learner identifies the feet per second when given a vehicle's speed in miles per hour
- learner identifies the miles per hour when given a vehicle's rate of travel in feet per second
- learner identifies the speed in miles per hour when given the coefficient of friction and the length of a skid
- learner describes common indicators of area of impact on the roadway in a vehicular collision
- learner identifies the "responding" and "reporting" procedures that are unique for hit-and-run collisions which have just occurred

3. Explain how to testify effectively in court as a police officer.

Learning objectives
What you will learn as you master the competency:
- a. Identify what the officer's role is when testifying in court.
- b. Describe the importance of wearing proper attire.
- c. Discuss the common tactics used by defense attorneys against officers testifying in court.
- d. Identify problems of the new officer.
- e. Describe how to properly prepare for trial with a traffic related case.

Performance Standards

Competence will be demonstrated:
- by completion of online quizzes and examinations
- through Internet web based assignments
- through an objective cumulative final exam
by observing a mock court hearing involving a traffic citation
by answering the chapter questions for each chapter

Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when:
learner identifies the different methods used to notify an officer to appear in court
learner describes the appropriate clothing for officers to wear to court
learner identifies those people to whom the officer should not speak during recesses
learner explains what an officer should do while testifying with respect to objections
learner explains what an officer should do when he or she does not remember the answer to a question asked
learner explains what an officer should do when asked an argumentative question on cross-examination that the defense attorney insists should be answered yes or no
learner describes how to review the case both before and after the trial

4. Identify the Arizona Revised Statutes Title 28 traffic laws most commonly used by police officers.

Learning objectives
What you will learn as you master the competency:
a. Identify the elements of the most frequently used sections of ARS Title 28 traffic laws as they apply to police officers.

Performance Standards
Competence will be demonstrated:
by completion of online quizzes and examinations
through Internet web based assignments
through an objective cumulative final exam
by observing a mock court hearing involving a traffic citation
by answering the chapter questions for each chapter

Criteria - Performance will be satisfactory when:
learner identifies the elements of instruction permits and temporary driver's licenses
learner identifies the elements of endorsements to driver's licenses
learner identifies the elements of passing a stopped school bus which has its red light flashing
learner describes the traffic laws that apply to persons riding animals or driving animal-drawn vehicles
learner identifies the elements of altering a motor vehicle serial number
learner identifies the elements of vehicle registration violations
learner identifies the elements of driver's license violations
learner identifies the elements of driving under the influence
learner identifies the elements of speeding
learner identifies the elements of lane violations
learner identifies the elements of right of way violations
learner identifies the elements of required stopping, standing or parking
Types of Instruction
Participative Lecture
Multimedia

Grading Information

Grading Rationale
Each instructor has the flexibility to develop evaluative procedures within the following parameters:
1. A Pre Test MUST be administered to EACH student during the first 2 weeks of class. It will NOT count toward the student's grade.
2. The Final Examination and Post Test will be the same test. It will represent 20% of the final course grade.
3. Quizzes and other examinations during the semester must represent 60% of the final course grade.
4. Other activities will represent 20% of the final course grade.
5. Within the Administration of Justice Program there is NOT credit given toward the final course grade for extra credit activities or attendance. Such activities will be assigned a value and listed under "Other Activities".

Grading Scale
A  90% - 100%
B  80% - 89%
C  70% - 79%
D  60% - 69%
F  Below 60 %