

CRJU/LGST 126

Vehicle Laws and Accident Investigation

3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County
Common Course Outline

Description

CRJU/LGST 126 – Vehicle Laws and Accident Investigation: is a course that focuses on Maryland motor vehicle, federal commercial vehicle, and traffic-related laws and associated offenses. Additionally, this course covers motor vehicle safety principles, citation and arrest procedures, and crash investigation procedures. Students gain an understanding of the procedures and coding for the Maryland Automated Crash Reporting System (ACRS).

Pre-requisites: ACLT 053 or (ESOL 052 and ESOL 054)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. describe the need for and the different methods in performing traffic law enforcement patrol;
2. identify the various motor vehicle violations and the elements of those violations;
3. identify the elements of selective traffic law enforcement designed to reduce motor vehicle crashes;
4. describe the role of a law enforcement officer in traffic law enforcement;
5. identify the various options a traffic violator may exercise in response to a motor vehicle citation;
6. identify various circumstances when it is appropriate to impound a vehicle and/or obtain a search warrant before inspecting a vehicle involved in a motor vehicle crash;
7. demonstrate the various investigative components of a motor vehicle crash and the related issuance of traffic citations;
8. identify the causes and factors that contribute to motor vehicle crashes, i.e. driver factors, mechanical failures, and roadway defects;
9. demonstrate the important components of courtroom testimony as it relates to prosecuting violators of the motor vehicle code in a moot court setting; and
10. identify factors and circumstances when a law enforcement officer must investigate a motor vehicle collision.

Major Topics

- I. Introduction
 - a. History
 - b. Need for Traffic Law Enforcement
- II. Vehicle Law
 - a. Structure of Maryland Vehicle Law
 - b. Review of Important Titles

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.
For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- c. Impaired Driving Regulations
 - d. Traffic Enforcement Procedures
 - e. Adjudication
- III. Traffic Crash Investigation
 - a. Classification of Traffic Crashes
 - b. Causes of Traffic Crashes
 - c. Steps of Traffic Crash Management
 - d. Presentation of Evidence in the Courtroom
 - e. Interview of Witnesses and Drivers
 - f. Crash Reporting (ACRS)
- IV. Traffic Safety Programs
 - a. Elements of Safety Programs
 - b. Use of Data

Course Requirements

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- two tests
- two written assignments which combine objective and analytical/critical thinking components such as researching and analyzing a fictional client's case and a preparing a written memorandum detailing the law on point and the student's application and analysis of the law to the client's situation.

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

Date Revised: 3/5/2024

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.
For more information, see your professor's syllabus.