

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

**TRUCK 010**

**Heavy Duty Truck & Bus Driving, DMV Class "A"; Written Examination Preparation**

Commercial drivers license requirements, trucking overview, basics, laws, record keeping and inspections. This course will prepare students for the California DMV Class "A" written examination (permit) with all required endorsements.

Lecture 19 hours per week = 19 Units

PREREQUISITES: Students must have a valid California Class "C" (passenger vehicle) license; no more than two points on current DMV record; no SR-22 requirements; no physical limitations that might preclude the passage of a DOT/DMV physical examination, and the issuance of a DOT "Medical Card"; no history of DUI's within the last five years on DMV record; no parole restrictions that prevent travel out of county; ability to speak, read, understand and converse in normal, conversational English; ability to pass a DOT/DMV physical examination (DOT/DMV random drug tests required – DMV "pull-notice" program), and ability to drive a standard transmission vehicle.

PREREQUISITE/COREQUISITE: TRUCK 011#3                      Heavy Duty Truck & Bus Driving, DMV Class "A"; Practical Examination

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: Once

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS:

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify and use concepts in basic tractor and trailer mechanical components
- B. Demonstrate basic knowledge of trucking industry terminology
- C. Apply and analyze regulatory law and safety
- D. Retrieve and analyze relevant information from the vehicle code
- E. Apply knowledge and skills learned for successful testing to receive a DMV Class "A" permit with all endorsements

IV. CONTENT:

- A. Tractor and Trailer Mechanical Components Overview
  1. Mechanical terminology
  2. Mechanical concepts
  3. Operational procedures; relationship of systems; air brakes components; trailer coupling; engines & transmissions; fuel systems; proper pre-trip procedures
- B. Trucking Terminology and Regulatory Law
  1. History of trucking in North America
  2. Trucking industry terminology and business practices
- C. Basic Regulatory Law and Safety
  1. Hours of services; applicable federal regulations; logs and required record keeping
  2. Basic tractor-trailer safety
- D. California Vehicle Code (CVC)
  1. CVC regulations; heights, speeds, weights, dimensions
- E. Preparation of California Class "A" Permit
  1. General knowledge
  2. Combination vehicles
  3. Doubles & triples
  4. Air brakes
  5. Tankers
  6. Hazardous materials
  7. Passenger

- V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:
- A. Classroom lecture, demonstration(s), with videos and other aids
  - B. Classroom group activities, projects, and exercises
- VI. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:
- A. Reading
    - 1. Read first chapter of the "DMV Commercial Handbook". What is the reason for length limit for a tractor and two semi-trailers in California? Explain how do they differ from other states and why.
    - 2. Read Chapter 4 of the "Careers Truck Driver Training Handbook". Explain the effect of driver fatigue both on the physical health of the driver as well as on the driver's judgement and decision making skills.
    - 3. Interview a long-distance truck driver working locally, and share your observations with the class. Keep a journal of the journey with your personal observations of the driver's skills and experiences.
    - 4. Read applicable sections of the CVC. Explain the differences of code requirements between a Class "A" license and a Class "C" license.
  - B. Writing, problem solving, or performance
    - 1. Complete written logbook problem including accurate times, breaks and mileage for a mock trip between Sacramento and Los Angeles (400 miles).
    - 2. Complete practice tests on CVC segments including mock-ups of the Class "A" permit test.
  - C. Projects
    - 1. Classroom group exercise on DMV permit examination(s)
    - 2. DOT logbook project and trip planning. Complete mock logbook base on a trip from Los Angeles, Ca, to Las Vegas, NV, a 300-mile trip.
    - 3. Individual projects on trucking industry as assigned by the instructor
    - 4. Plan the best route for a tip from Los Angeles to New York for both summer and winter trip.
- VII. EVALUATION:
- A. Methods of Evaluation:
    - 1. Graded assignments
    - 2. Logbook project
    - 3. DMV written evaluation (tests) both practice and actual  
Typical Question:  
What is the maximum amount of time you can drive before a rest period is taken under California Law?
    - 4. Final written examination  
Typical Questions:
      - a. Describe the major road hazards commercial driver face and the best ways to avoid them.
      - b. How many times can you fail on your DMV pre-trip skills and/or drive test before you have to repay the \$65 fee and take the permit test again?
    - 5. Continuing instructor and peer evaluation as to knowledge retention on group discussion and collaborative class project and exercises
    - 6. Periodic tests both verbal and written along with peer evaluation
  - B. Frequency of Evaluation:
    - 1. Daily quizzes both verbal and written: less frequent for peer review
    - 2. Six weekly exams
    - 3. One final exam
    - 4. One final project

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Last updated 11/20/2002 11:23 AM

VIII. TYPICAL TEXT(S):

Department of Motor Vehicle, California Vehicle Code book, 1999  
Department of Motor Vehicle, California DMV Commercial Driver's Handbook, 1999  
DOT Handbook, Coaching the Professional Truck Driver, 1998  
US Department of Transportation, Coaching the Professional Truck Driver, 1999

IX. OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

Log Book, Road Atlas