

**Course Outline**

**COURSE:** JLE 150                      **DIVISION:** 50                      **ALSO LISTED AS:**

**TERM EFFECTIVE:** Summer 2024                      **CURRICULUM APPROVAL DATE:** 04/09/2024

**SHORT TITLE:** TRAFFIC INVESTIGATIONS

**LONG TITLE:** Traffic Investigations

<u>Units</u>	<u>Number of Weeks</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Contact Hours/Week</u>	<u>Total Contact Hours</u>
1	18	Lecture:	.45	8.1
		Lab:	1.8	32.4
		Other:	0	0
		Total:	2.25	40.5

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Out of Class Hrs:                      16.2  
 Total Learning Hrs:                      56.7

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to provide students with necessary investigative skills which will enable them to properly conduct thorough preliminary and follow-up investigations of vehicular collisions. The course is structured to augment training in vehicle accident investigation which students have already received and to provide specialized, advanced training in more sophisticated concepts and techniques of vehicle collision investigation which are applicable to follow-up investigations. This is a pass/no pass course.  
**PREREQUISITE:** POST Basic Certificate (JLE 100) or Equivalent, Valid California Driver's License.

**PREREQUISITES:**

Completion of JLE 100, as UG, with a grade of C or better.

**COREQUISITES:**

**CREDIT STATUS:** C - Credit - Degree Non Applicable

**GRADING MODES**

P - Pass/No Pass

**REPEATABILITY:** N - Course may not be repeated

**SCHEDULE TYPES:**

- 02 - Lecture and/or discussion
- 03 - Lecture/Laboratory
- 04 - Laboratory/Studio/Activity

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Effectively manage traffic collision scenes to ensure their safety, the safety of others and protect the integrity of the collision scene.
2. Identify side skid and acceleration skid marks.
3. Students will list the investigative procedures of a traffic collision and write comprehensive collision reports.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. identify the basic knowledge, skills and abilities to accurately investigate, render a reasonable opinion as to fault, and write a comprehensive report. This training includes the required topics per California Vehicle Code Section 40600.

**COURSE CONTENT:**

Curriculum Approval Date: 04/09/2024

**LECTURE CONTENT:**

- I. INTRODUCTION / COURSE OVERVIEW (1 hour Lec)
  - A. Instructor introduction
  - B. Student introduction
  - C. Introduction to collision investigation
1. Overview of course instruction for the week
2. Introduction to the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS)
3. Current traffic collision statistics for California
4. Levels of collision investigation training
5. Responsibilities and policies
6. Successful completion of the course

**COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):**

**[LECTURE CONTENT CONTINUED]**

- III. SCENE MANAGEMENT (2 hours Lec)
  - A. Primary objectives of peace officers who respond to calls involving vehicle collisions.
  - B. Considerations upon arrival to a traffic collision scene
  - C. Introduction to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
    - 1. Determination and classification of incident
    - 2. Determination should be made within 15 minutes of arrival
    - 3. Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) Zone
  - D. Safety hazards that officers should be aware of when approaching the scene of a traffic collision
    - 1. Traffic speed and conditions
    - 2. Lighting and weather
    - 2. Roadway blockage and debris hazards
    - 3. Additional resources to assist
  - E. Key responsibilities of peace officers regarding vehicle collisions
    - 1. Scene safety
    - 2. Care for injured parties
    - 3. Notify dispatch and request additional resources
      - 4. Protect and preserve evidence
      - 5. Collect evidence
      - 6. Complete collision report
- IV. HIGHWAY DEFINITIONS (2 hours Lec)
  - A. Highway element definitions
    - 1. Highway
    - 2. Freeway
    - 3. Street
    - 4. Alley
    - 5. Roadway
    - 6. Edgeline
    - 7. Shoulder
    - 8. Road
    - 9. Sidewalk
    - 10. Median
    - 11. Median Barrier
    - 12. Ramp
    - 13. Bridgerail
    - 14. Guardrail
    - 15. Lane Numbering
    - 16. Intersection
    - 17. Impact Energy Attenuators

**COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):**

**[LECTURE CONTENT CONTINUED]**

- B. Collision investigation definitions
  - 1. Accident or Collision
  - 2. Motor Vehicle
  - 3. Motorcycle
  - 4. Motorized Bicycle
  - 5. Motorized Scooter
  - 6. Bicycle
  - 7. In-Transport
  - 8. Party
  - 9. Driver
  - 10. Passenger
  - 11. Pedestrian
  - 12. Witness
  - 13. Motor Vehicle Traffic Collision
  - 14. Motor Vehicle Non-Traffic Collision
  - 15. Area of Impact
  - 16. Injury
  - 17. Collision After Stabilized Situation
  - 18. Deliberate Intent
  - 19. Legal Intervention
  - 20. Non-Contact Involved Party
  - 21. On-Duty Emergency Vehicle
  - 22. School Bus Collision
  - 23. Staged Traffic Collision
  - 24. Non-Contact Involved Party
  - 25. Tow Away
  - 26. Classification of Reporting
  - 27. Courtesy report
  - 28. Counter Report
  - 29. Late-Reported Collision
- V. NINE CELL MATRIX (1 hour Lec)
- A. Elements of a traffic collision
  - 1. Three phases of a collision
  - 2. Three environments of a collision

**COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):**

**[LECTURE CONTENT CONTINUED]**

VI. IDENTIFICATION OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE (2.1 hour Lec)

- A. Overview and importance of physical evidence
  - 1. Vehicles and people
  - 2. Debris
  - 3. Fluids
  - 4. Tire friction marks
  - 5. Critical speed scuff
  - 6. Gap skid
  - 7. Skip skid
  - 8. Squib
  - 9. ABS tire friction marks

**LAB CONTENT:**

Both Lab and Lec and integrated into this course.

III. SCENE MANAGEMENT (4.4 hours Lab)

- A. Primary objectives of peace officers who respond to calls involving vehicle collisions.
- B. Considerations upon arrival to a traffic collision scene
- C. Introduction to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
  - 1. Determination and classification of incident
  - 2. Determination should be made within 15 minutes of arrival
  - 3. Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) Zone
- D. Safety hazards that officers should be aware of when approaching the scene of a traffic collision
  - 1. Traffic speed and conditions
  - 2. Lighting and weather
  - 2. Roadway blockage and debris hazards
  - 3. Additional resources to assist
- E. Key responsibilities of peace officers regarding vehicle collisions
  - 1. Scene safety
  - 2. Care for injured parties
  - 3. Notify dispatch and request additional resources
    - 4. Protect and preserve evidence
    - 5. Collect evidence
    - 6. Complete collision report

**COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):**

**[LAB CONTENT CONTINUED]**

- IV. HIGHWAY DEFINITIONS (2 hours Lab)
  - A. Highway element definitions
    - 1. Highway
    - 2. Freeway
    - 3. Street
    - 4. Alley
    - 5. Roadway
    - 6. Edgeline
    - 7. Shoulder
    - 8. Road
    - 9. Sidewalk
    - 10. Median
    - 11. Median Barrier
    - 12. Ramp
    - 13. Bridgerail
    - 14. Guardrail
    - 15. Lane Numbering
    - 16. Intersection
    - 17. Impact Energy Attenuators

**COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):**

**[LAB CONTENT CONTINUED]**

- B. Collision investigation definitions
  - 1. Accident or Collision
  - 2. Motor Vehicle
  - 3. Motorcycle
  - 4. Motorized Bicycle
  - 5. Motorized Scooter
  - 6. Bicycle
  - 7. In-Transport
  - 8. Party
  - 9. Driver
  - 10. Passenger
  - 11. Pedestrian
  - 12. Witness
  - 13. Motor Vehicle Traffic Collision
  - 14. Motor Vehicle Non-Traffic Collision
  - 15. Area of Impact
  - 16. Injury
  - 17. Collision After Stabilized Situation
  - 18. Deliberate Intent
  - 19. Legal Intervention
  - 20. Non-Contact Involved Party
  - 21. On-Duty Emergency Vehicle
  - 22. School Bus Collision
  - 23. Staged Traffic Collision
  - 24. Non-Contact Involved Party
  - 25. Tow Away
  - 26. Classification of Reporting
  - 27. Courtesy report
  - 28. Counter Report
  - 29. Late-Reported Collision
- V. NINE CELL MATRIX (1 hour Lab)
- A. Elements of a traffic collision
  - 1. Three phases of a collision
  - 2. Three environments of a collision

**COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):**

**[LAB CONTENT CONTINUED]**

VI. IDENTIFICATION OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE (3 hours Lab)

A. Overview and importance of physical evidence

1. Vehicles and people
2. Debris
3. Fluids
4. Tire friction marks
5. Critical speed scuff
6. Gap skid
7. Skip skid
8. Squib
9. ABS tire friction marks

VII. MEASURING & DIAGRAMMING (3 hours Lab)

A. Overview of "Measuring and Diagramming"

1. Methods of mapping a crime / collision scene
2. Vehicles
3. People
4. Debris
5. Fluids
6. Tire friction marks
7. Marking mechanisms
8. Measurement collection

B. Factual diagramming

1. Techniques
2. Students shall complete the Factual Diagram and Legend of their Collision Investigation



**COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):**

**[LAB CONTENT CONTINUED]**

- VIII. NORTHWESTERN TEMPLATE (3 hours Lab)
  - A. Overview of the Northwestern Template
    - 1. Scale
    - 2. Radius
    - 3. Vehicles / people
    - 4. Calculating basic speed
  
- IX. COLLISION INVESTIGATION REPORT PROCEDURES (4 hours Lab)
  - A. CHP 555, Page 1
    - 1. Header information
    - 2. Collision occurred on
    - 3. Party information
    - 4. Vehicle information
    - 5. Footer information
  - B. CHP 555, page 2
    - 1. Header information
    - 2. Property damage section
    - 3. Seating position, safety equipment, inattention codes
    - 4. Primary Collision Factors
    - 5. Weather
    - 6. Lighting
    - 7. Roadway surface
    - 8. Roadway conditions
    - 9. Traffic control devices
    - 10. Type of collision
    - 11. Motor vehicle involved with
    - 12. Pedestrians actions
    - 13. Special information
    - 14. Other associated factors
    - 15. Movement preceding collision
    - 16. Sobriety-drug physical
    - 17. Sketch

**COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):**

**[LAB CONTENT CONTINUED]**

- 18. Miscellaneous box
  
- C. CHP 555, page 3
  - 1. Header information
  - 2. Injured
  - 3. Witness
  - 4. Passenger
- X. PRIMARY COLLISION FACTORS (2 hours Lab)
  - A. General and specific PCF violations
    - 1. Speed
    - 2. Turning
    - 3. Right-of-way
    - 4. Others
    - 5. Bicycles
    - 6. Pedestrians
    - 7. DUI
- XI. SKETCHING (3 hours Lab)
  - A. Rules of sketching
    - 1. Proportional
    - 2. North arrow
    - 3. Write parallel to bottom of page
    - 4. Identify pertinent highway characteristics
    - 5. Show all area's of impact
    - 6. Show travel paths of vehicles / parties
    - 7. Label all vehicles / parties
    - 8. Road measurements
- XII. COLLISION REPORT NARRATIVE (1 hour Lab)
  - A. Overview of the traffic collision report ?Narrative?
    - 1. Facts
    - 2. Statements
    - 3. Opinions and Conclusions
    - 4. Recommendations

**COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):**

**[LAB CONTENT CONTINUED]**

XIV. PHOTOGRAPHY (2 hours Lab)

A. Overview of proper traffic collision scene photography techniques/procedures

1. Overview of crime scene / collision scene photography
2. Procedures and methodology
3. What to photograph

XV. INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES (3 hours Lab)

A. Interview of parties involved in a traffic collision

1. Interviewing techniques

B. Interview of witnesses

1. Standard interview technique
2. Conversation Management technique
3. Cognitive interview technique

C. Interrogation

1. Miranda issues
2. Beheler advisement
3. Techniques

VIDEO CLIPS SHOWN DURING COURSE INSTRUCTION

HVE Simulation, "Both Suburbans behind and to the right"

Red Light Violation

Reoccurring Accident

Run Over Accident

Arizona man interview

Interview/Interrogation of Vega and Bledsoe

POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS

Collision Investigation Introduction

Scene Management

Definitions (#1)

Definitions (#2)

Nine-Cell Matrix

Physical Evidence

Measuring and Diagramming

CHP 555(Page 1)

CHP 555(Page 2)

CHP 555(Page 3)

PCF Violations

Narrative

Photography

Interview/Interrogation

XVI. COURSE REVIEW/WRAP UP (1 hour Lab)

A. Course Review

B. Final Examination

C. Course Evaluation

D. Certificates

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Lecture, discussion and demonstration will serve as the medium of instruction. Individual guidance will be provided as required.

**OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:**

Required Outside Hours 16

Assignment Description

Department policy and procedures review.

**METHODS OF EVALUATION:**

Writing assignments

Evaluation Percent 25

Evaluation Description

Written Homework;

Collision reports

Problem-solving assignments

Evaluation Percent 25

Evaluation Description

Field Work;

Quizzes

Skill demonstrations

Evaluation Percent 25

Evaluation Description

Performance Exams

Objective examinations

Evaluation Percent 25

Evaluation Description

Multiple Choice;

True/False

**REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:**

Traffic Collision Investigation Student Workbook , POST , 2024 or a comparable textbook/material.

Rationale: Provided by SBRPSTC

12 Grade Verified by: Doug Achterman

**OTHER MATERIALS:**

Instructor handouts Department Policy and Procedures

**ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION**

Associate Degree:

CSU GE:

IGETC:

CSU TRANSFER:

Transferable CSU, effective 199270

Not Transferable

UC TRANSFER:

Not Transferable

Not Transferable

**SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:**

Basic Skills: N

Classification: Y

Noncredit Category: Y

Cooperative Education:

Program Status: 1 Program Applicable

Special Class Status: N

CAN:

CAN Sequence:

CSU Crosswalk Course Department:

CSU Crosswalk Course Number:

Prior to College Level: Y

Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N

Funding Agency Code: Y

In-Service: N

Occupational Course: B

Maximum Hours:

Minimum Hours:

Course Control Number: CCC000244322

Sports/Physical Education Course: N

Taxonomy of Program: 210500