

PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: DRIVERS THEORY

Course Overview and Essential Skills

The driver's theory program is committed to preparing students for the information necessary to be a safe and successful driver. Proper skills and information are relayed and practiced throughout the course. The course also offers education in the areas of alcohol and drug use as it related to driving.

- Identify risks in driving
- Understand the level of maturity necessary for driving
- Understand the physical and mental skills that are necessary to be a successful driver
- Complete all class study guides and outlines
- Complete all projects and assessments

Course Textbook and Required Materials

- Glencoe *Responsible Driving* Textbook
- The Pennsylvania Driver's Manual
- Notebook/Binder

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Concepts/Skills/Resources	Timeframe
DRIVING, MOBILITY, AND LAWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the value of taking a driver education course • Recognize the basic elements that make a safe, responsible driver • Distractions and attentiveness • Identify signs, signals and pavement markings • Describe the general traffic and administration laws in Pennsylvania • Parents and driving • Risk and Cost • The Highway Transportation System <p>Drivo Activity</p>	<u>3.0 Weeks</u>
BASIC VEHICLE CONTROLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe vehicle control systems • Identify the types of system checks to be made prior to driving 	<u>3.0 Weeks</u>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the basic maneuvers used when driving • Protective Systems • Information and Communication • Automatic vs. Standard • Moving, Turning, Parking <p>Project: Dashboard Assignment</p>	
<p>FOUNDATIONS OF EFFECTIVE DRIVING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the importance of searching and giving meaning to obstacles in the driving environment • SIPDE • Smith System • Recognize the importance of visibility, time and space as they relate to driving • Sound, balance, and touch <p>AT&T and Werner Herzog: From One Second to the Next</p> <p>Activity : Werner Herzog Activity</p>	<p><u>3.0 Weeks</u></p>
<p>APPLYING EFFECTIVE DRIVING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the procedures for starting, steering and stopping a vehicle • Identify the different driving environments (Residential, Urban, Multiple, Rural) • Describe how to safely share the roads with other roadway users – bicycles, motorcycles, pedestrians, animals, large and small vehicles, and construction. • Intersections – railroads, roundabouts, and interchanges. <p><u>Clips:</u> Rural roads, driving in the city, country roads, car accidents, children around the road, animals and close calls, dash cam involving bikes and motorcycles, light and big trucks, busses, emergency vehicles, all intersections including railroads and roundabouts. Youtube.com</p> <p><u>Activity:</u> Driverless car article and group list and debate.</p>	<p><u>3.0 Weeks</u></p>

<p>CHALLENGES TO VEHICLE CONTROLS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed appropriateness • Total Stopping distance • Natural Laws and movement • Crash damage • Describe how light, weather and environmental conditions effect driving • Planning • Identify key points when responding to emergencies brake, tire, steering, and engine failure. • Waiting for help and protecting the scene • Collision protocol <p><u>Vids:</u> Myth busters: Crash Force – Newton’s Law.</p> <p>Underwater escape and inverted escape.</p> <p>Investigation Discovery: Miles to Nowhere.</p>	<p><u>3.0 Weeks</u></p>
<p>DRIVING READINESS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how emotions, vision, short-term and long-term physical conditions effect driving ability • Identify physical, psychological and social readiness • Define the term social pressure • Develop strategies for handling social pressures while driving • Identify consequences of drinking/drug use while driving • Describe how drinking and other drugs effect driving ability • Develop a plan for buying and maintaining a vehicle • Plan a trip using map skills • Research the purchase of a vehicle (safety ratings, insurance, consumer reports, etc.) <p>Project: Car Purchase Project and Research</p>	<p><u>3.0 Weeks</u></p>

**Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.*