

**CVOP 1201**  
**COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENSE DRIVING SKILLS**

**Western Texas College**

- I. Course Description
  - A. Overview of the State of Texas Class A Commercial Driver's License driving test. In-depth coverage of in-cab air brake test, proper shifting, right and left-hand turns, movement in traffic, parking of a tractor trailer, highway and city driving, and backward movement and control.
- II. Basic Program Requirements
  - A. Valid driver's license
  - B. DOT (Department of Transportation) Physical Certification
  - C. Proof of personal health/accident insurance is required.
  - D. Random drug testing will be performed on all Electrical Lineman Technology students.
- III. Course Objectives
  - A. To successfully complete written and driving exams to obtain Commercial Driver's License.
- IV. Student Learning Outcomes
  - A. Explain the air brake system; perform an in-cab air brake test; and demonstrate safe operation and compliance with the law in various maneuvers of a commercial vehicle in various traffic situations.
- V. Outcome Assessment Methods
  - A. Successful completion of written and driving exams to obtain Commercial Driver's License.
- VI. Grading
  - A. Grading will be evaluated by Texas DPS.
- VII. Student Attendance
  - A. Class roll will be taken since regular and punctual attendance is expected for all designated class meeting time
  - B. The attendance policy established by the College and set out in the current catalog will be applied in determining student attendance. *This includes the reporting of three hours of unexcused absences to the Counseling Center by the instructor, and an administrative drop for repeated attendance policy violations.*
  - C. Students are encouraged to coordinate anticipated absences with the instructor and/or to advise the Counseling Center of any anticipated longer-term absences from class
  - D. Please keep in mind that this course contains a significant number of graded assignments
  - E. Excessive absences will result in the failure to complete one or more of these activities and therefore result in the loss of credit as described above.
  - F. PLEASE NOTE:

- Every three unexcused absences will result in the loss (drop) of a letter grade, regardless of a student's course average.
- Tardies will be treated the same, with five tardies being equivalent to a loss (drop) in a letter grade.

VIII. Conduct and Academic Dishonesty

A. This course will be taught in a college classroom environment. Students will come to class prepared to participate in the learning process and that part of this preparation will include the demonstration of mature and purposeful behavior. Therefore, activities such as sleeping in class, interruptive talking with fellow students (including cell phones), rudeness to fellow students, overt tobacco use or other types of inappropriate behavior (including cheating and plagiarism) will not be tolerated, and may be dealt with by instructor-initiated student withdrawal from class. College policy prohibits the consumption of drinks and snacks in the classroom.

IX. Additional Requirements

- A. Complete all course work with at least a score of 85, and pass 50% of the scheduled tests.
- B. Complete each level with a passing evaluation.

X. Required Books

- A. Book: Texas Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers Handbook – Texas Department of Public Safety

XI. Course Schedule

Course Content	
<p><u>Topic:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The U.S. Trucking Industry</li> <li>• How the Trucking Industry Is Regulated</li> <li>• Federal and State Regulating Agencies</li> <li>• Commercial Motor Vehicles</li> <li>• Becoming a Professional</li> <li>• Safety Training and Instruction</li> </ul> <p>Lab 1: Truck Driving Lab</p>	
<p><u>Topic:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-trip, En Route, and post trip Inspection Guidelines</li> <li>• Tire Inspection, including Mud Flaps/Splash Guards</li> <li>• Braking, Steering, Suspension, Exhaust and Coupling System Inspection</li> <li>• Cargo Inspection</li> <li>• Step for a Pre-trip Inspection</li> <li>• En Route and Post-trip Inspections</li> </ul>	

- Vehicle Condition Report

Lab 2: Truck Driving Lab

Topic:

- Vehicle Control
- Vehicle Instruments
- Frame, Suspension System, and Axles
- Engines
- Computer Management System
- Fuel System
- Air Intake and Exhaust System
- Lubrication, Coolant and Electrical System
- Drivetrain
- Transmission
- Driveshaft and Universal Joints
- Differential, Wheels and Tires
- Mounting System
- Tread Design and Wheel Position
- Normal Tire Inflation
- Steering and Coupling System

Lab 3: Truck Driving Lab

Topic:

- Start, Warm-up, and Shutdown Routines
- Putting the Vehicle into Motion, and Stopping
- Backing in a Straight Line
- Turning the Vehicle
- Range Practice
- Shift Control and Aid to Shifting
- Non-synchronized Transmission
- Shifting Patterns and Procedures
- Shifting Semiautomatic Transmission and a Fully Automatic Transmission
- Backing Principles, Rules and Safety
- Basic Backing Maneuvers
- The Coupling Sequence
- Step-by-Step Uncoupling Procedure

Lab 4: Outside lab

Topic:

- Shifting Weight
- The Bridge Formula

- Maneuverability and Off-Tracking
- The Fifth Wheel – Sliding the Fifth Wheel
- Trailer Tandem Axles
- Preventive and other Types of Maintenance
- Federal Motor Vehicles Inspection and Maintenance Requirements
- Driver Vehicle Conditions Report (VCR)
- Basic Service and Routine Maintenance
- Checking Tire Air Pressure and Draining the Air Reservoirs
- Adjusting the Tractor-Trailer Brakes
- Diagnosing-Solving Malfunctions
- Convey Your Intent
- Signaling
- Using Cell Phone Safely

Lab 5: Truck Driving Lab

Topic:

- Space Ahead, Behind, Side, Overhead, Below
- Space for Turns
- Space to Cross or Enter Traffic
- Focusing on the Road Ahead
- Scanning and the Visual Search
- Use of Mirrors
- Speed Management Terminology
- Speed and Stopping Distance
- Driving on Various Road Surfaces
- Taking Curves Safely
- Driving on Hills
- Work Zone Driving Safety
- Visibility, Speed and Traffic

Lab 6: Truck Driving Lab

Topic:

- Night Driving Factors, Procedures and Adjustments
- Starting your Engine in Cold Weather
- An Engine That Will Not Start
- Bad Weather Operating Hazards and Driving in Bad Weather
- Driving in Hot Weather / Desert
- Mountain Driving
- Auxiliary Brakes and Speed Retarders
- Escape Ramps
- Vehicle Control Factors
- Causes of Skids and Preventing Skids
- Tractor-Trailer Skids and Anti-jack knife

- Antilock Brakes
- Skid Recovery
- What Is a Hazard?
- Commentary Driving and Hazard Perception
- Recognizing Hazards and Sources of Clues

Lab 7: Truck Driving Lab

Topic:

- Active versus Passive Railroad Crossing
- Driver Behavior and Distractions at Passive Railroad Crossings
- Warnings to Heed
- What Every Driver Needs to Know About Railroad Crossings
- Avoiding Emergencies
- Emergency Maneuvers
- Accident Reporting When Hazardous Materials Are Involved
- Giving First Aid
- Fires and Firefighting
- Fire Extinguisher
- Long Combination Vehicles
- Special Trailer Types
- Low-Clearance Vehicles
- High Center of Gravity in Vehicles
- Unstable Loads
- Special Cargo Vehicles and Special Handling Vehicles

Lab 8: Truck Driving Lab

Topic:

- New Cargo Securement Regulations
- Importance and Fundamentals of Handling Cargo Properly
- Accepting and Loading Freight
- Vehicle Weight and Distribution of Weight
- Transportation Charges and Services
- Basic Shipping Documents
- Driver's Signature and Responsibility
- Previously Loaded Trailers
- Delivery of Freight and Interline Freight
- Hazardous Materials and Waste
- Types of Driving runs and Assignments
- Route Selection and Map Reading
- Calculating Travel Time and Fuel Usage
- Keeping Records and Trip Planning Software
- Vehicle Licensing and Permits
- Federal Length and Weight Limits

- State Limits and Roadside Enforcement
- New House-of-Service Ruling-The Basics
- Record of Duty Status
- Driver Declared out of Service
- Penalties

Lab #10 Truck Driving Lab

Topic:

- The Department of Homeland Security
- Transportation Security Administration
- Protective Measures and the importance of security
- Public Relations / Customer Relations
- Employer-Employee Relations
- Applying for a Job

Lab #11 Truck Driving Lab

Topic:

- Driver Nutrition and Exercise
- Job Stress and Driver Fatigue
- Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
- Annual or Biannual DOT Physical
- Driver Safety and Roadside Emergencies
- Causes of Accidents
- The HazMat CDL Endorsement
- The Hazard Class
- The Shipper's Role in Hazardous Material Handling
- The Carrier and Driver's Responsibility in Handling Hazardous Materials
- What Drivers Should Know about Shipping Papers
- Mixed Shipments of Non-HazMat and HazMat Cargo
- HazMat Emergencies
- How to Use the Hazardous Materials Table
- The Hazardous Waste Manifest
- Security Measures for HazMat Loads

Lab #12 Truck Driving Lab

Topic:

- Onboard Recorders and Global Positioning System
- Electronic Payment
- Fuel Management and Reporting
- Communication and Regulatory Compliance

- OSHA Whistleblowers Protections-What They Cover and How to Report Violations
- Information Required on the CDL
- New CDL Rules Issued in 2002 and new rules for Washington State in 2009
- Classes of Licenses and Endorsements
- CDL Knowledge and Skills Tests
- Once You Have A CDL

Lab #13 Truck Driving Lab

Topic: INTENSIVE REVIEW ALL WEEK

Lab #14 INTENSIVE REVIEW

Topic: INTENSIVE REVIEW ALL WEEK

Lab 14: INTENSIVE REVIEW

Disclaimer: Schedule and content is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Last Modified: August 24, 2016