

Virginia Western Community College

RVH 130

Motorcycle Rider Safety

Prerequisites

A valid VA automobile license or a VA motorcycle learner's permit. No previous riding experience is necessary, but a good sense of balance and coordination is required.

Course Description

This course is not eligible for financial aid. Studies principles and basic skills of motorcycle riding with an emphasis on safety. Includes street strategies, protective gear, and selection and care/maintenance of motorcycles.

Semester Credits: 1 Lecture Hours: 1 Lab/Clinical/Internship Hours: 0

Required Materials

Textbook:

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course – Rider Handbook, (Latest version Provided on-line by College through MSF)

Other Required Materials:

DOT-approved motorcycle helmet and eye protection
Sturdy over-the-ankle footwear
Long non-flare denim pants or material of equivalent or better durability
Long-sleeved shirt or jacket
Full-fingered gloves preferably leather

The following supplementary materials are available:

VA Division of Motor Vehicle Motorcycle Handbook

Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Know what to wear, start and stop a motorcycle, understand motorcycle controls and basic motorcycle operation
- Understand street strategies to avoid trouble and stay safe
- Maneuver a motorcycle in tough situations: Swerving, avoiding collisions, special situations, lane changes, passing, and avoiding hazard
- Perform straight-line riding, turning, shifting and stopping, cornering, braking and swerving

- Pass a knowledge and a riding skills test at the end of the course. Passing these two tests earns the student a Motorcycle Safety Foundation Completion Card and a Virginia Class M2 licensing waiver, subject to VA DMV license requirements.

Topical Description

Introduction to Motorcycling

Types of Motorcycles

Risk Awareness

Risk Acceptance

Risk Management

Preparing to Ride

Protective Gear

Pre-ride Inspection & Maintenance

Controls & Basic Riding Skills Information

Range Safety Rules & Signals

Street Strategies

Positioning and Being Visible

Mental Processing

Common Riding Situations

Maximum Braking & Swerving

Special Situations & Impairments

Wrap Up

Testing

Evaluation

Notes to Instructors

- Class evaluations are to be completed after class wrap up
- DMV licensing follow-up for permanent endorsement
- Group riding opportunities, advanced rider classes, & other MSF-related information as time permits

[ADA Statement](#) (PDF)

[Title IX Statement](#) (PDF)