

Motorcyclist Awareness Activities for Driver Education Courses

The following table provides activities which can be conducting during driver education classroom, virtual, and behind-the-wheel instruction. These activities were developed by the Enhancing Motorcyclist Awareness in Education, Licensing and Outreach Working Group.

Activities
1. Show a video or still image of a roadway that includes a traffic scene with motorcyclists. Create a competition to count as quickly as possible, how many motorcyclists are present. This is meant to replicate the quick scanning and searching skills needed when on the actual roadway.
2. Show a minute to a minute and a half brain teaser video that shows how easy it is to miss seeing motorcyclists. The video will show a vehicle driving through a traffic scene. During the video, the narrator will ask questions. The student will need to count how many questions were asked, while simultaneously driving around all sorts of motorists (e.g., pedestrians, cars, trucks, motorcyclists, micro-mobility users) moving in all directions; the greater the variety of examples of roadway users, the better. The student will also need to count how many motorcyclists they saw in the scene in front and behind the vehicle. At the end of the video the instructor will ask how many motorcyclists they counted to see how well they did at seeing motorcyclists.
3. Show a video that includes a car driver/motorcyclist conflict of some sort. The conflict could include something done incorrectly or out of the ordinary. Have the student's problem solve; documenting what they saw. Discuss and share to determine if they saw the motorcyclist, what was done correctly or incorrectly, how many of each they saw, or other miscellaneous details.
4. Show a video of a car driving in multiple driving situations. Provide a bingo sheet and have the students play motorcyclist bingo. The squares could be locations of motorcyclists, colors of motorcycles, types of motorcycles or any combination thereof.
5. Show a video with a motorcyclist crossing your path of travel, while stopped at an intersection. Have the students make guesses as to how many seconds the motorcyclist is from crossing the driver's path. More than likely they will guess farther away than they really are. This example is to highlight how hard it is to judge their speed and distance.
6. Discuss the need for marketing and sending clear messages for motorcyclist safety. <ol style="list-style-type: none">Ask the students to create a motorcyclists safety message with a graphic (e.g., a poster). Have the students share their work and how they would intend to utilize what they created to get the message out. Ask if they would consider using their social media accounts to share the created works.Have students use an app to add motorcyclists' awareness as a backdrop and have them share their pictures.

Activities

7. During a behind-the-wheel lesson have the observing student call out “rider” or other word when they see a motorcyclist.
8. Engage in a discussion that relates riding a motorcycle to riding a bicycle and the special vulnerabilities of motorcyclists and bicyclists based on the student’s experience of riding a bicycle.
9. Show a still image of a roadway scenario involving a motorcyclist (e.g., passing, turning at intersections) and have students anticipate the path of travel the motorcyclist would take and then explain the maneuvers they would make to minimize risk to the motorcyclist.
10. Provide recent state or national motorcyclist crash data. Have the students analyze the data by asking questions and determining factors that may have contributed to the crash and what actions could have been taken to prevent the crash.
11. Bring in a guest speaker to show student’s a motorcycle and motorcycle gear to see how little protection a motorcyclist has.