

A Comparison of Outcomes of Traditional and Online Classroom Instruction in Motorcycle Safety Training in Oregon

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PRESENTATION FORMAT: 15 minute oral presentation

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Educators, curriculum developers

ABSTRACT: For more than 30 years, motorcycle safety training courses have paired traditional, instructor-led classroom with on-cycle exercises to teach the skills necessary for safe motorcycle operation. In 2010-2014, TEAM OREGON, an outreach program of the OSU College of Public Health and Human Sciences, developed an online classroom to replace its traditional classroom. The new classroom, called eRider, is not an online workbook or copy of its existing classroom, but a brand new curriculum informed by NHTSA Model National Standards for Entry-Level Motorcycle Rider Training. A 2014 field test measured student outcomes, comparing courses with online classroom to those using traditional classroom. In all, 1,123 new and returning riders participated in the field test-- 477 in the online group and 646 in the traditional group. Variables of interest were student end-of course evaluation scores, pre-post survey scores, course completion status, knowledge test scores and skill test scores. The results demonstrated that eRider, which requires 34 percent less time than traditional classroom, meets or exceeds the instructional standard set by the traditional classroom in Oregon's approved, mandatory training courses. Motorcycle and driver safety training providers worldwide may benefit from hybrid or computer-based courses using the eRider instructional model.

OBJECTIVE(S): Compare student outcomes of traditional and online instruction in motorcycle safety training courses.

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