

AN ASSESSMENT ON THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF THEORETICAL DRIVING COURSE TOWARDS FOR SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE DRIVING

ABSTRACT

AUTHORS

Jerald Aragon
John Patrick Arbiol
Jerico Bueno
Argie Catarinin
Christopher Rivera

RESEARCH ADVISER

Irene D. Gaviola, MSCJ

AFFILIATION

Bestlink College of the
Philippines

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The Theoretical Driving Course (TDC) aims to foster safe and responsible driving by educating motorists on traffic regulations, defensive driving techniques, and risk management. Despite its intended purpose, the effectiveness of the TDC in reducing traffic violations remains unclear. This study sought to assess the program's influence on drivers' knowledge, skills, and behavior, while also identifying existing challenges and recommending improvements to enhance driving education and promote road safety. This study involved 50 respondents, including 30 student drivers, 15 traffic enforcers, and 5 driving school instructors or staff from Susano Road, Novaliches, Quezon City. A purposive sampling technique was employed to ensure the selection of participants directly relevant to the study. Using a descriptive research design, the study systematically gathered data on the respondents' perceptions of the effectiveness of the Theoretical Driving Course (TDC). Survey questionnaires were personally distributed along Quirino Highway, corner General Luis, and Susano Road. Before distribution, consent was obtained and the study's objectives were clearly explained. To ensure a high response rate and address any clarifications, the researchers remained on-site during the data collection process, resulting in accurate and reliable data for evaluating the TDC's effectiveness. The findings revealed that the Theoretical Driving Course (TDC) was rated as very effective across key components. In Classroom Instruction, Traffic Laws, Rules, and Regulations received a weighted mean of 3.47, while Workshops and Seminars scored 3.40. Under Assessment and Evaluation, Interactive Simulation was rated 3.47, and Driver Techniques and Maneuvers received 3.44. In terms of Skill Enhancement, Road Etiquette obtained the highest score of 3.50, followed by Hazard Perception and Risk Management with 3.37. These Results highlighted the TDC's substantial contribution to enhancing drivers' knowledge, practical skills, and responsible driving behavior. To further improve the effectiveness of the Theoretical Driving Course (TDC), student drivers should actively engage in interactive learning activities, while instructors are encouraged to adopt modern teaching approaches such as simulations and hands-on training. Refresher courses should be implemented regularly to reinforce road safety knowledge. Stronger collaboration between traffic enforcers and educational institutions is recommended, and driving schools should continuously upgrade their curriculum to meet current standards. Moreover, the Land Transportation Office (LTO), local government units (LGUs), and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) should strengthen their advocacy for road safety. Future research is advised to explore how socio-economic backgrounds and learning styles influence the outcomes of TDC. Collectively, these measures aim to enhance driver education and contribute to long-term road safety improvements.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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