



South Portland, Maine 04106

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Title: **Steering & Suspension 2**

Catalog Number: **AUTO-112**

Credit Hours: **2**

Credit Hours: **1 hour lecture / 1 hour lab**

Semester: **Fall 2017**

Total Contact Hours: **15 / 30**

Instructors: **Ruth Morrison and James Daniels**

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## Course Syllabus

### Course Description

This is the second class in a 2 part study of steering and suspension systems. Tasks from the NATEF Master Automobile Service Technology list will be performed. Students will diagnose and repair steering and suspension systems, and dynamic wheel faults. Students will measure and adjust wheel alignment. Electronic steering and suspension systems will also be studied.

Co-requisite: AUTO 111 Steering and Suspension 1

Co-requisite: AUTO 205 Electricity and Electronics 2

### Course Objectives

As a result of this particular course, the student will be familiar with the tasks from the NATEF MASTER AUTOMOBILE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY task list minus the MAINTENANCE AND LIGHT REPAIR tasks that were previously studied in Steering and Suspension 1. The MAST task list is below with the previously studied MLR tasks crossed out. The student must perform all high priority tasks to manufacturer's specifications and document the completion of each task.

### NATEF 2017 Standards TASKS FOR THIS COURSE:

**IV. SUSPENSION AND STEERING MASTER AUTOMOBILE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY tasks minus the MAINTENANCE AND LIGHT REPAIR tasks (MLR tasks are in AUTO 111)**

**For every task in Suspension and Steering, the following safety requirement must be strictly enforced: Comply with personal and environmental safety practices associated with clothing; eye protection; hand tools; power equipment; proper ventilation; and the handling, storage, and disposal of chemicals/materials in accordance with local, state, and federal safety and environmental regulations.**

A. General: Suspension and Steering Systems

~~1. Research vehicle service information including fluid type, vehicle service history, service precautions, and technical service bulletins. — P 4~~

2. Identify and interpret suspension and steering system concerns; determine needed action. P-1

### B. Steering Systems Diagnosis and Repair

~~1. Disable and enable supplemental restraint system (SRS); verify indicator lamp operation. P-1~~

2. Remove and replace steering wheel; center/time supplemental restraint system (SRS) coil (clock spring).  
P-1

3. Diagnose steering column noises, looseness, and binding concerns (including tilt/telescoping mechanisms); determine needed action. P-2

4. Diagnose power steering gear (non-rack and pinion) binding, uneven turning effort, looseness, hard steering, and noise concerns; determine needed action. P-2

5. Diagnose power steering gear (rack and pinion) binding, uneven turning effort, looseness, hard steering, and noise concerns; determine needed action. P-2

6. Inspect steering shaft universal-joint(s), flexible coupling(s), collapsible column, lock cylinder mechanism, and steering wheel; determine needed action. P-2

7. Remove and replace rack and pinion steering gear; inspect mounting bushings and brackets. P-2

8. ~~Inspect~~ rack and pinion steering gear inner tie rod ends (sockets) and bellows boots; replace as needed.  
P-1

~~9. Inspect power steering fluid level and condition. P-1~~

~~10. Flush, fill, and bleed power steering system; use proper fluid type per manufacturer specification. P-2~~

~~11. Inspect for~~ power steering fluid leakage; determine needed action. P-1

~~12. Remove, inspect, replace, and/or adjust power steering pump drive belt. P-1~~

13. Remove and reinstall power steering pump. P-2

14. Remove and reinstall press fit power steering pump pulley; check pulley and belt alignment. P-2

~~15. Inspect, remove and/or replace power steering hoses and fittings. P-2~~

~~16. Inspect,~~ remove and/or replace pitman arm, relay (centerlink/intermediate) rod, idler arm, mountings, and steering linkage damper. P-2

~~17. Inspect,~~ replace, and/or adjust tie rod ends (sockets), tie rod sleeves, and clamps. P-1

18. Inspect, test and diagnose electrically- assisted power steering systems (including using a scan tool); determine needed action. P-2

~~19. Identify hybrid vehicle power steering system electrical circuits and safety precautions. P-2~~

20. Test power steering system pressure; determine needed action. P-2

### C. Suspension Systems Diagnosis and Repair

1. Diagnose short and long arm suspension system noises, body sway, and uneven ride height concerns; determine needed action. P-1

2. Diagnose strut suspension system noises, body sway, and uneven ride height concerns; determine needed action. P-1

~~3. Inspect,~~ remove, and/or replace upper and lower control arms, bushings, shafts, and rebound bumpers. P-3

~~4. Inspect,~~ remove, and/or replace strut rods and bushings. P-3

~~5. Inspect,~~ remove, and/or replace upper and/or lower ball joints (with or without wear indicators). P-2

6. Inspect, remove, and/or replace steering knuckle assemblies. P-3

~~7. Inspect,~~ remove and/or replace short and long arm suspension system coil springs and spring insulators.  
P-3

8. Inspect, remove, and/or replace torsion bars and mounts P-3
- ~~9. Inspect, remove, and/or replace front/rear stabilizer bar (sway bar) bushings, brackets, and links. P-3~~
10. Inspect, remove, and/or replace strut cartridge or assembly, strut coil spring, insulators (silencers), and upper strut bearing mount. P-3
11. Inspect, remove, and/or replace track bar, strut rods/radius arms, and related mounts and bushings. P-3
- ~~12. Inspect rear suspension system leaf spring(s), spring insulators (silencers), shackles, brackets, bushings, center pins/bolts, and mounts. P-1~~

#### D. Related Suspension and Steering Service

1. Inspect, remove, and/or replace shock absorbers; inspect mounts and bushings. P-1
2. Remove, inspect, service and/or replace front and rear wheel bearings. P-1
- ~~3. Describe the function of suspension and steering control systems and components, (i.e. active suspension and stability control). P-3~~

#### E. Wheel Alignment Diagnosis, Adjustment, and Repair

1. Diagnose vehicle wander, drift, pull, hard steering, bump steer, memory steer, torque steer, and steering return concerns; determine needed action. P-1
2. ~~Perform~~ prealignment inspection; ~~measure~~ vehicle ride height; determine needed action. P-1
3. Prepare vehicle for wheel alignment on alignment machine; perform four-wheel alignment by checking and adjusting front and rear wheel caster, camber and toe as required; center steering wheel. P-1
4. Check toe-out-on-turns (turning radius); determine needed action. P-2
5. Check steering axis inclination (SAI) and included angle; determine needed action. P-2
6. Check rear wheel thrust angle; determine needed action. P-1
7. Check for front wheel setback; determine needed action. P-2
8. Check front and/or rear cradle (subframe) alignment; determine needed action. P-3
9. Reset steering angle sensor. P-2

#### F. Wheels and Tires Diagnosis and Repair

- ~~1. Inspect tire condition; identify tire wear patterns; check for correct tire size, application (load and speed ratings), and air pressure as listed on the tire information placard/label. P-1~~
2. Diagnose wheel/tire vibration, shimmy, and noise; determine needed action. P-2
- ~~3. Rotate tires according to manufacturer's recommendation including vehicles equipped with tire pressure monitoring systems (TPMS) P-1~~
4. Measure wheel, tire, axle flange, and hub runout; determine needed action. P-2
5. Diagnose tire pull problems; determine needed action. P-1
- ~~6. Dismount, inspect, and remount tire on wheel; balance wheel and tire assembly. P-1~~
- ~~7. Dismount, inspect, and remount tire on wheel equipped with tire pressure monitoring system sensor. P-1~~
- ~~8. Inspect tire and wheel assembly for air loss; perform needed action. P-1~~
- ~~9. Repair tire following vehicle manufacturer approved procedure. P-1~~
- ~~10. Identify indirect and direct tire pressure monitoring system (TPMS); calibrate system; verify operation of instrument panel lamps. P-1~~
- ~~11. Demonstrate knowledge of steps required to remove and replace sensors in a tire pressure monitoring system (TPMS) including relearn procedure P-1~~

## **Topical Outline of Instruction**

1. Wheel and tire diagnosis and repair.
2. Suspension diagnosis and repair.
3. Steering diagnosis and repair.
4. Alignment fundamentals.
5. Alignment service.
6. Electronic steering and suspension systems.

## **Course Requirements**

- Students will develop a three-ring binder / portfolio of all hand outs, quizzes and tests.
- Students will successfully complete homework, quizzes, and tests.
- Students will successfully complete shop projects as assigned and approved by instructor and maintain documentation of completion with lab sheets and NATEF scoring rubric.

## **Student Evaluation and Grading**

10%: Attendance and Participation

10%: Homework

20%: Quizzes

30%: Tests and Portfolio

30%: Practice of Safety and Shop Participation

## **Attendance Grade**

Out of 100 possible points, 10 points will be deducted for each class absence and 5 points will be deducted for each time tardy.

## **Department Attendance Policy**

**Students missing 15% of the total hours for the course, tardy or absent, will result in an administrative failure for the class. This equals 6.75 hours for this 2 credit course. This is a “no fault” policy, which means the reason(s) for absence are not considered in implementation of the policy.**

## **ASE Student Certification Test**

The final week of this course will consist of an ASE Student Certification Test. It will be administered at the Testing Center, located in the Campus Center building. Students will be responsible for taking the test at their convenience during the normal operating hours of the Testing Center. A photo ID is required. For information about the Testing Center, please see [www.smccme.edu/tests](http://www.smccme.edu/tests)

## **Texts, Tools, and/or Supplies**

- Automotive Technology with NATEF Correlated Task Sheets (5th Edition) by James D. Halderman (ISBN# 9780134209227).
- Electude Argo E Learning Software subscription
- Each student must supply and maintain his or her own set of tools as listed on the “SMCC Automotive Technology Required Student Tool List.”
- Personal protective equipment must be worn at all times in lab. Leather, steel-toe work boots; clear safety glasses with side shields; and a uniform are required for this course.

### **Telephones and Computers**

The use of computers, cell phones, smart phones, or other mobile communication devices is prohibited during lecture, unless the instructor indicates a special circumstance. In case of emergency, phones should be silenced, and answered outside the classroom. Special requests to use a computer for note taking will be considered by the instructor on a case by case basis. Violations of this policy will result in dismissal from the class period and an absence recorded. Repeat problems may result in a sanction from the Dean of Students.

### **Office Hours**

Appointments can be made to accommodate student needs. Please Call or Email for an appointment.

### **Learning Outcomes**

1. When necessary, utilize information-literacy skills, including evaluation of information from a variety of media and proper MLA and/or APA documentation.
2. Use critical thinking and listening skills in written and oral communication as a tool for learning.
3. Read and demonstrate understanding of complex ideas by identifying key concepts.
4. Apply theory to practice using problem solving techniques and data analysis.
5. Solve problems using algebraic techniques.
6. Interpret information presented in charts and graphs or illustrate a scenario using graphic techniques.
7. Utilize quantitative methods to solve and/or assess complex problems to support decision making, forecasting, and recommendations.
8. Participate in a direct experience of scientific inquiry of the natural world using the scientific method.
9. Find and evaluate credible sources of scientific information using a variety of media to support a research need.
10. Demonstrate the capacity to make informed and ethical judgments about the impact of science and technology on the self, the environment, and the practice of sustainability.

### **End-of-Course Evaluation**

In order to gain access to final course grades, students must complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal site. Students can access the course evaluation report beginning two weeks before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs 24 hours after the last day of classes each semester. Instructors will announce when the online course evaluation is available.

### **ADA Syllabus Statement**

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call 207-741-5798. If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to the programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the Disability Services Coordinator, Sandra Lynham, who can be reached at 741-5923. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number. Course policies about online testing are modified to suit each individual's accommodations.

### **Add-Drop Policy**

Students who drop a course during the one-week “add/drop” period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, i.e., 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.

### **Withdrawal Policy**

A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the fall and spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week summer courses. This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Enrollment Service Center (no phone calls, please). The designation “W” will appear on the transcript after a student has officially withdrawn. A course withdrawal is an uncompleted course and may adversely affect financial aid eligibility. Failure to attend or ceasing to attend class does not constitute withdrawal from the course. There is no refund associated with a withdrawal.

### **Plagiarism Statement**

If an instructor suspects that a student has knowingly committed a violation defined in the Maine Community College System Policy on Student Grade Appeals and Academic Misconduct, the instructor has the authority to review the alleged misconduct and determine the grade that the student should receive for the assignment and the course. The instructor may assign a failing grade for the assignment or course and may require the student to complete additional work for the course. The instructor may consult with the department chair and/or the College’s chief academic officer prior to making such decisions. If a student seeks to challenge an instructor’s determination, the student should submit a grade appeal. Grade appeal forms are available in the Advising Office on the South Portland Campus or in the administrative offices in the Learning Commons on the Midcoast Campus. An instructor may also refer the matter to the College’s disciplinary officer for review under the procedures of the MCCS Student Code of Conduct.

### **Cancellations**

When weather conditions require the College to close, we will:

- Notify you through your SMCC email account and send a text alert
- Post a storm message on the SMCC Storm Line (741-5900)
- Post the closure on a banner at the top of the SMCC website
- Post a message on the SMCC Facebook page
- Notify local media outlets
- Post a message on Twitter

When the weather forces the College to close altogether, open late or close early, the following guidelines are in place:

- When the College closes altogether for the day, all classes are canceled and all offices are closed.
- When the College closes early at a specific time, all classes beginning at that time and later are canceled. All classes beginning before the closure time will be held as scheduled. All offices will close at the closing time.
- When the College opens late, all classes beginning before the specified scheduled opening time are canceled. Classes beginning at the opening time and later will be held as scheduled. All offices will open at the opening time.

## **Student Printing Policy**

This policy identifies the cost per page for black and white as well as color printing in varying page sizes. Specifics of the policy are outlined below:

### **Per Page Costs**

Each semester students receive a \$20 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The cost varies depending upon page size and whether printing is done in black and white or color.

- a. There is a \$0.10 per page fee for standard 8.5" by 11" black and white documents.
- b. The reverse sides of duplex (double-sided) documents are free.
- c. There is a \$.50 per page fee for standard 8.5" by 11" color documents.
- d. There is a \$.20 per page fee for 8.5" by 14" (legal) or 11" by 17" (tabloid) black and white documents.
- e. There is a \$1.00 per page fee for 8.5" by 14" (legal) or 11" by 17" (tabloid) color documents.

**Duplex charges** (printing on both sides of a page) work in the following fashion: One page is \$0.10, two pages are \$0.10, three pages are \$0.20, and four pages are \$0.20, *etc.* The flipsides are free, but another sheet of paper is \$0.10. Please be aware that a document with any color at all (when printed to a color printer) will by default be printed in color. You are responsible for setting the print job to print black and white if you do not need color. For directions, please go to the IT Help tab in My SMCC.

### **How does it work?**

The College's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, the Academic Achievement Center, Noisy Lounge and technology labs). Students can check the number of pages they have printed by using the Printing Balance tool available on SMCC computers (located in the lower right corner of the screen, near the clock). Departments with work study students who need to print documents for the department should contact the HelpDesk at 741-5696 to have a special account set up.

### **Refunds**

Print jobs are eligible for a refund in the event of mechanical or electronic error on the part of the printer, print server, or software used to submit the job. Jobs are not eligible for a refund in cases where the job was not set up correctly, was submitted multiple times, or the student is not satisfied with the result. To request a refund, please bring the offending print to the IT Department in the basement of the Ross Technology Center. Refunds will be granted in the form of a credit to the student's account.

### **Why is SMCC charging for printing?**

The pay-for-print system is an effort to control escalating printing costs. Charging for printing helps offset the increasing cost of supplies and encourages students to conserve resources. To find ways to reduce your printing charges, please go to the IT Help tab on My SMCC. If you have questions about the pay-for-printing policy or your printing charges, please contact the HelpDesk at 741-5696 or send an email to [helpdesk@smccme.edu](mailto:helpdesk@smccme.edu).

*Be sure to log OUT of the system when you've finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account.*