Introduction to Weather Skills for Avalanche Workers

*When reading the following course goals and learning objectives, assume that each goal and objective begins with the following phrase: ***By the end of the course/lesson, learners will be able to:***

	Course Goals	Related Learning Objectives				
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
A	**Define common weather terms and give examples**	Define common terms and use them in complete sentences	Distinguish between the terms climate and weather	Identify meteorological chart units	Define isobars or isotherms on a surface observation chart	
B	**Describe basic weather principles and observations**	Observe and discuss current weather condition and its changes over the course of a day	Identify various cloud types observed outside	State all parameters that comprise a weather observation	Obtain weather observation and forecast information using various weather tools	Describe the Coriolis effect
C	**Describe basic weather patterns in the global, synoptic, and regional scale**	Define basic weather phenomena (e.g. warm front etc.) and identify them on a weather map	List all common flow patterns over BC	State examples of topography induced weather phenomena	Identify up-slope areas for different flow patterns	Explain how topography and geographic location affect synoptic scale weather patterns and avalanche climate
D	**Interpret weather resources**	Identify public and commercial weather products	Describe global and synoptic features in current satellite loops using common weather terms	Obtain forecast values for precipitation, wind and temperature for the 850 and 700mb levels	Compare the surface analysis with other weather observations	
E	**Explain how weather conditions affect avalanche hazard**	Describe how specific weather factors impact snow stability	Explain significance of flow patterns to snowpack stability	Discuss the 3 day weather outlook and examine hypothetical outcomes for the avalanche hazard level		

Each goal and objective may be comprised of several classroom and field based lectures.