

Avalanche Operations Level 1

Sample Course Schedule

Please note: This schedule is intended to give you an overview of the general sequence of events during an Avalanche Operations Level 1 course. Many factors will dictate the exact schedule, so please come prepared for the activities and willing to be flexible. While classroom sessions begin at 0800 hours, an earlier arrival will allow you the time to get yourself organized for the sessions. Each day, you will complete a set of AM Weather Observations prior to 0800 and again prior to any afternoon classroom sessions. Afternoon sessions will run into the early evening – a high energy, late afternoon snack and beverage will help you to remain focussed.

Day 1	Course structure, #1 avalanche skill - perception, course risk management, emergency preparedness (approx. 8 hours)
0800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Introduction Human Behaviour and Situational Awareness Operational Avalanche Risk Management Professional Rescue Day 1 Field Trip - professional rescue exam Weather plot and field weather demonstration
1730	Day Wrap Up
Day 2	Fundamentals: snowpack & weather; observing, recording, & practice: accuracy, weather & snowpack (approx. 8 hours)
0800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day Introduction Accuracy of Observations and Records Mountain Weather and Weather Forecasts Mountain Snowpack Observe and Record Weather Data Observe and Record Snowpack Data - Full Snow Profile Day 2 Field Trip - Full snow profile demo and practice Observe and Record Snowpack Data - Recording
1730	Day Wrap Up
Day 3	Fundamentals: terrain, formation & nature; observing, recording, & practice: terrain, occurrences, tests (approx. 8 hours)
0800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day Introduction Avalanche Terrain Avalanche Formation and Characteristics Avalanche Problem Types Observe and Record Avalanche Occurrences Observe & Record Snowpack Data - Mechanical Snowpack Tests Day 3 Field Trip - terrain, occurrence observation, test profiles
1730	Day Wrap Up

Day 4	Skills: Terrain identification, hazard assessment, daily operational summary; observing, recording, & practice: field competencies. (approx. 8 hours)
0800	Avalanche Hazard Assessment Part 1 - An Introduction to the Process Rating Systems in Avalanche Work Introduction to the Information Exchange (InfoEx) Day 4 Field Trip – Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale, travel, observations, profile practice Terrain photo interpretation and practice (introduced in Avalanche Terrain) Avalanche Hazard Assessment Part 2 Filtering Information PM observation summary and risk review
1730	Day Wrap Up
Day 5	Skills: Daily operational planning, risk assessment, treatment, & communication; observing, recording, & practice: field competencies. (approx. 8 hours)
0800	AM operational meeting Risk Treatment - Mitigation Measures Avalanche Safety Briefings Day 5 Field Trip - terrain, travel, observations, profile practice Professional Career Path PM observation summary and risk review
1730	Day Wrap Up / Terrain Photo Practice / Exam Preparation
Day 6	Observing, recording, & practice: operational and field competencies; hazard & weather exams (approx. 8 hours)
0800	AM operational meeting Day 6 Field Trip - travel, observations, profile polishing, field exams Field Weather Exam Weather Plot Exam Field Hazard and Terrain Photo exam
1600	Day Wrap Up
Day 7	Exams and conclusion (approx. 6 hours)
0800	Day 7 Field Trip - Full Snow Profile Exam Written Exam
1300	Course Conclusion

Please note: Instructors will make every effort to mark and provide student course critiques prior to the conclusion of the course. Completion of all the marks and finalizing student feedback may not be possible by the end of the course. In this case the CAA office will mail course results to the students.