

Alpine Club of Canada
Columbia Section
ADVANCED SKI TOURING & GLACIER TRAVEL

Course Outline

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An effective Ski Touring Leader is able to recognize and deal with numerous mountain winter hazards; and has the skills and knowledge to choose terrain and snow conditions to ensure group enjoyment and efficient travel. The backcountry leader uses a wide variety of skills and techniques in order to offer a safe and fun travel in the winter backcountry. Terrain assessment, glacier travel skills, group dynamic, group management, snow stability evaluation, backcountry ski technique in various snow condition and eventually sound judgement are key for a successful day.

COURSE/LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1) To apply appropriate group management techniques (leading/guiding skills) while touring up and skiing/riding down
- 2) To use adequate route finding and track setting to provide easy and efficient travel as well as minimize hazard
- 3) To further develop terrain assessment and hazard evaluation skills
- 4) To understand safe glacier travel technique
- 5) To use field tests and field observations to validate stability evaluation
- 6) To develop a trip plan, that take into account weather, mountain conditions, human factors and the current avalanche problems and danger rating.
- 7) To enhance navigation skills

EQUIPMENT LIST

Personal Equipment

- Skis, Boots, Poles, Skins,
- Transceiver, probe, shovel, snow saw or bush saw
- Goggles, sunglasses, sunscreen, headlamp (spare batteries)
- Snow study kit
- Compass
- Altimeter
- Personal first aid kit
- Ski touring day pack (30-40 litres)
- Parts for your binding (ski repair kit)

Glacier travel equipment

- Harness
- 4 locking carabiners
- 4 non-locking carabiners
- 2 time 5 meters prussic cord 6mm or 7mm in diameters
- 120 cm sewn sling (also call double length sling)
- Fred (the guide) will provide the main rope

Clothing (be sure to include)

You should be ready to spend all day out in the field in a wide variety of weather: high wind and heavy snow fall (avoid all cotton clothing).

- Shell jacket and pants (Goretex)
- Down or synthetic parka
- Extra gloves
- Warm tuque

Frederick Amyot

fred_amyot@hotmail.com

250-837-8520