



## Avalanche Skills Training Level 2 - ATBO 250

### Adventure Tourism Business Operations Diploma Program

#### Course Outline

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2020  
OUTLINE EFFECTIVE DATE: September 2019  
COURSE OUTLINE REVIEW DATE: April 2024

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#### GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed for the intermediate back country skier or splitboarder who wants to start exploring more complex avalanche terrain independently. This course will emphasize the practical collection and analysis of relevant data that an average backcountry skier or splitboarder would be able to use as the basis for making decisions regarding travel in avalanche terrain.

This course follows the curriculum for the Canadian Avalanche Centre Avalanche Skills Training Level 2 course. Successful students will receive a CAC AST Level 2 Certification.

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**Program Information:** This course is an elective course of the Adventure Tourism Business Operations Diploma program. It is typically taken in the second year of ATBO studies.

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**Delivery:** This course is delivered face-to-face.

**COTR Credits:** 2

**Hours for this course:** 40 hours

#### Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	8
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	32
Other Contact Hours	
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>

#### Practicum Hours (if applicable):

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	N/A
Formal Work Experience	N/A
Other	
<b>Total</b>	

**Course Outline Author or Contact:**

Dave Wan, B.Sci, MAOE

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Signature

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**APPROVAL SIGNATURES:**

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Department Head Signature

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Dean Signature

EDCO

Valid from: September 2019 – April 2024

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Education Council Approval Date

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**COURSE PREREQUISITES AND TRANSFER CREDIT:**

**Prerequisites:** AST 1 Certificate

**Corequisites:** None

**Flexible Assessment (FA):**

Credit can be awarded for this course through (FA)

Yes

No

**Transfer Credit:** For transfer information within British Columbia, Alberta and other institutions, please visit <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>.

Students should also contact an academic advisor at the institution where they want transfer credit.

**Prior Course Number:** N/A

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## **Textbooks and Required Resources:**

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Staying Alive in Avalanche Terrain, by Bruce Tremper (provided on course)

Decision Making in Avalanche Terrain, by Canadian Avalanche Centre (provided on course)

*Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator*

<http://go.cotr.bc.ca/tuition/tCalc.asp> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

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## **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- access professionally prepared information presented online, such as avalanche bulletins, weather forecasts, and mountain conditions reports;
  - develop a systematic approach towards evaluating snow stability and hazard;
  - use a variety of tests in snow pits (such as compression tests, shear tests, burp tests, etc.) to collect information on snow stability;
  - apply the Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale (ATES) to assess the hazard posed by the surrounding terrain;
  - use appropriate route selection choices to make informed decisions when skiing and splitboarding in avalanche terrain; and
  - proficiently carry out a companion rescue.
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## **COURSE TOPICS:**

- Review of the AST 1 course material
- Snow crystals, weak layers
- Snowpacks, snow regions
- Snow stability tests
- The influence of weather
- The evaluator, ATES, and terrain
- Trip planning
- Judgement and decision making in avalanche terrain

*See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.*

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**EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT:**

Competency Based Skills Evaluation	% Of Total Grade
Movement Skills	40%
Technical Skills	30%
Safety Skills	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

This course is graded as complete or incomplete. To complete the course, the student must pass the CAC Avalanche Skills Training Level 2 Certification course.

*Please see the instructor's syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and use of electronic aids.*

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**EXAM POLICY:**

Students must attend all required scheduled exams that make up a final grade at the appointed time and place.

Individual instructors may accommodate for illness or personal crisis. Additional accommodation will not be made unless a written request is sent to and approved by the appropriate Department Head prior to the scheduled exam.

Any student who misses a scheduled exam without approval will be given a grade of "0" for the exam.

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**COURSE GRADE:**

Course grades are assigned as follows:

<b>COM</b>	Completed to defined standard
<b>NCG</b>	No Credit Granted

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**ACADEMIC POLICIES:**

See [www.cotr.bc.ca/policies](http://www.cotr.bc.ca/policies) for general college policies related to course activities, including grade appeals, cheating and plagiarism.

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**COURSE CHANGES:**

Information contained in course outlines is correct at the time of publication. Content of the courses is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will endeavour to provide notice of changes to students as soon as possible. The instructor reserves the right to add or delete material from courses.