

BSAAP

Backcountry Skiing and Avalanche Awareness Program

Application – Spring 2016

This program will focus on traveling safely and having fun in the winter backcountry on skis (telemark or AT) or snowboard (split-board) while exploring prime backcountry areas of Vermont and the Presidential Range in NH. Traveling in terrain where avalanche danger exists requires disciplined personal preparation, group expedition planning, diverse skiing and riding skills, and sound avalanche and terrain assessment ability. This program will cover basic safety skills to prepare you to travel in the winter backcountry in all of its rugged beauty. The program will consist of in-class sessions and three weekend practical trips as well as two other leader development weekends. The first practical weekend will involve an in-class session and a day trip in the local backcountry, the second practical weekend will be an AIARE Level 1 Avalanche certification course and the third will be an overnight in the Presidential Range of New Hampshire's White Mountains, the Adirondacks, or another location. The other two weekends will focus on developing the ability to successfully travel in the backcountry as an Outing Club leader.

Technical skills aside, another important focus of BSAAP is the development of strong student leaders. We will use these weekends and in-class sessions to equip our students with the interpersonal skills they need to be an excellent leader in the Outing Club community.

Program Requirements:

- Strong intermediate to advanced alpine, telemark, or snowboarding skills (if snowboarding, no snowshoes. split boards are absolutely required!)
- Intermediate three season backpacking experience
- Attendance at all Thursday evening classes and all weekend trips

Program Fee:

\$175 per student covers food, transportation, gear rentals, professional guiding and instruction. The AIARE Level 1 Avalanche course is an additional \$325. It is strongly recommended that you take the AIARE class as it is scheduled as a part of the class and is an integral part of the curriculum.

Class Meeting Dates:

Thursdays Feb 4, 11, 18-19, 25, further dates TBA
(Meetings are held in the evenings at a location TBA)

Weekend Dates: Feb 6-7, Feb 13-14, Feb 20-21, Mar 19-20, Mar 26-27

AIARE Level 1:

Classroom sessions: 5-9pm Feb 18&19
Weekend practical: Feb. 20&21

Guide: Steve Charest

Student Instructors: Alex Pasin, Brendan Whitney

Due: Friday, January 29th by midnight
Email to apasin@uvm.edu and
bwhitne1@uvm.edu

NAME: _____ YEAR: _____
MAJOR: _____
CELL PHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____
LOCAL ADDRESS: _____

Please answer these questions on a separate page:

1. Describe your skiing/riding ability. Please discuss your history from first learning to present. Include where you have skied and any backcountry experience.
2. Briefly discuss your most recent best day of skiing or riding.
3. What is your backcountry camping experience? Any winter travel experience? (none required)
4. What are 3 qualities that you look for in a leader or hope to bring to your future Outing Club trips?
5. What do you hope to gain from this program?
6. Have you participated in any Outing Club trips or events in the past? If so, what trips/when?
7. Should you be stranded on a desert island, naked along with a large cardboard package containing two objects, what (aside from a stuffed sheep) would you want those two objects to be? Why?
8. Do you intend on leading Outing Club trips upon completion of BSAAP?
9. Please draw an abstract interpretation of yourself. Include colors and labels as necessary. (Bring this to the interview!)
10. Please list times you will be available for an interview:
Sunday 1/31:
Monday 2/1:
Tuesday 2/2:
Wednesday 3/3:

The following questions are to help instructors prepare for the course. Your acceptance will not depend upon your answers, unless you're a snowblader:

Intended Sliding Technique for BSAAP (please highlight):

Alpine Ski Telemark Ski Snowboard/Splitboard Snowblade

Do you have a seasons pass? If so, to what mountain(s)? _____

Do you own any backcountry travel equipment? (climbing skins, AT bindings, Alpine Trekkers, splitboard, approach skis) Please specify:

While all gear rentals are included in the cost of the course, an additional opportunity exists to rent Black Diamond ski gear from Petra Cliffs at a cost of \$150 for the three weekend practicals. Would you be interested in this additional rental (this doesn't commit you to anything)?

YUP

NAH DUDE

If you do not own climbing skins, please indicate the dimensions and length of your skis: Length: _____ Dimensions: _____

Do you intend to take the AIARE Level 1 Avalanche Course? _____

Contact Alex (apasin@uvm.edu) or Brendan (bwhitne1@uvm.edu) with any questions.