



**SWS Mountain Guides**

**210 East Lake St.**

**Mt. Shasta, Ca. 96067**

**mail@swsmtns.com**

**www.swsmountainguides.com**

**Phone: 888.797.6867 / Fax: 877.797.6867**

## **CERTIFIED AVALANCHE COURSE LEVEL II**

Avalanche Processes & Leadership

Meets American Avalanche Association Guidelines for a Level II course



**Instructor:** Avalanche Level 2 Course is taught by AAA **Certified** Avalanche Instructor Timothy Keating with 35 plus years of mountain guiding experience. Course Curriculum is **Certified and Approved** by [American Avalanche Association](http://www.avalanche.org). Certified **AAA Level 2 Course Curriculum**.

**General Description:** Avalanche Level 2 Course consists of 40 plus hours of instruction in lecture, video, discussion, and field study in the Mt. Shasta Backcountry. At least 24+ hours of which will be spent learning hands on in the snow. Avalanche Level 2 Course is designed to build on the necessary information and skills developed in the Avalanche level 1 course and then explore deeper into the up to date science behind avalanches. The goal is to give students a more technical understanding how avalanches develop and release so that they might be able to make safer life-saving decisions. Our course is perfect for a variety of winter recreationists; backcountry skiers, ski mountaineer's, snowmobilers, as well as professionals, including; backcountry rangers, ski patrol, and another winter professional working in the out-of-doors. The Avalanche Level 2 Course is a more advanced field study aimed to give a greater understanding of snow science and how avalanches develop and release. A review of snow mechanics along with avalanche hazards evaluation will be taught through both lectures and hands-on training. The field study portion will focus on the newest snow assessment techniques to help develop robust decision making in the both the front and backcountry. Included in the course curriculum is the most modern advances in avalanche rescue techniques & equipment. Give us a call if you have any questions.

**Prerequisite:** Level I avalanche course either AAA Certified or Aiare Avalanche Course Level I or equivalent or Level 1 Refresher in last five years & course provider's recommended reading. **Note:** *Level 1 is not to be taken in the same season as Level 2*

**Location & Meeting:** Meets at our SWS Mt. Shasta Office at **8:00 am** on the first day of the course.

**Group Size:** Limited to 8-12 clients

**Instructor to Client Ratio:** 1:5/6:

**What to Expect:** Participants will not be traveling fast. We will be skiing/snowshoeing over calculated routes that afford as much in the way of safely accessible avalanche terrain as possible. Stops will frequently be made for discussion of terrain, snow conditions, vegetation, weather, and anything related to avalanches. Your instructor will be thinking out loud, giving reasons for choosing a certain route or for not crossing a particular slope. Participants will put into practice all the techniques of field hazard evaluation.



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**Food and Lodging:** Food and lodging are **NOT** included in this course. You can either camp out or obtain lodging in Mt. Shasta. We will meet in Mt. Shasta each day and return to town each evening. You may join us for a group dinner in Mt. Shasta at night if you wish. For lodging and camping recommendations and special accommodations for this course, give us a call at 1-888-797-6867.

**Level:** Participants are required to be in good physical condition. Snowshoeing and backcountry skiing experience is recommended but not required.

**Mount Shasta Dates 2019:** January 18-21, February 15-18

**Bear Valley Dates 2019:** March 7-11

**Cost:** \$525.00 (Tuition Only)

**Lodging – Mount Shasta Only:** Available at the SWS Mountain Guides Lodge for four nights with Kitchen access at a Special Rate of **\$160.00** call Tim @888.797.6867 for more details.

**Food and Lodging Bear Valley:** Food and Lodging is not included in this course. Lodging is available at the [Bear Valley Lodge](#), [Tamarack Lodge](#), or in the towns of Arnold (18 miles away) or Murphys (25 miles away) We will meet our California Ski Guides Bear Valley Office each day and return to Bear Valley each evening. More information give us a call at 1-888-797-6867.

**Includes:** Professional instruction/guides, avalanche rescue equipment, student A3 handbook, course materials, permits, and permit fees.

### Recommended Reading Level 2:

[Avalanche Essentials: A Step-By-Step System for Safety and Survival](#) by Bruce Tremper – 2013 Edition [purchase from Amazon here](#)

[Staying Alive in Avalanche Terrain](#) by Bruce Tremper – third edition 2018 [purchase from Amazon here](#)

[Snow, Weather, and Avalanches: \(SWAG\) Observational Guidelines for Avalanche Programs in the United States](#), 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 2016 edition United State Forest Service – [purchase \\$12.00 from the American Avalanche Association](#)