

Practice meets science

International advanced training course on “Snow and Avalanches”

Program

11 – 15 February 2019 in Davos

Location: Sunstar Alpine Hotel, Parkstrasse 1, 7270 Davos Platz

Sunday, 10 February 2019

18:00-19:00	Registration at the hotel lobby	<i>S. Harvey</i> <i>M. Hofmänner</i>
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Monday, 11 February 2019

Room Sertig

07:45-08:15	Registration at the hotel lobby	<i>S. Harvey</i> <i>M. Hofmänner</i>
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08:15-08:30	Introduction	<i>S. Harvey</i>
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08:30-08:45	Avalanches in Switzerland and history of SLF	<i>J. Schweizer</i>
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08:45-09:30	Snow physics	<i>H. Löwe</i>
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09:40-10:25	Avalanche formation	<i>A. van Herwijnen</i>
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10:25-10:55	Coffee break	
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11:00-12:30	Exercise: Avalanche formation and snowpack interpretation	<i>S. Harvey</i> <i>A. van Herwijnen</i>
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12:30-13:45	Lunch break	
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14:00-14:30	Best practice in avalanche forecasting	<i>K. Winkler</i>
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14:40-15:10	Opportunities and limitations of avalanche forecasts	<i>C. Pielmeier</i>
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15:15-15:30	Introduction to exercise and data interpretation	<i>K. Winkler</i>
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15:30-16:00	Coffee break	
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16:00-17:40	Exercise: Assessment of avalanche danger	<i>K. Winkler</i> <i>Instructors</i>
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17:40-18:00	Summary of the day; outlook field day	<i>S. Harvey</i>
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18:00-18:30	Ice breaker	
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Tuesday, 12 February 2019

Room Sertig and field

08:00-08:45	Snow profile observation and stability tests	<i>B. Reuter</i>
08:45-08:50	Introduction field day / current situation	<i>S. Harvey</i>
09:00-15:00	Field day: Snow profile observation and stability tests	<i>Instructors</i>
Lunch in the field		
15:00-15:30 Coffee break in the hotel		
15:30-16:30	Snow profile and stability evaluation	<i>Instructors</i>
16:30-17:10	Presentation of results and evaluation by each group	<i>S. Harvey</i>
17:10-17:40	Snow profile interpretation	<i>J. Schweizer</i>
20:00-21:00	Science event at SLF	<i>H. Löwe / Y. Bühler</i>

VBD-Bus Linie 1 Postplatz bis Bhf Dorf: ab 19:46 – 19:56

Wednesday, 13 February 2019 Room Sertig

08:00-08:20	Avalanche history Davos	<i>S. Margreth</i>
08:30-09:10	Avalanche dynamics	<i>P. Bartelt</i>
09:20-09:50	Avalanche hazard mapping	<i>S. Margreth</i>
09:50-10:20	Coffee break	
10:20-12:15	Human factors in decision making	<i>HP. Hartmann</i> <i>S. Harvey</i>
12:15-13:30	Lunch break	
13:30-14:10	Wet- and glide-snow avalanches	<i>J. Schweizer</i>

Separate programs for module 1 and 2

Module 1 Room Sertig		Module 2 Room Grialetsch	
14:20- 14:55	Snow mechanics <i>H. Löwe</i>	14:20- 15:00	Temporary protection measures <i>L. Stoffel</i>
15:00- 15:35	Snowpack stability: Layering and variability <i>A. van Herwijnen</i>	15:05- 15:35	Artificial avalanche release <i>L. Stoffel</i>
15:40-16:10	Coffee break		
16:10- 16:45	Measuring snow properties (PST, SMP) <i>B. Reuter</i>	16:10- 16:30	Avalanche detection <i>A. van Herwijnen</i>
16:50- 18:00	Assessment of avalanche hazard in the backcountry <i>S. Harvey</i>	16:30- 18:00	Exercise: Road closure, yes or no? Case study <i>L. Stoffel</i>
18:00- 18:15	Summary of the day <i>S. Harvey</i>	18:00- 18:15	Summary of the day <i>L. Stoffel</i>

Thursday, 14 February 2019

Room Sertig/Grialetsch and field

Separate programs for module 1 and 2

Module 1 Room Sertig and field	Module 2 Room Grialetsch and field
08:00- Introduction field day 08:15 <i>S. Harvey</i>	08:00- Permanent protection measures 09:20 <i>S. Margreth</i>
08:15- Field day: New methods for 14:45 field measurements <i>Instructors</i>	09:20- Coffee break in the Hotel 09:50
14:45- Coffee break in the Hotel 15:15	09:50- Experience of a local avalanche service 10:40 <i>J.A. Bisaz</i>
15:15- Snow profile and stability 15:55 evaluation, discussion and reflection of the field day <i>Instructors</i>	10:40- Field day: 17:15 Avalanche mitigation
16:00- Principles of snow cover models 16:40 <i>S. Bellaire</i>	Visit Jakobshorn patrollers, Davos Frauenkirch and Klosters <i>L. Stoffel</i> <i>S. Margreth</i>
16:50- Operational avalanche forecasting 17:20 <i>C. Pielmeier</i>	
17:20- Summary of the day 17:30	
17:50 Bus leaves at Hotel Sunstar	
18:00-23:00 Social event: Visit to local brewery and dinner in Monstein	

Friday, 15 February 2019

Room Sertig and Grialetsch

Separate programs for module 1 and 2

Module 1 Room Sertig	Module 2 Room Grialetsch
08:00- 08:50 Snow stability evaluation and interpretation of measurements from previous field day <i>A. van Herwijnen</i>	08:00- 08:25 RAMMS: Rapid mass movement simulations <i>Y. Bühler</i>
09:00- 09:45 Summary of the key facts: "The big picture" <i>S. Harvey</i>	08:25- 09:00 Practical use of avalanche modeling <i>L. Stoffel</i>
	09:10- 09:45 Recent model developments – Application in practice <i>Y. Bühler</i> <i>L. Stoffel</i>
09:45-10:15 Coffee break	
10:15- 11:00 Synthesis of course: Final discussion <i>C. Pielmeier</i> <i>S. Harvey</i>	10:15- 11:00 Synthesis of course: Final discussion <i>Y. Bühler</i> <i>L. Stoffel</i>
11:00-11:30 Answers to open questions	<i>J. Schweizer</i>
11:30-12:00 Presentation of synthesis in each group or module	<i>C. Pielmeier</i> <i>Y. Bühler</i>
12:00-12:15 Closing remarks	<i>S. Harvey</i>
12:15-13:30 Lunch buffet	
13:30-16:00 RAMMS workshop (optional)	<i>Y. Bühler</i> <i>L. Stoffel</i> <i>M. Christen</i>