

Mountaineers Basic Alpine Climbing Course Goals and Objectives

The Basic Alpine Climbing Course is a critical component of the Mountaineers' outdoor educational program. These Goals and Objectives will provide a structure for the core mission and outcome for the program to ensure it is delivered with consistency and quality across the organization.

The Mountaineers as an organization recognizes that each branch must have the freedom to create its own structure for delivering the course in a way that serves its members, volunteers, and students most effectively. For example, differences by branch in class size and available facilities may warrant different approaches. It also recognizes that the course content must contain the necessary core curricula of skills and competencies to ensure that the program can produce capable and safe climbers.

During the course, students of the Mountaineers Basic Alpine Climbing Course will demonstrate the following:

- **Proficiency and safety in the necessary skills and competencies** associated with the basic alpine climbing course (see list of “Basic Climbing - Necessary Skills and Competencies”)
- **Effective teamwork** while working and climbing with their fellow students, instructors, and climb leaders
- A sufficient, accurate, and **honest level of self-assessment** to properly determine their ability to successfully participate in basic alpine climbs. Their self-assessment would include, but not be limited, to an accurate evaluation in the following:
 - Proficiency with the basic alpine climbing curricula of skills and competencies
 - A necessary level of conditioning and fitness
 - A level of comfort with exposure
 - Ability to match their skill and fitness level to selected activities

At course completion, successful graduates of the Mountaineers Basic Alpine Climbing Course will be able to demonstrate the following:

- Successful participation in a Mountaineers (or equivalently led) basic alpine climb(s) as a **competent team member**
- The necessary judgment and skills to **plan and engage in a non-technical mountaineering activity** within the context of a private party
- A sufficient understanding of **group dynamics and fundamental decision making** skills in the backcountry
- An **awareness of hazards and good safety habits** to manage risk in the backcountry
- A mindfulness for **environmental stewardship and respect for other parties**

Reviewed by representatives of all Mountaineers branch climbing committees: April 2018

Approved by PCE Curriculum Committee: April 2018