



Program Goals

- Teach you the benefits of HF operation
- Prepare you for the General Class exam
- Help you build an effective HF station and antenna system
- Teach “best practice” operating skills
- Advanced topics will enhance your HF experience



Our Instructors:

A Few Hundred Years of Experience!

- Jim Sansoterra K8JRK
- Mike Flowers K6MKF
- Kristen McIntyre K6WX
- Steve Jones N6SJ
- Dick Grote K6PBF
- George Williams N6NKT
- Bob Lanning W6OPO
- Russ Bentson K6KLY
- Lucas Ford W6AER
- Sheryl Harkleroad WW6G
- Rusty Epps W6OAT
- John Eisenberg K6YP

How Classes Will Be Taught

- Some classes will be broadcast via Webex using Power Point presentations. All you need is your PC at home.
- Some training will be at your Instructor's shack, where you will get hands-on experience with HF concepts.
- The three tracks let you choose the level appropriate for your own needs.
- Power Point presentations will be available on NCDXC web site. (www.ncdxc.org)



Station Building & HF Operation Tracks

- Taught by NCDXC members with considerable experience in the topics that they are teaching.
- Material in Track II is appropriate for people building their first HF station and operating on the HF bands for the first time.
- Material in Track III is appropriate for those who already have some HF experience and want to learn some advanced operating techniques or explore how their equipment, antennas and propagation functions in more detail. This material will expose you to strategies, equipment and antennas for Dxing, Contesting and other types of HF operation.





Track I: General Class Exam

- Two sessions on General Class rules and regulations.
- Two sessions on General class theory
- These will follow material in the ARRL General Class license manual
- You will make use of on line training material
- One session with ARRL General Class flash cards just before you take the test



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Track II: Building and Operating an HF Station

- How to choose your first HF radio
 - New vs. used ham gear
 - What bells and whistles do you really need?
 - Which transceiver and amplifier is right for you?
 - Do you really need an amplifier?
- Antennas
 - Simple antennas that work
 - Stealth antennas for restricted zoning
- Station Integration
 - Cabling and controls
 - Basic antenna supports
 - Safety



Track II: Building and Operating an HF Station

- Basic SSB, CW, and Digital operating techniques
 - What modes are available and how they differ?
 - What are they good for?
 - How do I learn to use them?
- Learn about electronic logging, other ham radio software
 - What software tools are available and how to pick the right ones.
- QSLing practices
 - Why QSL and how is it done in the Internet age?





Track III Advanced Topics

- Advanced Phone, CW and Digital Operating Techniques
 - How to listen, split operation, timing your calls and more
 - Using cw and the HF digital modes (RTTY, PSK31, JTxx)
- Learn how to read and understand radio specifications
 - What is important in a new transceiver?
 - How to choose a linear amplifier.
 - What makes a receiver great?





Track III Advanced Topics

- How to select the perfect antenna for your intended use, with budget and size constraints in mind.
- Understand the mysteries of how radio signals reach far off places.
 - Use of propagation prediction tools like [DXor](#) and [K6TU.com](#)
 - Use of Reverse Beacon Network and DX spotting tools like [DX Summit](#)
 - Time of day and band to use to reach Afghanistan





What to Expect

- Free Classes will start in mid September
- Sign up on NCDXC web site
- Take only the classes you need
- Many classes can be taken using Webex
- Others will be at your Elmer's shack. Your Elmer may offer to help you with problems at your QTH.
- Typical classes will take 1 to 2 hours
- We plan to do several classes per month



List of Classes

Introductions to the Pleasures of HF Operation

- Introduction to HF operation Mike Flowers K6MKF
- HF radio, What to expect Mike Flowers K6MKF

Track I General Class License Preparation

- General Class Rules and Regulations Jim Sansoterra K8JRK
- General Class Operating (Bands, rules etc) Jim Sansoterra K8JRK
- General Class Theory I Dick Grote K6PBF
- General Class Theory II Dick Grote K6PBF
- General Class Practice With Flash Cards John Eisenberg K6YP

Track II HF Operating and Station Building

- Basic HF Operating Skills Part I
- Basic HF Operating Skills Part II
- Building a station
- Selecting a Tranceiver and Linear Amplifier
- Simple Antennas that Work
- Logging and other ham radio software
- QSLing Techniques
- DXCC climbing the ladder

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Track III Advanced Topics

- Phone Operating Skills
- CW Operating Skills
- Digital Mode Operating Skills (RTTY/PSK/JT's)
- Not So Basic Antennas
- Understanding Propagation
- What makes a great receiver?
Eisenberg K6YP

Bob Lanning W6OPO
Steve Jones N6SJ
Lucas Ford W6AER
Kristen McIntyre K6WX
Russ Bentson K6KLY
John





Our Commitment to You

- The sessions will be conducted by hams very experienced in the topics they are teaching.
- We will deliver the highest quality course material that we are capable of producing.
- We will present the material in a fun and engaging manner at your technical level.
- There is no such thing as a dumb question.
- We want to get you on the air on the HF bands!
- Watch the NCDXC web site for news! (ncdxc.org)

