

Explore the Magic of Radio!

Earn your Amateur
Radio license!

Make friends around the world!



Emergency Communications



Build equipment



Public Service



Storm Reporting



Exotic Locations

For more information
contact
Al Penney at (902) 847-0554
or at
alphonsepenny@gmail.com

Basic Course 2026-1



Annapolis Valley Amateur Radio Club

Basic Course 2026-1

- Course starts Thursday 19 February.
- Course ends Sunday 26 April.
- Classes held Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons.
- Thursday and Sunday classes are different – you need to watch both!
- Classes are recorded – **link will be sent next day.**

Al Penney
VO1NO

Course Timings

- Thursday classes
 - 1930 – 2200 Newfoundland
 - 1900 – 2130 Atlantic
 - 1800 – 2030 Eastern
 - 1700 – 1930 Central
 - 1600 – 1830 Mountain
 - 1500 – 1730 Pacific

Al Penney
VO1NO

Course Timings

- Sunday classes
 - 1430 – 1700 Newfoundland
 - 1400 – 1630 Atlantic
 - 1300 – 1530 Eastern
 - 1200 – 1430 Central
 - 1100 – 1330 Mountain
 - 1000 – 1230 Pacific

Al Penney
VO1NO

Instructor

AI VO1NO



AI Penney
VO1NO

Course Schedule

Feb 19	Ch 1 Introduction
Feb 22 (S)	Ch 2 Basic Electricity
Feb 26	Ch 3 Ohms Law
Mar 01 (S)	Ch 4 Part 1 Inductance, Capacitance
Mar 05	Ch 4 Part 2 Resonance
Mar 08 (S)	Ch 5 Waves
Mar 12	Ch 6 Propagation
Mar 15 (S)	Ch 7 Transmission Lines
Mar 19	Ch 8 Antennas Part 1
Mar 22 (S)	Ch 8 Antennas Part 2
Mar 26	Ch 9 Active Devices
Mar 29 (S)	Ch 10 Power Supplies
Apr 02	Ch 11 Establishing a Station
Apr 05 (S)	No Class - Easter
Apr 09	Ch 12 Operating a Station
Apr 12 (S)	Ch 13 Modulation and Transmitters
Apr 16	Ch 14 Receivers
Apr 19 (S)	Ch 15 Radio Frequency Interference
Apr 23	Ch 16 Safety
Apr 26 (S)	Ch 17 Regulations

Al Penney
VO1NO

Class Format

- Log on no sooner than 20 minutes before start time.
- Classes may run late!
- Leave mic off during class.
- I will ask questions – no class answers please!
- 5 minute break halfway through class.
- Use the Chat box for questions – I will monitor.
- Technical issues, Zoom problems – check e-mail.
- Try to attend classes, though occasional absence is okay.

Al Penney
VO1NO

Lesson Plans

- PowerPoint presentations will be available (in PDF) from
<https://avarc.ca/index.php/online-basic-course/>
- Lots of other educational material on the AVARC website.
- **Classes will be recorded. Link will be sent after each class.**

Al Penney
VO1NO

Discord Server

- Previous courses have had a Discord server to allow students to discuss topics of interest outside of class.
- A previous course has established one for all follow-on courses:
<https://discord.gg/xuXcUmTE>
- Link to Anki question bank there:
<https://ankiweb.net/shared/info/617183868>

Al Penney
VO1NO

E-Mail

- A suggestion about the e-mails I send....

Al Penney
VO1NO

E-Mail

- A suggestion about the e-mails I send....

READ THEM!!

Al Penney
VO1NO

Course Philosophy!

- This is **not** a “memorize the answer to the question” type of course!
- We will learn more than is required to pass the exam!
- There will be lots of supplemental material to enrich your knowledge.
- When the course is over however, you will be ready to **assemble a station** and **get on the air!**

Al Penney
VO1NO

Exams

- Exams are not included in the course.
- When you are ready, you schedule an in-person or online exam with an Accredited Examiner.
- Contact an examiner in your area and work out a date/time/location to write the exam.
- Procedures explained later this lesson.

Al Penney
VO1NO

Updated Question Bank

- The Question Bank for the Basic Qualification was carefully reviewed by RAC in 2023/2024, and recommended changes were submitted to ISED for Consideration.
- There are **984 multiple choice questions** in the database. We recommended changes to almost 900 of those.
- All our recommendations were accepted by ISED, and the new Question Bank became effective on 15 July 2025.
- A big change is that candidates will be allowed to have a “**cheat sheet**” for the exam, with all necessary formulas, and all of the block diagrams used on the course.

Al Penney
VO1NO

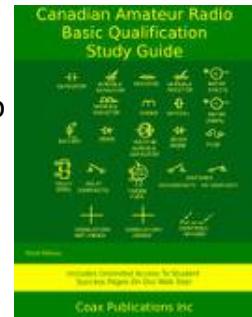
Updated Question Bank

**This course has been updated to reflect
any and all changes made necessary by
the updates to the Question Bank!**

Al Penney
VO1NO

Study Guides

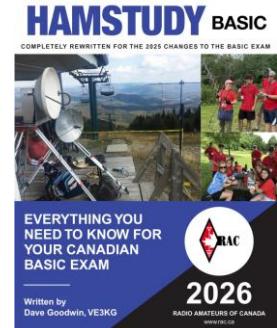
- The course was designed around the **Canadian Amateur Radio Basic Qualification Study Guide** by Coax Publications, now in 9th edition.
- Coax Publications recently announced that they intend to shut down operations and will no longer print study guides.
- They will continue to sell them until stock is exhausted.
- May also be available from RadioWorld in Toronto, or GPS Central in Calgary.
- 7th and 8th editions are fine if you can find them – new material is covered in class.



Al Penney
VO1NO

Study Guides

- If you cannot find the Coax Publications guide, then you can obtain the [Hamstudy Basic 2026](#) Guide from Amazon:
 - https://www.amazon.ca/Hamstudy-Basic-2026-Everything-Qualification/dp/B0GD6J4GMN/ref=sr_1_1?dib=sey2ljojMSI9_ykI3XzlgzI3wDmYcmRbI9DPfyE-pCFnhh3Qd-m3m8K5Na1M_6hpjyPMBnQztGpuw.hGK-fAIJuuf2M2CmKuScQ9g1ZhvtT9j7Xd7vevXRx3ABA&dib_tag=se&keywords=hamstudy+basic+2026&qid=1767388685&sr=8-1
- It is laid out in a different order than the course, but the material is all there.



Al Penney
VO1NO

Do NOT Buy These!

- Many errors!
- We believe they were created using Artificial Intelligence!

2026

HAM RADIO

Canadian Radio Amateur Basic Guide



Fully aligned with ISED Canada standards, frequency allocations, and exam scoring

2026

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR EXAM

Basic and Advanced Question Bank



Fully aligned with ISED Canada standards, frequency allocations, and exam scoring

Al Penney
VO1NO

Do NOT Buy These!

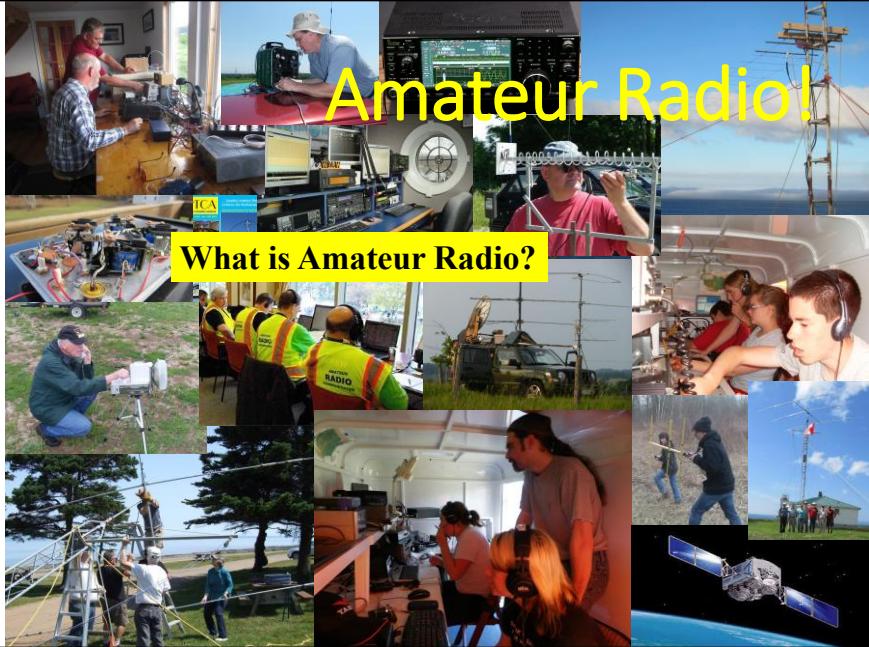
- Many errors!
- We believe they were created using Artificial Intelligence!



Al Penney
VO1NO

Questions?

Al Penney
VO1NO



Ray VE3BVV
Doug VE3XK (SK)
Cottage Cove Park

Ham Radio is...

- A form of communication...



Al Penney
VO1NO

Ham Radio is...

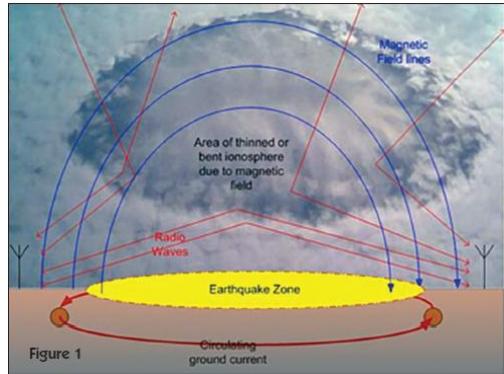
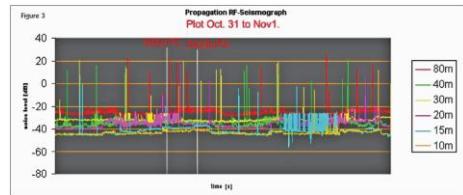
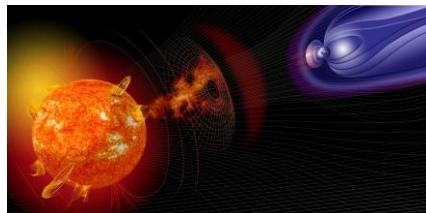
- A Public Service...



Al Penney
VO1NO

Ham Radio is...

- A chance to explore science...



Al Penney
VO1NO

Ham Radio is...

- A stepping stone to a lifelong career!



Al Penney
VO1NO

Dr. Joe Taylor K1JT – Nobel Prize in physics 1993 - discovered the first pulsar in a binary system.

Astronaut Chris Hadfield VA3OOG

What do Hams do?

- Use Morse Code...



Al Penney
VO1NO

What do Hams do?

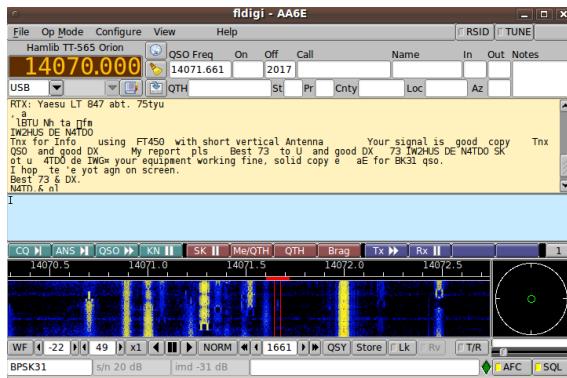
- Use voice transmissions...



Al Penney
VO1NO

What do Hams do?

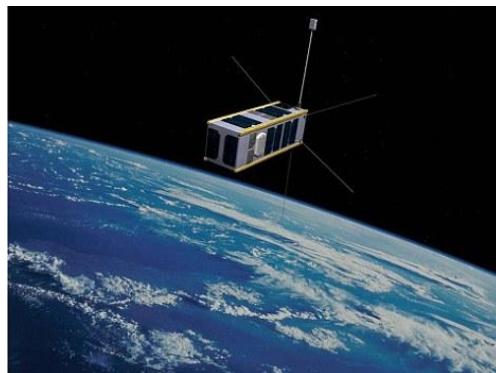
- Use digital modes...



Al Penney
VO1NO

What do Hams do?

- Build and use their own satellites...



Al Penney
VO1NO

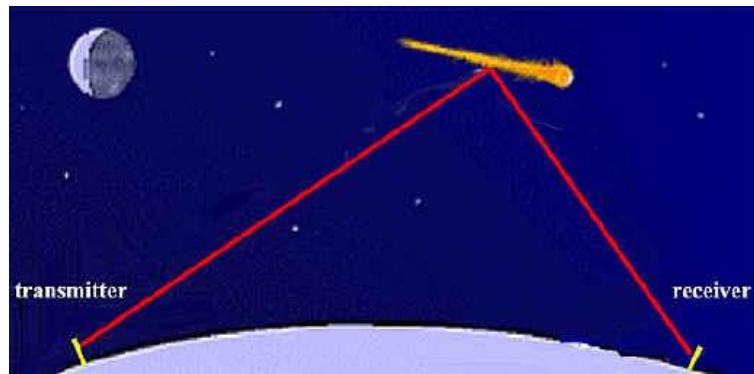
Sputnik 1 was the first [artificial Earth satellite](#). It was launched into an elliptical [low Earth orbit](#) by the [USSR](#) on 4 October 1957 as part of the [Soviet space program](#). It orbited for three weeks before its batteries died and then orbited silently for two months before it fell back into [the atmosphere](#) on 4 January 1958.

OSCAR I (aka [OSCAR 1](#)) is the first [amateur radio satellite](#) launched by Project OSCAR into [low Earth orbit](#). OSCAR I was launched December 12, 1961, by a [Thor-DM21 Agena B](#) launcher from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Lompoc, California. The satellite, a rectangular box (30 x 25 x 12 cm) weighing 10 kg., was launched as a secondary payload (ballast) for [Corona 9029](#), also known as [Discoverer 36](#), the eighth and final launch of a KH-3 satellite.

More than 150 Amateur satellites have been launched since then.

What do Hams do?

- Bounce signals off meteor trails...



An estimated 25 million meteoroids, micrometeoroids and other [space debris](#) enter Earth's atmosphere each day, which results in an estimated 15,000 tonnes of that material entering the atmosphere each year.

What do Hams do?

- Bounce signals off the Moon...



Al Penney
VO1NO

Project Diana Feb 1946. First Amateur RX of moonbounce in 1953. First Amateur QSO 1960.

What do Hams do?

- Build their own equipment...



Al Penney
VO1NO

What do Hams do?

- Talk to Astronauts...



Al Penney
VO1NO

For most amateur radio operators, it is the thrill of a lifetime to receive a "CQ", or general call, from an astronaut in space. But for some, like former astronaut Dr. Owen K. Garriott, call sign W5LFL, the thrill comes from receiving a response from "hams" down on Earth.

Garriott, who has been an amateur radio operator for over 40 years, was the first astronaut to take a ham radio into space, pioneering the way for an increasingly well developed amateur radio space program.

"It was my good fortune to take the first amateur radio into space on STS-9 in November 1983," Garriott said. "In my spare time only, I managed to hold up an antenna to the window and to talk to amateurs on Earth."

What do Hams do?

- Experiment with cutting edge technology...



Al Penney
VO1NO

What do Hams do?

- Find hidden transmitters...



Al Penney
VO1NO

What do Hams do?

- Operate from parks and lighthouses...



Al Penney
VO1NO

YL Marija

POTA CZ-0120

My first POTA activation outside of Serbia. I was QRV as OK/YU3AWA. And, it was ATNO!

What do Hams do?

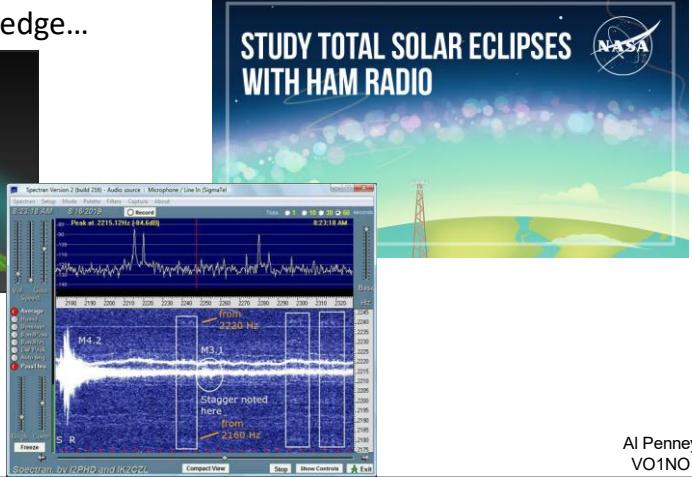
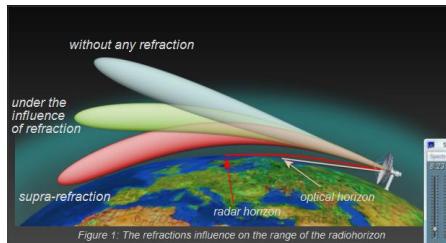
- Help in time of disaster...



Al Penney
VO1NO

What do Hams do?

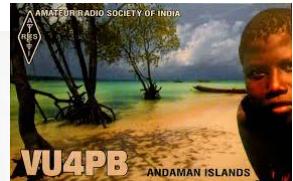
- Advance scientific knowledge...



Al Penney
VO1NO

What do Hams do?

- Make friends around the world...



Al Penney
VO1NO

Father Moran, Nepal

Annapolis Valley Amateur Radio Club

www.avarc.ca

Make friends around the world!



Al Penney
VO1NO



Kings County Amateur Radio Club

<https://kcarc.ca>

Perks of being a Ham Radio Operator



Extra Money



Free Time



Meet Girls



Al Penney
VO1NO

