

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

Emergency Administration and Planning
University of North Texas
Room GAB 105

Fall 1998
Thursdays
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

ROSS CHADWICK

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Office Hours:
By appointment

DISASTER INCIDENT MANAGEMENT
EADP-4980

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the various systems available for the management of disaster incidents, both in the field and in emergency operations centers. Students will examine disaster incident management history, organization, terminology, resources, features and principles, facilities and responsibilities.

ESSENTIAL COMPETENCIES/COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To review the historical evolution of disaster incident management processes and systems.
2. To acquaint students with a basic understanding of standard disaster incident management systems including the incident command system (ICS) and the standardized emergency management system (SEMS).
3. To acquaint students with the interface between field incident management systems and emergency operations centers (EOC's), along with multi-agency or inter-agency cooperation.
4. To assess common disaster incident management problems and shortfalls and the thinking process that goes on in making critical decisions in major disasters.
5. To review and analyze case studies and practice incident management skills through disaster scenarios and simulations.

GRADING:

Attendance and Participation	10%
Midterm Exam	25%
“Operation VERBAL IMAGE” Paper	20%
Term Paper	20%
Final Exam	25%

NOTE: *The Emergency Administration and Planning Program, in cooperation with the Office of Disaster Accommodation (ODA), complies with the **Americans with Disabilities Act** in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.*

Disaster Incident Management
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SCHEDULE

Session 1—September 3

- **INTRODUCTION, COURSE OBJECTIVES, EXPECTATIONS.**
- **WHAT IS DISASTER INCIDENT MANAGEMENT?**
- **TERMS RELEVANT TO INCIDENT MANAGEMENT.**

Assignment:

Define incident management terms for 9/10.

Session 2—September 10

- **HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**
- **MILITARY COMMAND AND CONTROL - THE MARINES ARE COMING, Part I**

Assignment:

“Operation VERBAL IMAGE” - analysis due back on October 9.

Required Reading:

1. FEMA, Region X “A Year Ago Today: The Miller’s Reach Fire,” June 6, 1997.
 2. Press Release from State of New York, “Governor Pataki Signs Order Establishing Improved System for Response to State Emergencies,” March 7, 1996.
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Session 3—September 17

- **MILITARY COMMAND AND CONTROL - THE MARINES ARE COMING, Part II**
- **PROBLEMS WITH INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**
- **FINDING THE “PLAN FOR ALL SEASONS”**

Required Reading:

1. Dynes, Russell R. 1994. “Community Emergency Planning: False Assumptions and Inappropriate Analogies.” *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 12 (August): 141-158.
 2. Wenger, Dennis, et Al. “Is the Incident Command System a Plan for All Seasons?” *Hazard Monthly*, March 1990.
 3. ICMA, *Emergency Management: Principles and Practices for Local Government*, ICS excerpts, pages 183-184 and 276-277, 1991.
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Session 4—September 24

- **BASIC INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM (ICS) - PART I**

Required Reading

FEMA, Basic Incident Command System (ICS) Independent Study Course, 1998. Units 1, 2 and 3.

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Session 5—October 1

BASIC INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM (ICS) - PART II

Required Reading

1. FEMA, Basic Incident Command System (ICS) Independent Study Course, 1998. Units 4 and 5 and Appendixes A and B.
2. Department of Energy (DOE), “*Report on the Emergency Response to the Event on May 14, 1997, at the Plutonium Reclamation Facility, Hanford Site, Richland, Washington,*” April 1998.

Session 6—October 8

➤ STANDARDIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SEMS)

Required Reading

1. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), State of California, “*Introductory Course of Instruction, Student Reference Manual,*” 1995.
2. United States Fire Administration, “*Urban Search and Rescue in Crested Butte, Colorado, State Bank Following an Explosion/Collapse,*” March 6, 1990.

Session 7—October 15

MIDTERM EXAM

Session 8—October 22

➤ ORGANIZING AND PLANNING FOR EVENTS AND INCIDENTS

Required Reading:

1. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), State of California, “*Organizing for Incidents or Events Student Reference Manual,*” 1995.
2. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), State of California, “*Incident and Event Planning Student Reference Manual,*” 1995.
3. Wilson, Richard C., “*The Loma Prieta Quake, What One City Learned,*” Chapter 3, ICMA, 1991.

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Session 9—October 29

➤ UNIFIED COMMAND

Required Reading:

1. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), State of California, “*Unified Command Student Reference Manual*,” 1995
2. National Traffic Safety Board (NTSB), “*Abstract of NTSB Public Meeting, September 4, 1996 Pipeline Special Investigation: Evaluation of pipeline failures during flooding and of spill response actions, San Jacinto River near Houston, Texas, October 1994.*”

“OPERATION VERBAL IMAGE” PAPER DUE

Session 10—November 5

➤ MAJOR INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

Required Reading:

1. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), State of California, “*Major Incident Management Student Reference Manual*,” 1995
 2. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), State of California, “*Area Command Student Reference Manual*,” 1995
 3. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), “*Preliminary Analysis, Incident Command*,” Oklahoma City Bombing Incident.
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Session 11—November 12

➤ EOC’S AND INCIDENT MANAGEMENT (Part I)

Required Reading:

1. ICMA, *Emergency Management: Principles and Practices for Local Government*, EOC’s, pages 204-212, 1991.
2. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), State of California, “*Principles of Disaster Management in EOC’s Student Reference Manual*,” 1995

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Session 12—November 19

- EOC'S AND INCIDENT MANAGEMENT (Part II)

Required Reading

1. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), State of California, "*General EOC Applications Student Reference Manual*," 1995
 2. Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), State of California, "*Coordination Between SEMS Levels Student Reference Manual*," 1995
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Session 13—December 3

- PUTTING THE DISASTER INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM INTO A PLAN
- SIMULATION EXERCISES
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Session 14—December 10

- COURSE SUMMARY AND REVIEW

TERM PAPER DUE

Session 15—December 17

FINAL EXAM

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PAPER REQUIREMENTS

“OPERATION VERBAL IMAGE” PAPER:

1. Compare the war situation in the handout “Operation VERBAL IMAGE” to a disaster situation. What are the similarities and the differences?
2. How does the military command and control system in the story compare to a disaster incident management system as discussed in class.
3. How would a disaster incident management system be more effective or less effective? Be specific.

3 to 7 pages due on or before October 29.

TERM PAPER:

Based on what you have learned in this course about disaster incident management, consider Wenger’s article “Is the Incident Command System a Plan for All Seasons” and either defend his position or refute it. Basically, do you think that there really is an incident management system that is a “plan for all seasons?” Be specific using any case studies or other examples to defend your point of view.

3 to 7 pages due on or before December 10, 1998.