

Executive Master in Crisis and Emergency Management
Human Considerations
ECEM 723

Professor: Kay Goss, CEM

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Course Description:

This course explores the human aspect of emergencies by analyzing the public and private response to natural, intentional, and technical disasters. It specifically addresses the psychological component (to include counseling) on the afflicted population and the long-range considerations that must be addressed when effectively managing an incident, as well as the special considerations needed in the three other phases of emergency management – preparedness, mitigation, and recovery. Those special considerations for business continuity will also be noted. Areas to be covered include age, race, gender, religion, health and other physical challenges.

Course Objectives:

- Comprehend the human side of emergencies through analyzing public reaction and response to disaster events
- Know the steps needed for special populations to prepare for, mitigate against, and recover from disasters of every nature, including natural disasters, technological and environmental, and human induced.
- Be able to analyze a program to evaluate its effectiveness in caring for special needs populations.
- Know how to conduct a risk assessment of the special needs areas of an emergency management program.

Book:

- *Human Conditions In Disasters*, published by the National Academy of Sciences (electronic copy, provided by instructor, free of charge)
- Additional reading assignments will be provided through WebCampus on a weekly basis

Websites:

- www.fema.gov
- www.dhs.gov
- www.cdc.gov

- www.pandemic.gov
- www.udel.edu
- www.colorado.edu/hazards
- www.iaem.com
- www.nemaweb.org
- www.hhs.gov
- www.loc.gov
- www.un.org
- www.ofda.gov

Objectives Measurement

In-class and web-based participation:	10 pts.
Research Paper #1:	20 pts.
Research Paper #2:	30 pts.
<u>Final Essay Examination:</u>	<u>40 pts.</u>
<i>Maximum score:</i>	<i>100 pts.</i>

Performance Assessments:

In-class and web-based participation: Full points are awarded based on active and meaningful participation in classroom discussion, insightful contributions and interactions between instructor and peers.

Research Paper #1: The first paper (at least five pages in length) will be due at mid-term. (No Later than September 16, 2007 and will address and answer the question: **When does recovery start and when does it end?** The paper should conform to APA format or another graduate level research paper format)

Research Paper #2: The second paper (at least 10 pages in length) will be due on Wednesday, December 5, 2007 and will address and answer the question: **Are disasters racist?** The paper should conform to APA format or another graduate level research paper format).

Final Essay Examination: This take-home exam is the final assessment of student learning. It will be in essay format and will be due on Wednesday, December 5, 2007.

Discussion Topics and Assignments:

- 1-3 Pages: **What are the elements of the human condition?** (July 9-15)
- Chapter 1: Introduction (Read July 23-29 - 1-3 pages - **What is the Role of the NSF?**)
- Chapter 2: Societal Changes Influencing the Context of Research (Read August 6-10 - 1-3 pages - **What is the role of Social Science?**)

- Chapter 3: Social Science Research on Hazard Mitigation, Emergency Preparedness, and Recovery Preparedness (Read during August 6-10 - 1-3 pages - **What is the role of social science?**)
- Chapter 4: Disaster Response and Recovery (Read August 27-September 2 – 1-3 pages – **Which disciplines have a role in disaster research?**)
- Chapter 5: Interdisciplinary Hazards and Disaster Research (Read August 27-September 2 – 1-3 pages – **Which disciplines have a role in disaster research?**)
- *Research Paper #1:* The first paper (at least five pages in length) will be due at mid-term. **When does recover start and when does it end?** (No Later than September 16, 2007)
- Chapter 6: International Research: Confronting the Challenges of Disaster Risk Reduction and Development (Read September 24-30 -1-3 pages - **Which country excels at disaster research?**)
- Chapter 7: The Role of State-of-the-Art Technologies and Methods for Enhancing Studies of Hazards and Disasters (Read October 8-14 - 1-3 pages - **What is the Role of Technology?**)
- Chapter 8: Knowledge Dissemination and Application (Read October 22-28 - 1-3 pages -**What is Knowledge Dissemination?**)
- Chapter 9: The Present and Future Hazards and Disaster Research Workforce (Read November 5-11 - 1-3 pages - **What is the Future of Disaster Research?**)
- References, Appendices, Overview (Read November 19-25 - 1-3 pages - **How Can We Set Priorities?**)
- *Research Paper #2:*The second paper (at least 10 pages in length) will be due on Wednesday, December 5, 2007 **Are disasters racist?**
- **Final Essay Examination:** This take-home exam is the final assessment of student learning. It will be in essay format and will be due on Wednesday, December 5, 2007
- *This syllabus is a guide, not a contract. It may be revised if it seems in the best interest of the class to do so. Students will be notified promptly of any revisions.*