The Master of Science Degree balances conceptual knowledge in emergency management with skill acquisition in crisis management, hazard assessment, and other management skills. Students will exercise critical judgment, independent thinking, creative initiative, and disciplined inquiry. Graduate students must also demonstrate requisite research skills.

This degree offers a specialized program both for existing career professionals in the discipline and for those seeking the diverse employment opportunities available in this evolving field. The curriculum applies a multidisciplinary approach targeting the principles of emergency management along with state-of-the-art technologies. Courses are available both on campus and through distance education. Application for admission to Arkansas Tech University may be made online through the Graduate School website: http://graduate.atu.edu.

Students are eligible to apply for unconditional admission to the Master of Science degree program in Emergency Management and Homeland Security (EMHS) if they meet all of the following requirements. Additionally, all application credentials are examined by a faculty committee from the EM Department to determine admission status.

1. The admission requirements for the Graduate School.
2. Cumulative grade point average of 3.00
3. Statement of intent which addresses career goals, interests in graduate school and emergency management, and research interests
4. Resume or vita

Conditional admission may be possible when the grade point average is between 2.5 and 3.0. If a cumulative 3.00 grade point average or better is achieved at the completion of twelve semester hours and all other requirements have been met, the student will be granted unconditional admission.

A total of 36 semester hours is required (including 18 at the 6000 level) in four categories: Professional, Methods, Applied Research, and Interdisciplinary.

The Professional Component requires 18 semester hours covering such topics as Disaster Ethics, Crisis Communication, Risk Assessment, International Issues, Hazardous Materials, Technology, Legal Issues, and Hazards Analysis. Professional component classes offered include:

- Principles and Practices of Disaster Relief and Recovery
- Disaster and Emergency Management Ethics
- Community Management of Hazardous Materials
- Special Problems and Topics
- Design and Management of Preparedness and Mitigation Systems
- Technology for Comprehensive Emergency Management
- Risk and Vulnerability Assessment for Business and Industry
- Foundations of Leadership
- Contemporary Issues in Homeland Security
- Legal Issues in Emergency Management
- Principles of Hazards and Emergency Management
- Introduction to Terrorism
- Independent Study
- Crisis Communication
- Introduction to International Emergency Management
- Human Response to Disasters
- Intelligence in Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Two three-hour courses are required to complete the Methods Component. Research Design and Methods examines research design along with qualitative and quantitative methods to analyze real world problems. Applied Data Analysis examines the acquisition of data, and the subsequent analysis using qualitative and quantitative methodologies.

The Applied Research Component consists of six hours focused on thesis development involving individual research with a supervising professor. These courses include:

- Research I
- Research II

The Interdisciplinary Component requires six hours of electives applicable to the student’s interests and career objectives.

Arkansas Tech University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and the Master of Science Degree in Emergency Management and Homeland Security is also accredited by the Foundation for Higher Education Accreditation.

For more information contact:

Dr. Sandy Smith
Department Head
Emergency Administration and Management
Arkansas Tech University
110 Dean Hall
Russellville, AR 72801
Phone: 479-498-6039
Fax: 479-356-2091
Email: ssmith107@atu.edu

Additional Information: Website: [http://www.atu.edu/emergencymanagement](http://www.atu.edu/emergencymanagement)

Additional Phone: 479-356-2092

Updated: 8/15/13

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