The University of Akron, Bachelor of Science in Emergency Management and Homeland Security

The University of Akron offers a Bachelor of Science Degree in Emergency Management and Homeland Security (EMHS) located in the Department of Disaster Science and Emergency Services. Additionally, a Certificate and Minor are available. The program started in 1998 and is the third oldest Emergency Management degree program in the United States. This program is built on the All-Hazards Approach for careers in the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

There are two paths for admission, a traditional stand-alone program beginning in the freshman year and a “step-up” degree for those who completed accredited academic work in fields such as fire protection, criminal justice, environmental health and safety, business, public health, and other emergency management and/or homeland security related fields.

Courses include core classes in emergency management and homeland security along with natural and social science classes, research methods, and electives. All students are required to complete an internship and a capstone class. There is also a strong research component to enhance students’ analytical skills and knowledge.

Degree completion requires a minimum of 120 semester hours. All Disaster Science courses are three credits unless noted.

Required Courses
2235:105 Introduction to Disasters, Hazards, and Risk
2235:305 Principles of Emergency Management
2235:350 Disaster Preparedness and Response
2235:340 Disaster Research Methods
2235:365 Disaster Mitigation
2235:367 Disaster Recovery
2235:370 Hazard Science and Management
2235:401 Crisis Leadership
2235:420 Disaster Vulnerability
2235:495 Emergency Management and Homeland Security Internship
2235:480 Emergency Management and Homeland Security Capstone

Elective Courses
2235:285 Disasters in Film and Media
2235:360 Introduction to Terrorism
2235:406 Disaster Management Technology
2235:407 Hazardous Weather Observations
2235:425 Private Sector Disaster Applications
2235:490 Current Topics in Emergency Management and Homeland Security

General Education and elective courses are also required.
The University of Akron is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

For more information contact:

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