KENT STATE UNIVERSITY  
(DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY)
Course Description:
Natural hazards and their effects on humans and their environment: volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, floods, droughts, hurricanes, tornadoes, catastrophic landslides, fires etc. will be discussed.
Management and relief of disasters; the damage they cause; planned pattern of prevention, mitigation and prediction.

Week - 1 (Jan. 21) Introduction to Natural Hazards - The Global Problem, Definitions and Basic Concepts. Is the Environment Becoming More Hazardous?
Readings: D.A. Chapt 1, B.K.W. Chapter 1

Readings: D.A. Chapt. 2, B.K.W. Chapt. 2
(Position paper 1 due - on Chapter 1 B.K.W.)

Week - 3 (Feb 4) Floods and Droughts - Frost and Snow Disasters - A Look at the Developed and Developing World.
Readings: D.A. Chapt 3, B.K.W. Chapter 3

Week - 4 (Feb 11) Hurricanes - Tornadoes, Lightning, Hailstorms - The Human Impact of Atmospheric and Hydrological Hazards. (Visit by Dr. Schmidlin Feb 11 (Debra)
Readings: Chapt. 4 B.K.W. (Debra)
(Position paper 2 due - on Chapter 2 B.K.W.)

Week - 5 (Feb 18) Case Studies - Hurricane Hugo, Andrew and Fran. Tornadoes in North America, Japan, and Bangladesh. (Yuichi)
Readings
Week - 6 (Feb 25) Desertification, Soil Erosion, Landslides, Coastal Erosion - The Impact of Forest and Range Fires on the Environment and Humans. (Michael)
Readings: D.A. Chapt 4
(Position paper 3 due - on Chapter 4, B.K.W.)

Week - 7 (Mar 4) Human Response to Disasters - Damage and the Build Environment. (Scott)
Visit by Deborah L. Bailey, Environmental Coordinator, Sea World
Readings: D.A. Chapt 5, B.K.W. Chapter 5

Week - 8 (Mar 11) Planning and Emergency Action (Portage County Emergency Directors Visit - Andy Miller and EPA Hazmat Coordinator, Columbus Jeff Beahie) Presentation of Research Proposal.
Readings: D.A. Chapt 6
(Proposal Due for Final Research Paper 2 Typed Pages).

Week - 9 (Mar 18) Medical Emergencies - Hazards mapping.
Readings: D.A. Chapt 7, B.K.W.

Week - 10 (Mar 25) Spring Recess

Week - 11 (Apr. 1, Apr. 3) The Economics of Disasters - AAG meeting
Readings: D.A. Chapt 9, Dymon and Platt

Week - 12 (Apr. 8) Disasters and National Policies
Readings: B.K.W. Chapter 6

Week - 13 (Apr. 15) Disasters in the Developing World and Response by the International Community.
Readings: D.A. Chapt 8, B.K.W. Chapter 7

Week - 14 (Apr. 22, Apr. 24) Disasters and the Socio-economic Systems)
Readings: D.A. Chapt 9, B.K.W. Chapter 8
(Report on Research Progress 5 minute each student)

Readings: D.A. Chapt 10, B.K.W. Chapter 9

Week - 16 (May 6) Presentation of Research

Grading Policy:
This Course is a Research Seminar. It is expected of each student to produce a research paper of quality to be presented at the East Lakes Geography Meeting in Lansing, Michigan, in the Fall of 1997 (Oct 17, 18).
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<th>Component</th>
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<td>Position Papers</td>
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<td>Proposal</td>
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<td>Research Paper</td>
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