COURSE OUTLINE

EADM 201 – FUNDAMENTALS OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: HISTORY, PERSPECTIVES, AND THEORIES

Prepared By: Dr. Michael J. O’Connor Jr.
A. **TITLE:** Fundamentals of Emergency Management: History, Perspectives, and Theories

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** EADM 201

C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3 credit hours.

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** Yes

E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall

G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 lecture hours per week

H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course presents the theories, principles, and approaches to emergency management. The philosophy of Comprehensive Emergency Management (CEM) will be discussed with the four attendant steps of: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. An analysis of past disasters will be presented along with their impacts on policy formation leading up to the current FEMA all-hazards approach. The role, duties, and importance of the Emergency Manager will be discussed throughout the semester. Finally, a brief review of basic legal issues involving emergency management will be presented.

I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:** None

J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

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<tr>
<th>Course Objective</th>
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<tr>
<td>Discuss the history, four phases, and the all-hazards approach to emergency management.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>Describe how &quot;stakeholders&quot; are involved in emergency management.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>Describe the principal environmental hazards in terms of the physical processes that generate them, the geographical areas that are most commonly at risk, and types of impacts and typical magnitude of hazard events.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>Explain what hazard mitigation is, mitigation strategies, and legal basis for hazard mitigation and the relationship between hazard mitigation and sustainable development.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>Discuss the prevailing myths and misconceptions about people's behavior in disasters with the findings of research on how people actually respond in emergencies.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>Discuss the principles of emergency planning including the development of the Emergency Operations Plan.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>Describe emergency management standards, the movement toward professionalization of emergency management.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>Discuss the differences between the United States systems and the emergency management capabilities of other countries.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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K. **TEXTS:**


Washington DC: FEMA.

L. **REFERENCES:** None

M. **EQUIPMENT:** Internet access.

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F

O. **MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Discussion Boards
- Papers
- Participation

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

I. **INTRODUCTION TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**
   A. History of emergency management in the federal government.
   B. Basics of current emergency management system including the four phases of emergency management.
   C. Basic functions performed by local emergency managers.
   D. All-hazards approach to emergency management.

II. **STAKEHOLDERS**
   A. “Stakeholder” is in the context of emergency management.
   B. Stakeholders emergency managers should be most concerned about.
   C. Types of emergency decisions different stakeholders make.
   D. How can emergency managers can involve these stakeholders in the emergency management process.
   E. Types and amounts of power different stakeholder groups have and how they can influence the emergency management policy process.

III. **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS**
   A. Fundamentals of running a local emergency management agency.
   B. Local emergency management committee (LEMC).
   C. LEMC relationships to households and businesses and upward to state and federal agencies.

IV. **RISK PERCEPTION AND COMMUNICATION**
   A. Perceived the risks of environmental hazards.
   B. Actions people can take to protect themselves from environmental hazards.
   C. How emergency managers can change the behavior of those at risk from long-term threats or imminent impacts of disasters.
   D. Protective Action Decision Model.
   E. Recommendations for risk communication during the continuing hazard phase, escalating crises, and emergency response.

V. **HAZARDS**
   A. Principal environmental hazards in terms of the physical processes that generate them.
B. Principal environmental hazards in terms of the geographical areas that are most commonly at risk from them.
C. Types of impacts and typical magnitude of hazard events for principal environmental hazards.
D. Hazard-specific issues of emergency response for principal environmental hazards.

VI. HAZARD VULNERABILITY AND RISK ANALYSIS
A. How preimpact conditions act together with event-specific conditions to produce a disaster’s physical and social impacts.
B. How disaster impacts can be reduced by emergency management interventions.
C. How emergency managers can assess the preimpact conditions that produce disaster vulnerability within their communities.
D. Vulnerability dynamics and methods for disseminating hazard/vulnerability data.

VII. HAZARD MITIGATION
A. Hazard mitigation and how it fits in with the other phases of emergency management.
B. Most widely used mitigation strategies and the ways they are applied to the most common types of environmental hazards.
C. Legal basis for hazard mitigation in the United States today.
D. What problems exist in with the adoption and implementation of mitigation and some methods of addressing those problems.
E. Relationship between hazard mitigation and sustainable development.

VIII. MYTHS
A. Prevailing myths and misconceptions about people’s behavior in disasters.
B. Findings of research on how people actually respond in emergencies.
C. Relationship between households and the community emergency response organization in connection with the population protection function—especially warning and the implementation of protective actions such as evacuation and sheltering in-place.

IX. PREPAREDNESS
A. Eight fundamental principles of emergency planning.
C. Emergency Operations Plan development.
D. Households, businesses, and government agencies emergency preparedness.

X. ORGANIZATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RESPONSE
A. Emergency response organization’s ability to perform four basic functions—emergency assessment, hazard operations, population protection, and incident management.

XI. COMMUNITY DISASTER RECOVERY
A. Housing, economic, and psychological recovery of households.
B. Operational recovery of businesses.
C. Types of recovery assistance that can be expected from state and federal government and from insurance.
D. Local government’s preimpact recovery planning and the implementation and improvisation of that plan during a disaster’s aftermath.

XII. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STANDARDS AND EVALUATION
A. What a profession is and the process by which emergency management is moving toward professionalization.
B. Procedures for periodic evaluation of the local emergency management agency (LEMA) and local emergency management committee (LEMC).
D. Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP)
E. National Incident Management System Capability Assessment Support Tool (NIMCAST).
F. Procedures for evaluating drills, exercises, and incidents.
G. Procedures for evaluating organizational training and community risk communication programs.

XIII. INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
A. Differences between the United States systems and the emergency management capabilities of other countries.

XIV. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEGAL ISSUES
A. Concept of negligence, and its specific application to emergency management
B. Legal immunities.
C. How NFPA 1600 is evolving toward becoming the legal standard through EMAP.
D. Legal duties of emergency managers.
E. Legal aspects of mutual aid.
F. Legal aspects of incident command, including the NRP and NIMS.
G. Legal issues in working with volunteers.
H. Emergency management organization planning responsibilities.
I. Legal issue of declaring an emergency.
J. Legal issues in response and recovery phases of emergency management.

XV. FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
A. Most important trends and issues in determining the future of emergency management.

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: Not applicable