COURSE OUTLINE

EADM 220 – DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND PREPAREDNESS

Prepared By: Dr. Michael J. O’Connor Jr.
A. **TITLE:** Disaster Management and Preparedness

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** EADM 220

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

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** Yes

E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks

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

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

H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** The course presents new and innovative methods for preparing communities and organizations to address general and substantial risk of disasters and emergencies in the workplace. It encompasses the tactics used by safety experts and additionally focuses on expanded proactive measures to safeguard lives and assets from natural disasters to acts of terrorism. Focuses of the course include planning, assessing and responding to potential threats, decreasing potential harm and recovery considerations at the community and organizational level.

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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<th>Course Objective</th>
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<tr>
<td>Identify the diverse set of public actors/entities involved in disaster response at the local, state and Federal levels including their roles and responsibilities.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>Describe common misperceptions about human behavior during the disaster response phase of emergency management.</td>
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<td>Identify how hazards are detected and the types of warning systems and methods of alerting a population of an impending hazard or disaster.</td>
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<td>Explain why damage assessment is important for disaster response and recovery operations and produce several different types of damage assessments.</td>
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<td>Describe how disasters are declared at the federal level and illustrate the political realities of damage assessment and disaster declarations.</td>
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<td>Define what an emergency operations center is, and how technology and communications are used to prepare for, respond and recover from, and mitigate disaster, and describe how it is different from ICS.</td>
<td>1. Crit. Thinking</td>
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Describe how to assess hazards and vulnerability, and create a basic emergency operations plan.  

Define the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and distinguish the principles under which it operates.

**K. TEXTS:**


**L. REFERENCES:** None.

**M. EQUIPMENT:** Internet access.

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

**O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:** (list in bullet form, all outlines should be created for face-to-face course delivery, attendance is not measurable, but you can list participation – see examples below)

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Discussion Boards
- Papers
- Participation

**P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:** (must use the outline format listed below)

**I. INTRODUCTION TO DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND PREPAREDNESS**

A. Types of natural, environmental, biological, technological, and human-induced/civil hazards.
B. Multi-causal perspective on disasters.
C. Consequences of emergencies and disasters, including detrimental results and degree of impact.
D. Goals of emergency management during disaster response.
E. Functions that are performed during the emergency phase of disaster.

**II. DISASTER OPERATIONS**

A. Diverse set of public actors/entities involved in disaster response at the local level including their roles and responsibilities.
B. Diverse set of public actors and entities involved in disaster response at the state level including their roles and responsibilities.
C. Diverse set of public actors and entities involved in disaster response at the federal level including their roles and responsibilities.

**III. PROFESSIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND ALL-HAZARDS APPROACH**

A. Common misperceptions about human behavior during the disaster response phase of emergency management.
B. Traditional and professional approaches to disaster.

**IV. HAZARD DETECTION AND WARNING SYSTEMS**

A. Detection of hazards during the initial period of the response phase.
B. How response is implemented when a hazard threatens or a disaster has actually occurred.
C. Importance of the warning function in disaster response operations.
D. Types of warning systems and methods of alerting a population of an impending hazard or disaster.

V. EVACUATION, SHELTERING AND SEARCH AND RESCUE
A. Why evacuation is needed in times of emergencies or disasters.
B. How people behave during evacuation.
C. Processes and methods utilized to successfully evacuate populations, and their respective strengths and weaknesses.
D. Issues that must be considered when opening shelters.
E. Process of opening and maintaining shelters.
F. Types of search and rescue operations.

VI. TRIAGE AND MASS CARE
A. Nature of injuries that result from disaster and the need for emergency medical assistance.
B. How people care for the injured and review other issues to consider regarding the medical aspects of disaster response.
C. Importance, processes and ethics of triage.
D. Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT).
E. Need to plan for mass fatality incidents.
F. DMORT teams, including their purpose and method of operation.

VII. VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT, MEDIA AND DONATION MANAGEMENT
A. Spontaneous volunteers.
B. Potential problems volunteers may create for first responders and emergency managers.
C. Challenges the media presents to responders and emergency managers.
D. Typical problems associated with disaster donations.

VIII. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT, DEBRIS MANAGEMENT AND ASSISTANCE
A. Different types of damage assessments as well as the distinct methods for conducting them.
B. How disasters are declared at the federal level.
C. Types of debris that are produced in various disasters.
D. Purpose and types of individual assistance.

IX. DISASTER RESPONSE TO VARIOUS DISASTERS
A. Secondary hazards.
B. Types of technological disasters that first responders and emergency managers may be confronted with and state the implications for response operations.
C. Problems arising from the use of modern technology and communications equipment, and note how such problems can be averted.
D. Nature of industrial disasters, including why they occur, typical problems to be encountered and what can be done about them.
E. Goals and tactics of terrorists.

X. POLITICS AND LEGAL ISSUES IN DISASTERS
A. Decision making during disasters.
B. Political aspects of disasters.
C. How to harness increased attention on disasters to the benefit of the response and emergency management program in general.
D. Potential legal concerns facing emergency managers and first responders.
XI. PREPAREDNESS: INCIDENT COMMAND AND EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTERS
   A. Definition of incident command.
   B. Historical development of the ICS concept.
   C. Strengths and weaknesses of incident command.
   D. Define what an emergency operations center is and how it is different from ICS.
   E. Common challenges facing those present in the emergency operations center.
   F. Emergency management ordinances.
   G. The need to assess hazards and vulnerability
   H. How to create an emergency operations plan.
   I. Resource management.
   J. Training, exercise and public disaster education programs.

XII. NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
   A. National Incident Management System (NIMS).
   B. Goals of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
   C. Components of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

XIII. CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT
   A. Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).
   B. Critical Incident Stress (CIS).
   C. Common signs of PTSD/CIS.

XIV. USING TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS
   A. Overview of how technology is utilized in disaster response operations.
   B. Types of communications equipment and tools to promote interoperability.
   C. What decision support systems are and provide examples of these computer software programs.
   D. How GIS is applied in times of disaster.
   E. Barriers that inhibit effective communication and coordination.

XV. IMPROVISATION
   A. Definitions of improvisation, creativity and flexibility, and their importance in effective disaster response operations and management.
   B. Case examples of improvisation, creativity and flexibility.
   C. Quarantelli’s 10 criteria to evaluate successful disaster management.

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: Not applicable.