

EDMG515

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course : EDMG515 **Title :** Hazard Mitigation and Resilient Communities

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course provides an overview of what is known about natural hazards, disasters, recovery, and mitigation, how research findings have been translated into policies and programs, and a sustainable hazard mitigation research agenda. The course also provides an examination of past disaster losses and hazards management over the past 50 years, including factors--demographic, climate, social--that influence loss.

Course Scope:

We will work together to develop an overview of what is known about mitigation of natural hazards disasters; how research findings have been translated into policies and programs; and a sustainable hazard mitigation research agenda. We will examine past disaster losses and hazards management over the past 50 years, including factors--demographic, climate, social--that influence loss. Building on this common background and understanding of the evolving context for hazard mitigation and resilient communities, we will explore hazard mitigation with respect to the historic evolution of U.S. disaster policy and practice. The adoption of the original Stafford Act in 1988 and its subsequent amendments and evolution will be analyzed. We will practice using the theoretical and practical framework for developing federal, state, and local mitigation capacity and commitment. Finally, this course provides an exploration into alternative and sustainable ways to view, study, and manage hazards in the United States. Thus, the course discusses the issue of disaster-resilient communities, higher environmental quality, inter- and intra-generational equity, economic sustainability, and improved quality of life.

Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to

(LO = Learning Objectives)

LO-1: Demonstrate proficiency in the use of selected research methods and tools.

LO-2: Describe and examine the differences between hazards and mitigation efforts

LO-3: Accomplish specific research tasks: hypothesis construction, conceptualizing terms, literature review, data collection, critical analysis, and communicate findings.

LO-4: Evaluate data and critically assess research findings about local and federal emergency management in disaster mitigation

LO-5: Recognize and implement techniques for hazard mitigation to ensure resiliency in communities.

LO-6: Show graduate level critical thinking and writing.

Outline

Week 1: What is mitigation?

Learning Objective(s)

- Class introduction
- Gain an overview of mitigation and resiliency
- Understand the moral issues surrounding mitigation
- Understand the overview of Disaster Assistance (DA)

Reading(s) Resources

- Islam & Ryan. (2015). Hazard Mitigation in Emergency Management. Chapters 1 and 4
- Government documents and websites listed in the Readings and Resources section of Week 1 Lesson
- Academic journal articles listed in the Readings and Resources section of Week 1 Lesson

Assignments

Week 1 - Introduction forum

Familiarize yourself with Course Resources and the Syllabus

Week 2: Non-Federal Mitigation and Resiliency

Learning Objective(s)

- Understand local government actions related to mitigation
- Explain mitigation activities at the state level
- Gain an understanding of how inter-governmental relations interact with mitigation
- Describe strategies to leverage non-profit and and volunteers in mitigation activities

Reading(s) Resources

- Islam & Ryan. (2015). Hazard Mitigation in Emergency Management. Chapters 2,3,7, and 8
- Government documents and websites listed in the Readings and Resources section of Week 2 Lesson
- Academic journal articles listed in the Readings and Resources section of Week 2 Lesson

Assignments

Readings

Forum 2

Week 3: Risk Communication and Community Involvement

Learning Objective(s)

- Describe methods to define risk
- Understand and apply different methods of communicating disaster risk
- Define the different lenses through which to define community
- Apply different methods of involving the community in disaster mitigation

Reading(s) Resources

- Islam & Ryan. (2015). Hazard Mitigation in Emergency Management. Chapters 9 and 12
- Government documents and websites listed in the Week 3 lessons section
- Academic, peer-reviewed resources listed in the Week 3 lessons section

Assignments

Readings

Forum 3

Week 4: Cultural, Policy, and Legal Issues

Learning Objective(s)

- Describe the different social, economic, and political forces operating within a community.
- Compare and contrast cultural and policy issues in a community and understand their interrelatedness
- Understand legal issues surrounding mitigation efforts and the legal concept not harming others

Reading(s) Resources

- Islam & Ryan. (2015). Hazard Mitigation in Emergency Management. Chapters 2 and 10
- Government Documents and Websites in Week 4 lessons section
- Academic Journal Articles in Week 4 lessons section

Assignments

Readings

Forum 4

Assignment 4- Legislation, Non-Federal and Federal Programs Related to Disaster Mitigation

Week 5: FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

Learning Objective(s)

- Identify the basic concepts HMGP
- Determine eligible for the HMGP
- Identify administration
- Identify how to apply
- Examine the FEMA regulations implementing the new disaster act.

Reading(s) Resources

- Islam & Ryan. (2015). Hazard Mitigation in Emergency Management. Chapters 3 and 11
- Government Documents and Websites in Week 5 lessons section

- Academic Journal Articles in Week 5 lessons section

Assignments

Lesson 5

Reading

Forum 5

Week 6: Risk Assessment

Learning Objective(s)

- Analyze the various mitigation proposals in terms of impacts on stakeholders in the intergovernmental hazard mitigation policy system.
- Discuss the impact of major natural disasters on efforts to reshape federal mitigation policy.
- Discuss the requirements and incentives for state and local mitigation planning.
- Evaluate the potential impacts of the act and regulations on reducing vulnerability to various types of natural hazards.

Reading(s) Resources

- Islam & Ryan. (2015). Hazard Mitigation in Emergency Management. Chapters 5, 6, 7
- Government Documents and Websites in Week 6 lesson sections
- Academic Journal Articles in Week 6 lessons section

Assignments

Lesson 6

Readings

Forum 6

Assignment 6: Risk Communication, Cultural, and Legal Issues Related to Mitigation

Week 7: Hazard Mitigation Inadequacies

Learning Objective(s)

- Understand the issues and background of attempts to measure the success of hazard mitigation, both before and after a disaster
- Identify indicators of success
- Describe quantitative measurement approaches, such as benefit cost analysis
- Describe qualitative measurement approaches, such as case studies
- Assess the political, social, and economic aspects of measuring mitigation success
- Participate in a structured discussion about the credibility and validity of methods for measuring mitigation success

Reading(s) Resources

- Academic Journal Articles in Week 7 lessons section

Assignments

Lesson 7

Readings

Forum 7

Week #7 Assignment - Risk Assessment & Mitigation

Week 8: Putting it all Together

Learning Objective(s)

- Recall topics we have discussed this term and evaluate your community's resiliency.

Reading(s) Resources

Review previous readings

Assignments

Lesson 8

Readings

Forum 8

Week #8 Assignment - Grant Programs

Evaluation

Reading Assignments: Assessed through Forum posts.

Supplemental Readings: Will be evaluated for analysis and synthesis when presented as part of the literature review assignment or in other assignments; will not be graded separately.

Forum Assignments: All forums will be graded on a scale of 0-100 for participation, logic, grammar, spelling, and length. Forums will also be graded for responsiveness to other students' forum posts. **URGENT NOTE! You must introduce yourself with a 250 word post in Week 1 - Introduction forum by midnight Eastern Time Sunday night, or you will be automatically disenrolled from this course. This is university policy that applies to every course at APUS and is necessary to satisfy U.S. Department of Education rules. This is a graded forum.**

Homework Assignments: Assignments will be graded on a scale of 0-100 for logic, clarity, writing, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and APA formatting. Assignments 4 and 6 will be returned without a grade for revision and resubmission if unacceptable for any reason including failure to adhere to APA Style (Sixth Edition). In such cases, the student will be given one week to resubmit the assignment. At the instructor's discretion, the student may be asked to revise and resubmit any of these assignments. **NOTE: APA citations and References page are required for PowerPoint presentation as well as in all writing assignments.**

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Discussion Forum	30.00 %
Week 1 Introduction Forum	3.75 %
Week 2 Forum	3.75 %
Week 3 Forum	3.75 %

Week 4 Forum	3.75 %
Week 5 Forum	3.75 %
Week 6 Forum	3.75 %
Week 7 Forum	3.75 %
Week 8 Forum	3.75 %
Assignments	70.00 %
Week 4 Assignment - Legislation, Non-Federal and Federal Programs Related to Disaster Mitigation	17.50 %
Week 6 Assignment - Risk Communication, Cultural, and Legal Issues Related to Mitigation	17.50 %
Week 7 Assignment	17.50 %
Week 8 Assignment - Grant Programs (1)	17.50 %

Materials

Book Title: Various resources from the APUS Library & the Open Web are used. Links provided inside the classroom in the Lessons section.

Author: No Author Specified

Publication Info:

ISBN: N/A

Book Title: Hazard Mitigation in Emergency Management 1st Edition - eBook available through the APUS Online Library

Author: T. Islam & J. Ryan, PhD

Publication Info: Elsevier

ISBN: 9780124201347

Supplemental Readings:

Please examine the **Course Bibliography** at the end of this syllabus. It contains the list of website and academic resources by week. In addition, it contains classic books dealing with risk, mitigation, disasters, catastrophes, resiliency, and emergency management. It also includes books that present detailed histories and analyses of notorious disasters and catastrophes.

Additional Resources:

Students are expected to use the APA Style (Sixth Edition) guidance materials in the APUS Online Library or to obtain an official APA Manual (Sixth edition, third printing).

Sources specific to student's approved chosen topic, found by student.

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Course Bibliography

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Course Guidelines

This course requires a time management plan and the self-discipline to follow it. You are responsible for managing your time, completing assignments on time, completing the readings, and making inquiries as needed to complete the course effectively. This is an 8-week course, which means the material must be learned in a short period of time. This requires dedication and diligence on the part of each student.

Students will follow the American Psychological Association Style Guide (APA 6th Edition) as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of this course. Specifically, the parenthetical citations-reference list style method, which includes in-text citations with an adjoining reference list, will be utilized. Additional information concerning this writing style can be found within the APUS Library.

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. If you find that you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

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