



Syllabus for ICM 5905 (Fall 2009) Emergency/ Disaster Planning

Course Facilitator

Mr. Tom Belcuore has been involved directly in emergency planning response since 1976 including being involved with writing the first health response plan for Orange County Florida. This role was in concert with duties as the county epidemiologist during the growth of tourism in the central Florida area. For the past 24 years has been involved in emergency management, both through the county structure and state deployments, beginning with hurricane Andrew in 1992. He has been actively involved in virtually every state response in Florida since then, and was named the health branch chief for the Florida response to southern Mississippi immediately after hurricane Katrina. Mr. Belcuore is currently in the private sector as a technical consultant, with his primary role in emergency planning and hazard mitigation analysis.

Course Overview

This course introduces students to the process and practice of emergency / disaster planning. The goal is to create broad experience that includes the many elements of planning as the primary path to preparedness. Students will learn the relationship of emergency planning to the field of disaster management. Students are exposed to principles of social psychology, communication theory and approaches to public education. Students also learn the bases of incident management systems and emergency operations centers.

Course Objectives:

1. Describe the history and context of emergency / disaster planning;
2. Identify steps in the emergency planning process;
3. Analyze federal emergency management planning mandates;
4. Recognize structures for managing emergency response;
5. Develop a vulnerable population analysis.

Required Textbook:

Emergency Planning
Ronald W. Perry, Ph.D.
Michael K. Lindell, Ph.D.
ISBN: 978-0-471-92077-9

Course Organization

This on-line course is designed to be a self paced course supported and facilitated by the course instructor. The course homepage contains everything you will need to complete this course including: a learning unit for each week of the course, details for completion of the case study and tools for communicating with the instructor and other students. You should begin by reviewing course objectives and then reviewing the learning units (in order titled by week). Each learning unit will contain: 1) a pre-recorded lecture 2) assigned reading from your required textbook 3) in some weeks a discussion forum for that week. Please also check weekly email through the course site, for instructor feedback, announcements, and emails from other students.

The course instructor will monitor and participate in the on-line discussion forums and is available to answer any questions you have about the course material via the course e-mail system. Each week students are expected to review the on-line lecture, complete the assigned reading, and participate in any discussion forums there might be for the week.

Course Requirements

Course Participation – On-line Discussion Forums 100 Points

The course discussion board provides a venue to increase interaction and is used to replicate a traditional class discussion. In order to increase interaction between all parties within the course, students will be required to participate in five on-line discussion forums. Although points for this assignment are awarded based on student participation, not discussion content (i.e. there really are no right or wrong answers) please try to ensure your input and comments are both appropriate and applicable to the assigned discussion topic. You are evaluated both on your own posts and your responses to others. Please respond to at least two other students' posts.

Term Project 100 Points

Each student will be required to complete a term project designed to demonstrate the application of the course concepts. Further details of the term project are posted on the course homepage.

Mid Term Exam 100 Points

The exam has 50 multiple-choice questions. You will have one and one half hours to complete the exam.

Final Exam

100 Points

The exam has 50 multiple-choice questions. You will have one and one half hours to complete the exam.

Grading Scale

376 - 400	A
350 - 375	A-
325- 349	B
300 - 324	B-
275- 299	C
250- 274	C-
225- 249	D
248 -238	D-
238 – 0	E

Course Schedule

Week 1

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 1 – Introduction to Emergency Planning: The Contexts of Emergency Planning
- Chapter 2 – The Emergency Planning Process: Mandates, Structure and Guidelines

On Line Lecture (Video)

- Tom Belcuore

On-Line Introduction Forum: Please post first week of class.

Week 2

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 3 – Patterned Human Behavior in Disasters: What a Planner Must Know
- Chapter 4 – Fostering Successful Emergency Planning: A Planner's Guide to Making it Work
- **On –Line Discussion Forum**

Week 3

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 5 – Classes of Protective Action Recommendations: Emergency Planning Conditions and Considerations

On Line Lecture (Audio)

- Tom Belcuore

Week 4

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 6 – Analyzing and Selecting Protective Actions: How to Make Effective Choices

On-Line Discussion Forum

Week 5

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 7 – The Content and Format of Emergency Plans: Framing a Picture of the Planning Process

On Line Lecture (Video)

- Susan Bulecza

Week 6

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 8 – Continuity of Operations Plans: Keeping the Organization Alive

On –Line Discussion Forum

Week 7 Mid Term Exam

Week 8

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 9 – Milestones that Structure Emergency Planning: Organizing Tasks for Emergency Planners

- Chapter 10 – Population Warning: Behavioral Foundations and Practical Applications

On Line Lecture (Video)

- Susan Bulecza

Week 9

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 11- Planning for Hazard Adjustment: Protection Adoption, Hazard Awareness and Risk Communication

On Line Lecture (Audio)

- Dave Donnely

Week 10

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 12 – Structures for Managing Emergency Response: Executing Emergency Plan Provisions

On-Line Discussion Forum

Week 11

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 13 – Selected Federal Emergency Planning Mandates: Balancing Local Needs with Federal Requirements

On Line Lecture (Audio)

- Dave Donnely

Week 12

Assigned Reading

- Chapter 14 – Emergency Planning Professionalism and the Future: Professional Identity, Credentials, and Prospects

On Line Discussion Forum

Week 13 Final Exam

Other Recommended Course Reading Sources:

Academic Integrity

Please review the University's honor code at the following website:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcode.php>

Copyright Information

Please also review the use of copyrighted materials, which can be found on the Health Science Center Library's web page:

<http://www.library.health.ufl.edu/services/copyright.htm>

Make-up Exams or Other Work Policy

Exams and projects must be taken at the scheduled times as per the syllabus. Students are expected to submit a written request to the instructor for any deviation from the course schedule.

Accommodation Policy

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students' office, 202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261. The DSO will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor.