



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
School of Continuing Studies
Emergency and Disaster Management

MPDM 600: Theory & Legal Framework of Emergency & Disaster Management

Thursday, 5:15 – 8:15 PM

Summer Term, 2017

Instructor: Gregg Jones

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Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description

In this course students will develop a greater understanding of the context in which emergency management is practiced in the United States. This will be accomplished via examination of the history of emergency management, associated legal frameworks, and theories that influence its practice.

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the theoretical framework of emergency management.
 - a. Analyze the characteristics of emergencies, crises, and disasters.
 - b. Understand the primary theoretical and empirical explanations regarding human fear and societal disruption
 - c. Understand the theories behind societal factors that create both constraints and opportunities in the practice of emergency management
 - d. Understand the components of the phases of emergency management.
2. Recognize the evolution of emergency management practices in the US.
3. Understand the legal frameworks and political environments surrounding the practice of emergency management.
 - a. Recognize the international and humanitarian legal structure with regard to emergency management.
 - b. Recognize the US legal framework that provides structure, limits, and authorities to domestic emergency management.
4. Analyze organizational management and leadership theories and how they can be applied to the practice of emergency management.
5. Examine the potential future trajectory of emergency management challenges and practices.

Required Texts

"The Politics of Crisis Management: Public Leadership Under Pressure" (2nd Edition) by Arjen Boin, et al. ISBN 978-1-107-54425-3, \$45

"Digital Humanitarians: How Big Data is Changing the Face of Humanitarian Response" by

Patrick Meier. ISBN 9781482248395, \$48

"Emergency Management: The American Experience 1900-2010" (2nd Edition) Claire B. Rubin, editor. ISBN 9781466517530, \$49

"Geographic Thought: A Critical Introduction" by Tim Cresswell ISBN: 1405169397, \$19.

Attendance Policy

All students are expected to attend all classes. Should an important schedule conflict emerge, students are expected to contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss the conflict.

Late Assignment Policy

All written assignments are due at 5:00 PM Eastern Time on the dates shown in the course calendar. Team Project Products are due at the scheduled time of the Team's presentation. The policy on late paper submissions is a one-half grade reduction for each successive 24 hours the paper is late. Specifically, this means that an A paper becomes an A- if turned in within 24 hours after it's due, B+ if turned in in the next 24 hours, and so on. An outstanding paper can become an "F" if turned in six or more days late.

Classroom Etiquette, Class Participation, and Other Guidelines

Respectful interaction is expected among and between students at all times. Students will conduct themselves with decorum in all interactions. Active class participation is expected and is a portion of the final grade. Use of your webcam is required during online class.

Assignments

All assignments must be submitted via online upload in Canvas. Detailed descriptions for all assignments can be found on the course page in Canvas.

Writing Assignment #1 – Professional biography & Self Assessment

Writing Assignment #2 – E&DM Structure Analysis

Writing Assignment #3 – Profile of a Disaster Response Organization

Writing Assignment #4 – Point Paper

Writing Assignment #5 – Reaction to a Required Reading

Writing Assignment #6 – Theory Evaluation

Writing Assignment #7 – Ten Preparedness Recommendations

Writing Assignment #8 – E & DM Policy Proposal

Team Project – Design a New E & DM Organization / Capability

All written assignments should conform to APA style guide. Use 1 inch margins, 12 font, double - spaced text in all written assignments. Number each page.

Grading

Your course grade will be based on the following:

Writing Assignment #1 - Professional biography & Self Assessment	5%
Writing Assignment #2 - E&DM Structure Analysis	10%
Writing Assignment #3 - Profile of a Disaster Response Organization	5%
Writing Assignment #4 – Point Paper	5%
Writing Assignment #5 – Reaction to a Required Reading	5%
Writing Assignment #6 – Theory Evaluation	20%
Writing Assignment #7 – Ten Preparedness Recommendations	10%
Writing Assignment #8 – E & DM Policy Proposal	20%
Team Project – Design a New E & DM Organization / Capability	15%
Class Participation	5%
Total	100%

A	95-100%	B-	80-82%
A-	90-94%	C	70-79%
B+	87-89%	F	0-69%
B	83-86%		

Withdrawal Policy and Calendar

Should a student voluntarily withdraw from this course, credit for tuition will be calculated by the date of the student’s official notice to the Program Manager, according to periods and percentages listed below. The last day to withdraw from this course is **August 17, 2017**.

Dates	Percentage Refunded
May 30 – Jun 1	100%
Jun 2 - 13	80%
Jun 14 – 24	70%
Jun 25 – Jul 8	50%
Jul 9 - 16	40%

Academic Resources

Library Services

SCS Librarian: Jessica Vanderhoff
 202-784-7389; Jessica.vanderhoff@georgetown.edu
<http://www.library.georgetown.edu/scs>
 Emergency and Disaster Management Research Guide:
<http://guides.library.georgetown.edu/EDM>

Writing Center

202-687-4246; <http://writingcenter.georgetown.edu/>

Academic Resource Center

202-687-8354; arc@georgetown.edu; <https://academicsupport.georgetown.edu/>

Students with Disabilities

Students with documented disabilities have the right to specific accommodations that do not fundamentally alter the nature of the course. Students with disabilities should contact the Academic Resource Center (ARC) (202-784-7366; arc@georgetown.edu; <http://academicsupport.georgetown.edu/>) before the start of classes to allow their office time to review the documentation and make recommendations for appropriate accommodations. If accommodations are recommended, you will be given a letter from ARC to share with your professors. You are personally responsible for completing this process officially and in a timely manner. Neither accommodations nor exceptions to policies can be permitted to students who have not completed this process in advance.

Georgetown Honor System

All students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic and personal integrity in pursuit of their education at Georgetown University. Academic dishonesty in any form is a serious offense, and students found in violation are subject to academic penalties that include, but are not limited to, failure of the course, termination from the program, and revocation of degrees already conferred. The Georgetown Honor Code pledge reads as follows:

In pursuit of the high ideals and rigorous standards of academic life, I commit myself to respect and uphold the Georgetown Honor System: to be honest in any academic endeavor and to conduct myself honorably, as a responsible member of the Georgetown community, as we live and work together.

ADDENDUM – COURSE SCHEDULE/CALENDAR

See Addendum for additional information regarding class meetings topics, thought questions that will be discussed, readings, and assignments.