

Master of Arts in Disaster Management

Dulce Suarez, *Adjunct Professor and Program Director*

Amy Aiken, *Adjunct Professor*

Charles Cyrille, *Adjunct Professor*

Jeffrey Byard, *Adjunct Professor*

Yoni Bock, *Adjunct Professor*

Jesse Spearo, *Adjunct Professor*

Joann Brown, *Adjunct Professor*

Dorothy L. Contiguglia-Akan, *Adjunct Professor*

Quentin Felty, *Adjunct Professor*

Michael Marx, *Adjunct Professor*

Ruben Almaguer, *Adjunct Professor*

Jesse Spearo, *Adjunct Professor*

The Master of Arts in Disaster Management is a 30- credit graduate program featuring coursework in emergency management and international humanitarian assistance. This one-year graduate program has been developed in response to the growing recognition and need for graduate level education in disaster management. The program's curriculum is interdisciplinary in nature and scope and designed to develop and improve the skills of disaster practitioners and those interested in entering the exciting field of disaster management.

The graduate degree is offered in an 11-month executive format culminating with a disaster field operations course whereby students will engage in a field simulated exercise focusing on the practical issues that arise in a disaster (rapid damage and public health assessment, shelter and site planning, field cluster sampling, water, sanitation and hygiene, personal security, food aid, and operational approaches to relations with the military).

Broadly speaking, the general learning outcome of the program is aligned with FEMA's Higher Education Core Competencies and is designed to take students beyond the core competencies needed by practitioners, to a deeper understanding of the reasons behind the practice and cultivate in them an ability to develop and implement integrated solutions to problems. Upon successful completion students will:

- possess sufficient knowledge of the history of disasters
- Able to recognize the ways sociocultural and geographic factors contribute to population vulnerability and how scientific evidence enhances decision-making in changing risk profiles
- be well-versed in the definition, mission, concepts and terminology applied in emergency management and international humanitarian assistance
- demonstrate a solid grounding in social, political, cultural and ecological issues in the social construction of disasters
- possess a firm grasp of the statutory and regulatory basis of disaster management
- identify and define areas of disaster management responsibility including mitigation opportunities, planning, training, exercises, warning, evacuation,

sheltering, damage assessment, feeding, and medical care

- recognize the importance of public, private and nongovernmental organization networking to facilitate collaboration and cooperation; understand the importance of communication, coordination and collaboration in disasters
- be able to identify the resources needed and how to obtain those resources to assist survivors
- describe the various hazards and the organization needed to reduce the threat
- identify the core requirements to effective planning
- demonstrate how to perform vulnerability analysis be able to recognize and apply the appropriate decision making models; be able to isolate and apply strategic planning
- demonstrate recognition of the social and ethical considerations unique to the practice of disaster management.
- be familiar with crisis communication language.
- deliver press briefings and learn how to anticipate questions the press are likely to ask disaster and emergency managers.
- understand the variety of disaster-related health consequences that may arise during and after and event, as well as how to mitigate their impact

Admission Requirements

All applicants for graduate study at FIU must have a:

1. Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution for higher education, or equivalent degree from a foreign institution.
2. 3.0 undergraduate GPA.
3. Foreign students must submit official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores and must have a minimum score: 550 Paper and Pencil, 213 Computer-based, 80 Internet-based.

The above admission requirements are minimums, and not all students meeting them are assured admission. Students with a grade-point average below the above minimums may still apply and request a waiver of those scores. The student must provide an explanation of why the waiver should be approved.

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate, a student must maintain a 3.0 GPA and complete satisfactorily the prescribed curriculum.

Required Courses

This 30-credit professional master's program requires completion of the following 10 courses:

FES 6846	Comparative Disaster Management Systems	3
FES 6858	Crisis Communications	3
FES 6826	Disaster Preparedness and Planning Methodologies	3
SYG 6932	Special Topics in Disaster Studies	3
FES 6857	Introduction to Vulnerability Analysis and Hazard Mitigation	3
FES 6806	Disaster Response and Recovery	3
FES 6848	Disaster Health Readiness	3
FES 6847	Foundations in Humanitarian Assistance	

	and Coordination	3
FES 6805	Disaster Field Operations	3
PHC 6374	Environmental Disasters and Human Health	3

FES 6847	Foundations in Humanitarian Assistance & Coordination	3
FES 6805	Disaster Field Operations	3
PHC 6374	Environmental Disasters & Human Health	3

Note: Courses not included on the approved list of required courses may count toward meeting the requirement of this degree only with the permission of the Director or Dean.

Note: Courses not included on the approved list of required courses may count toward meeting the requirement of this degree only with the permission of the Executive Director or Dean.

Hybrid Washington DC Master of Arts in Disaster Management

The hybrid Washington DC Master of Arts in Disaster Management consists of the same 30-credit curriculum focusing studies in emergency preparedness, disaster management, and humanitarian assistance as the face-to-face and online programs. Broadly speaking, the general learning outcome of the program is aligned with FEMA's Higher Education Core Competencies and is designed to take students beyond the core competencies needed by practitioners, to a deeper understanding of the reasons behind the practice and cultivate in them an ability to develop and implement integrated solutions to problems. The hybrid program consists of approximately 25% course meetings in the FIU facility in Washington, DC, 70% online course work and 5% participation at a three-day disaster field exercise held in Miami, Florida at the culmination of the program.

Admission Requirements

All applicants for graduate study at FIU must have a:

1. Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution for higher education, or equivalent degree from a foreign institution.
2. 3.0 undergraduate GPA.
3. Foreign students must submit official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores and must have minimum scores: 550 Paper and Pencil, 213 Computer-based, 80 Internet-based.

The above admission requirements are minimums, and not all students meeting them are assured admission. Students with a grade-point average below the above minimums may still apply and request a waiver of those scores. The student must provide an explanation of why the waiver should be approved.

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate, a student must maintain a 3.0 GPA and complete satisfactorily the prescribed curriculum.

Required Courses

This 30-credit professional master's program requires completion of the following 10 courses:

FES 6846	Comparative Disaster Management Systems	3
FES 6858	Crisis Communications	3
FES 6826	Disaster Preparedness & Planning Methodologies	3
SYG 6932	Special Topics in Disaster Studies	3
FES 6857	Introduction to Vulnerability Analysis & Hazard Mitigation	3
FES 6806	Disaster Response & Recovery	3
FES 6848	Disaster Health Readiness	3

Online Master of Arts in Disaster Management

The online Master of Arts in Disaster Management is a 30-credit graduate program featuring course work in emergency preparedness, disaster management and humanitarian assistance. This one-year graduate program has been developed in response to the growing recognition and need for graduate level education in disaster management. The program's curriculum is interdisciplinary in nature and scope and designed to develop and improve the skills of disaster practitioners and those interested in entering the exciting field of disaster management. Broadly speaking, the general learning outcome of the program is aligned with FEMA's Higher Education Core Competencies and is designed to take students beyond the core competencies needed by practitioners, to a deeper understanding of the reasons behind the practice and cultivate in them an ability to develop and implement integrated solutions to problems. Students enrolled in the online program will be required to travel to Miami to participate in a 3-day disaster field exercise, which is part of the Disaster Field Operations course (FES 6805).

Admission Requirements

All applicants for graduate study at FIU must have a:

4. Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution for higher education, or equivalent degree from a foreign institution.
5. 3.0 undergraduate GPA.
6. Foreign students must submit official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores and must have a minimum scores: 550 Paper and Pencil, 213 Computer-based, 80 Internet-based.

The above admission requirements are minimums, and not all students meeting them are assured admission. Students with a grade-point average below the above minimums may still apply and request a waiver of those scores. The student must provide an explanation of why the waiver should be approved.

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate, a student must maintain a 3.0 GPA and complete satisfactorily the prescribed curriculum.

Required Courses

This 30-credit professional master's program requires completion of the following 10 courses:

FES 6846	Comparative Disaster Management Systems	3
FES 6826	Disaster Preparedness and Planning Methodologies	3
FES 6857	Introduction to Vulnerability Analysis	

	and Hazard Mitigation	3
FES 6806	Disaster Response and Recovery	3
FES 6848	Disaster Health Readiness	3
FES 6847	Foundations in Humanitarian Assistance and Coordination	3
FES 6805	Disaster Field Operations	3
FES 6858	Crisis Communication	3
PHC 6374	Environmental Disasters and Human Health	3
SYG 6932	Special Topics in Disaster Studies	3

Note: Courses not included on the approved list of required courses may count toward meeting the requirement of this degree only with the permission of the Director or Dean.