The online master of security and disaster management program serves both aspiring and existing homeland defense/security and emergency management practitioners. The program builds upon the experience and education of those within this highly interdisciplinary enterprise, providing graduate-level education that focuses on supporting the operational and strategic needs of those leading and managing in today’s highly complex world. Leveraging the education provided in the bachelor of emergency management degree, the master’s degree requires a greater synthesis and integration of the critical thinking and analysis skills required for managers and leaders in homeland defense/security and emergency management and associated fields.

The primary objectives of the program are to: prepare students for leadership and management roles in homeland security and emergency management; identify best practices for integrating community planning, security and aspects of prevention and mitigation when preparing communities and regions for a disaster; underscore the need to adopt an “all hazards” approach to preparing for and managing disasters at the tactical, operational and strategic levels of the HSEM enterprise; and develop critical thinking skills, analytical abilities and leadership/management capacity to serve at the executive level in public and private sector organizations.

Applications are reviewed on a continual basis.

M.S.D.M. Degree

1. Complete the admission process, including submitting a score from the Watson-Glaser Critical Thinking Appraisal.
2. Complete the general university requirements (page 199).
3. Complete the master’s degree requirements (page 203).
4. Students without a background in HSEM will be required to take HSEM F301, Principles of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. This course will not count toward the M.S.D.M. program. In addition, students without a UAF B.E.M. degree will be required to take HSEM F412 prior to HSEM F605, Community Planning. In this case, F412 may be counted as an elective in the M.S.D.M. program.
5. Complete the following HSEM courses:*
   - HSEM F603—Disaster Management Policy
   - HSEM F605—Community Planning in Emergency Management
   - HSEM F607—Vulnerability and Protection
   - HSEM F609—Human Security
   - HSEM F632—Project Management
   - HSEM F665—Strategic Collaboration
   - HSEM F690—Security and Disaster Management
6. Complete 6 credits from the following:
   - HSEM F613—International Disaster Management
   - HSEM F692—Seminar
   - Any F400-level HSEM course not previously taken as an undergraduate**
7. Up to 6 graduate-level credits may be transferred from the National Fire Academy, FBI National Academy, Command and General Staff College, or similar programs approved by the American Council on Education. These may be substituted for 6 credits from (6) above.
8. Minimum credits required

   Students with two C's, one D or one F in courses that are part of the HSEM program will not be in good standing even if their cumulative GPA is at or above 3.0. HSEM students who are not in good standing will be subject to review and may be dismissed by the HSEM committee.

   Students may not use more than two F600-level courses with C grades on the advancement-to-candidacy application.

   An A or B grade must be earned in F400-level courses.