

**Comparative Emergency Management  
HSEM F407**

**3 Credits**

**Prerequisites: HSEM 301 or permission of instructor**

**Location: Bunnell 216**

**Classroom Hours: Mon/Wed 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm**

**Instructor Information**

Instructor: Cameron Carlson  
Office Hours: 1:30-3:30 pm MW  
Office Location: Bunnell 222  
Work Telephone: (907) 474-6537  
E-mail: [cdcarlson@alaska.edu](mailto:cdcarlson@alaska.edu)

**Course Materials**

Miller, DeMond. Rivera, Jason. (2011). *Comparative Emergency Management - Examining Global and Regional Responses to Disasters* . Taylor & Francis Group.

\*Additional readings from journals, articles, or websites may be assigned throughout the semester, and if so will be distributed in class.

**Course Description**

This course will focus on examining regional and global responses to various types of disasters. Topics covered will include the importance of regional collaboration between nations in disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. Additionally, the roles that regional partnerships play in disaster mitigation will be examined, as well as issues concerning the requirements to sustain collaborative efforts between nations in the 21st century.

**Course Goals**

This course will cover various emergency management topics from a regional and international perspective. Students will understand the current emergency management methods and strategies used to respond and recover effectively from both regional and global disasters. Students will also examine coordination efforts through multiple emergency management agencies that may improve regional and global response to disasters in the future.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

- Examine the current regional collaborative approach from various nations in disaster mitigation and preparedness.
- Understand the role that regional partnerships play in coordinating effective emergency management practices.

- Determine some effective methods to sustain collaborative emergency management and develop positive relationships between collaborators.

### **Instructional Method**

Instructional methodologies, including lectures, case studies, small group activities, student presentations and open and directed discussions will be used to actively involve each student in the learning process. When possible and practical, learning activities will be processed to include not only "what" was learned, but the "so what" and "now what" in order to complete the learning cycle.

This course requires a computer with internet access, as we will be utilizing a few of the applications within Blackboard. Additionally, students will need internet access for assigned discussions involving online research, as well as access to their UA email accounts and a PowerPoint viewer.

### **Class Schedule**

Week 1	Introduction to course objectives Discussion #1	
Week 2	Forging Partnerships within Geopolitical Regions of the United States for Mutual Aid and Mass Prophylaxis Intervention Discussion #2	Chapter 1
Week 3	Network Governance in Emergency Management Assign Case Study #1 Discussion #3	Chapter 2
Week 4	Game Approach to Disaster Loss Reduction Discussion #4	Chapter 3
Week 5	Rebuilding a Regional Tourist Image in the Aftermath of Disaster Discussion #5	Chapter 4
Week 6	Addressing the Future Urban Water Crisis Case Study #1 due Assign Case Study #2 Discussion #6	Chapter 5
Week 7	Critique of Stakeholder Participation and Decision-Making Affecting the Design and Implementation of Trans boundary Water Governance Projects Discussion #7	Chapter 6
Week 8	Global Food Crisis and the African Response Discussion #8 Mid-Term Exam	Chapter 7

Week 9	Faith-Based Humanitarian Assistance in Response to Disasters Discussion #9	Chapter 8
Week 10	Analysis of the Inter organizational Cooperation in the Jewish and Arab Sectors in Israel Discussion #10	Chapter 9
Week 11	Role of Schools in Rebuilding Communities after Disaster Case Study #2 Due Discussion #11 Assign Final Paper	Chapter 10
Week 12	Citizen Seismology: How to Involve the Public in Earthquake Response Discussion #12	Chapter 11
Week 13	Social Capital: The Missing Link in Coping with Environmental Disaster Discussion #13	Chapter 12
Week 14	Supporting State Agencies in Providing Early Warning Services Final Paper/ Presentations Due (Start)	Chapter 13
Week 15	Final Exam  Final Paper/ Presentations Complete	

### **Course Policies**

Students are expected to remain up to date with the scheduled lesson plans on a weekly basis. Students will be penalized for the late submission of class assignments or should they fall behind by more than two weeks (outside of emergency or mutually agreed upon circumstances). Each late assignment will be docked 10% for every day it is late. If you miss an exam, due to an excused absence, you will have one week to schedule a make-up during the instructor's office hours. Additionally, each student is expected to attend class and participate in the classroom debates. If you have more than 3 unexcused absences throughout the semester you will lose 10% of your final grade.

Students are expected to observe academic honesty. Dishonest practices including giving or receiving assistance in any manner or form during an examination, unauthorized possession of exam questions, and plagiarism (willfully presenting another person's writings, opinions or thoughts as one's own, without proper credit and documentation) will not be tolerated. Violations of the UAF Student Code of Conduct will be referred to the appropriate authority for possible disciplinary actions including removal of violator from this course.

## **Evaluation**

### ***Participation – 10% (100 Points)***

Each student is expected to attend class and participate in the classroom debates. If you have more than 3 unexcused absences throughout the semester you will lose 12.5% of your final grade.

### ***Blackboard Discussions – 25% (250 Points)***

There will be a weekly Blackboard discussion (13 total) assigned relating to the reading assignment of the week. The lowest discussion board grade will be dropped. These discussions will require students to not only read the assigned chapter, but to also conduct independent research to supporting the topic and viewpoints taken on the subject.

### ***Case Studies – 20% (200 points)***

Each student will conduct two case study analyses and be required to develop a paper and presentation based on the material. Each case study will consist of a typed 4-5 page paper, will be double spaced, and include a cover page. The presentations should be between 7 and 10 minutes in length and include presentation visuals. The case study presentations will be evaluated based upon the content and quality of both the visual and oral components of the delivery.

### ***Course Exams – 20% (200 points)***

There will be two exams conducted during the course both in week 7 and 15. These exams will cover the material covered in the text and during class discussions.

### ***Final Paper and Presentation – 25% (250 points)***

The final paper and presentation will be completed as a group project. In each group, students will be required to research emergency management practices throughout a region or country assigned. After researching the current emergency management practices, students will be required to produce a document containing their findings. They will also need to include recommendations on how the collaborative efforts of the country or regions selected could be enhanced. The goal of this project is for students to utilize concepts and practices covered in the course to make suggestions on how to improve mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery efforts for the country/region selected.

Please note the following breakdown in points:

Participation	100
Blackboard Discussions	250
Case Studies	200
Exams	200
Final Paper /Presentation	250
Total	1000

A= 90-100% (900-1000 points)

B= 80-89% (800-899 points)

C= 70-79% (700-799 points)

D= 60-69% (600-699 points)

F= 59 % or less (599 points or less)

### **Support Services**

Students are encouraged to utilize the UAF Writing Center in 801 Gruening (Phone # 474-5314) as needed to assist in the development and refinement of their written products. Students are also encouraged to use the UAF Speaking Center for coaching and practice. The Center is located in 507 Gruening. Call 474-5470 for Speaking Center hours and to schedule an appointment. Please contact me as required should you need to contact other subject matter support services relevant to the development of your leadership or class projects/topics.

### **Disabilities Services**

Students with learning or other disabilities who may need classroom accommodations are encouraged to make an appointment with the Office of Disability Services (Phone # 474-7043). Please inform me of your needs and if I need to meet with the Office of Disability Services to provide the appropriate accommodations to assist you in meeting the goals of the course.