

**THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE
UNIVERSITY–HARRISBURG**

SYLLABUS

Course Title: CrimJ 401 Critical Issues
Instructor: Michael Hooper, Ph.D.
Office: W-160, Phone Number 948-6292
Office Hours: 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Monday)
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Wednesday and Friday)
Other times by arrangement

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Study of the principles and practices of governmental management of disasters.

OBJECTIVES

That the student will be able to:

1. Learn the evolution of emergency management;
2. Gain an understanding of the role of local emergency management in the context of state and federal governments;
3. Understand the elements of the four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery;
4. Recognize the extent of inter- and intra- governmental coordination required to handle disasters;
5. Understand the role of the community in emergency management;
6. Develop an emergency management plan; and
7. Identify legal issues involving emergency management.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. It is expected students will have read the course textbook readings prescheduled for a session prior to class. Students are invited to participate actively in the discussion of readings. Class participation will constitute ten percent of the course grade.
2. In addition to the textbook readings, each student must prepare an emergency plan on a topic of his/her choice. It is expected the plan will deal with a conceivable disaster that could strike the Harrisburg region. The plan need not be elaborate, but will be evaluated on the application of aspects of emergency management learned in the course. Plan format and length will be at the discretion of the student; an estimated length would be 5 to 6 pages. The plan will constitute 20 percent of the course grade.

3. In addition to the final exam, which will be worth 30 percent of the course grade, there will be two course exams. Each of these will be worth 20 percent of the course grade.

TEXTBOOK

Thomas E. Drabek and Gerard J. Hoetmer, *Emergency Management: Principles and Practice for Local Government*, Washington, D.C.: International City Management Association, 1991.

SCHEDULE

- January 9: Introduction
- January 16: Chapter 1, The Evolution of Emergency Management
- January 23: Chapter 2, Organizing for Emergency Management
- January 30: Chapter 3, Coordinating Community Resources
- February 6: Chapter 4, Reaching Out: Getting the Community Involved in Preparedness
- February 13: Chapter 5, Perspectives and Roles of the State and Federal Governments
- February 20: **Exam** and Chapter 6, Disaster Mitigation and Hazard Management
- February 27: Chapter 7, Planning, Training, and Exercising
- March 6: Spring Break
- March 13: Chapter 8, Managing Disaster Response Operations
- March 20: Visit to PEMA EOC (Harrisburg)
- March 27: Chapter 9, Recovery from Disaster
- April 3: **Exam** and Chapter 10, Day-to-Day Management
- April 10: Chapter 11, Liability Issues
- April 17: Chapter 12, Future Directions
- April 24: Course review for final exam. Plans due tonight
- May 1: Final Exam**