

SYLLABUS

Course: Hazard Mitigation & Preparation

Course & Section: FES 6726

Credit Hours: 3

Session: Fall 2020

** On-line

Instructor: Reginald D. Freeman

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Bio for Reginald D. Freeman, MS, CFO, FIFireE

Hello everyone. My name is Reginald Freeman and I am your professor for this class. I am the 37th Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director for the City of Hartford. Prior to the City of Hartford, I served as the international Fire Chief for Lockheed Martin as well as served as a civilian Fire Chief in Iraq for the U.S. Department of Defense from 2004-2008. I have had the honor and privilege to have worked in a number of fire service capacities in my career including Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Fire Captain, Fire Service Instructor, Assistant Fire Chief, and Fire Chief.

My educational accomplishments include a Bachelor of Arts in Leadership from Bellevue University in Bellevue, NE, a Master's Degree in Executive Fire Service Leadership from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, AZ and I am currently pursuing my Doctorates in Organizational Leadership with an emphasis in Organizational Development. I am also a graduate and Fellow of Harvard University's Senior Executives for State & Local Government program at the Kennedy School of Government. Furthermore, I have previously served as the Chair of the Industrial Fire & Life Safety Section for the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and a previous Board member of the Executive Fire Officer Section of the IAFC and Technical Committee member of NFPA 1021 (Fire Officer Professional Qualifications), respectively. Additionally, I have served as a Commissioner (former Chairman) for the Commission on Professional Credentialing via the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Inc. and currently serve as the Director of Training for the Caribbean Association of Fire Chiefs. I am a credentialed Chief Fire Officer (CFO) through the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Inc. as well as a credentialed "Fellow" with the Institution of Fire Engineers, USA Branch. Lastly, I'm humbled to serve on the Board of Directors for NFPA. I am looking forward to us having a great learning experience together through this next semester.

****Course Website:** <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>

Text:

Schwab, A., K., Eschelbach, K., & David J. Brower (2007). Hazard Mitigation Preparedness (1st Ed). Wiley & Sons. New Jersey. ISBN: 978-0471790198

****Additional Resources:** Use resources on the course site under the Resource tab

****Course Description:** This course will introduce the major principles involved in preparing for and mitigating the impact of hazards in the context of emergency / disaster management. Topics include: key features and characteristics of various hazards, both natural and manmade, the risk assessment process that is used to determine community vulnerability, and in-depth discussion of hazard mitigation planning.

****Course objectives:**

1. Describe the difference between hazards and disasters.
2. Identify steps in the risk assessment process.
3. Analyze local and federal emergency management strategies for mitigating hazards.
4. Recognize tools and techniques for hazard mitigation planning.
5. Develop a HVA Mitigation Analysis.

****Teaching Philosophy:** I am looking for students to demonstrate a working knowledge of the subject. You need to be creative when you complete your assignments but maintain a professional appearance of your work. Your work needs to be complete and in such a manner that someone can pick up your document and understand what you are trying to convey. And most of all your work needs to be supported with research and cited in properly in APA format.

****Instructional Methods:** The course is designed for individual and group interactivity. It is important to post and respond to discussion questions in the course within the time frame allotted. This provides a learning environment by networking with other students in the course. The assignments

are individual base to give you the opportunity to do a variety of activities, in many cases, similar to what you will be doing in role as a leader in the emergency services profession.

Course Policies:

Attendance Policy: The course is designed in module format. You should check the site at least once a week. You are required to complete the assignments including discussion questions within the time period designated on the module. There will be meetings set up throughout the course. *Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.*

**Quiz/Exam Policy: There is a final paper for this course. There are no exams or quizzes.

Make-up Policy: *You must contact me if you are going to be late on any assignment to receive credit.*

**Assignment Policy: All assignments have a due date. Please be sure to check the date and time it is due in each module.

**Course Technology: Class meetings will require a web camera and mic/audio. If you are not able to use a web camera you will need to at least provide audio/mic, you can call in on a phone also.

** UF's honesty policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obliged to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor of in this class.

UF Policies:

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are

not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

**Netiquette: Communication Courtesy: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. [Describe what is expected and what will occur as a result of improper behavior]
<http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

Getting Help:

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- x Learning-support@ufl.edu
- x (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- x <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

** Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- x Counseling and Wellness resources
- x Disability resources
- x Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- x Library Help Desk support

| Module | Weeks | Assignments |
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| 1 | 1 & 2 | <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Differentiate hazards and disasters. 2. Assess Meteorological & Hydrological Hazards 3. Evaluate the role of FEMA in disaster mitigation.. <p><u>Readings for Week 1 & 2</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Hazard Mitigation & Preparedness Text. Ch. 1 & 2 o (CRS) FEMA Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer o (CRS) Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction o Disaster Types and Impacts o OECD Policy Brief Natural Disasters and Vulnerability <p><u>Video:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Disaster Preparedness Natural Disasters o Disaster Documentary: Natural Disasters, Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Flood, & Earthquakes <p><u>Module 1: Paper Assignment:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare a 5 page (not including title page and bibliography) Reaction Paper following the format provided addressing the Module 1 readings. Be sure that you address the differences between a hazard and disaster. Also address the role of FEMA in natural disasters and the disaster declaration process. |

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| 2 | 3 & 4 | <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Differentiate hazards and disasters. 2. Assess earthquake Hazards 3. Evaluate the role of FEMA in disaster mitigation. <p><u>Readings for Week 3 & 4:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Hazard Mitigation & Preparedness Text. Ch. 3 & 4 o (CRS) Earthquakes Risk-Detection-Warning and Research o Government Preparedness and Response to a Terrorist Attack Using WMD Congressional Hearing Transcript o Coleman-(2006)-Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management <p><u>Video:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Countdown to Catastrophe- Earthquake in North America o Congressional Hearing: Are We Prepared? Assessing Earthquake Risk Reduction_ <p><u>Module 2: Forum Assignment:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After completing the Module 2 reading assignments and after viewing the video presentations, discuss the earthquake and man-made hazard. In your discussion, discuss the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP). |
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| 3 | 5 & 6 | <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Differentiate hazard management and the role of the federal government.2. Assess the National Mitigation Framework.3. Evaluate incorporating disaster resilience into disaster recovery. <p><u>Readings for Week 5 & 6:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Hazard Mitigation & Preparedness Text. Ch. 5 & 6○ National Mitigation Framework○ Incorporating Disaster Resilience into Disaster Recovery○ FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program and Flood Assistance Program <p><u>Video:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Hazard Mitigation & How it Can Help You○ FEMA Disaster Assessment Process <p><u>Module 3: Paper Assignment</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Prepare a 5 page (not including title page and bibliography) Reaction Paper following the format provided addressing the DHS mitigation strategy, as outlined in the DHS National Mitigation Framework. In your discussion, be sure to address seven (7) Core Capabilities. |
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| 4 | 7 & 8 | <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Differentiate the types of hazard mitigation assistance.2. Assess the mitigation planning efforts.3. Evaluate pre-disaster mitigation programs. <p><u>Readings for Week 7 & 8:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Hazard Mitigation & Preparedness Text. Ch. 7 & 8○ FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program and Flood Assistance Program -Part VIII. Additional Program Guidance (p.96 - 118)○ FEMA Local Mitigation Handbook <p><u>Video:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Rising Skills in Mitigation Communication, Outreach, Education○ FEMA Hazard Mitigation Planning Part 2 <p><u>Module 4: Forum Assignment:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. After completing the Module 4 reading assignments and after viewing the video presentations, discuss the role of the State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO). In your discussion, be sure to address the designation of the SHMO (who appoints?) and the state mitigation team. Please provide substantive responses to the posts of at least TWO of your fellow students. |
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| 5 | 9 & 10 | <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Differentiate the various forms of Community Resilience. 2. Assess continuity planning and management techniques. 3. Evaluate FEMA's Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) procedures.. <p><u>Readings for Week 9 & 10:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Hazard Mitigation & Preparedness Text. Ch. 9 & 10 o Measuring Capacities for Community Resilience (2010) o Business Continuity During and After Disaster-Building Resilience through Continuity Planning and Management o FEMA-Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Guide-Comprehensive Preparedness Guide <p><u>Video:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The Secret to Successful Crisis Management in the 21st Century - Melissa Agnes TEDx Talk o Preparing to Participate in a THIRA <p><u>Module 5: Paper Assignment</u></p> <p>Prepare a 5 page (not including title page and bibliography) Reaction Paper following the format provided addressing the relationship between business continuity planning and overall community resilience. In your discussion, be sure to address the elements of a Business Risk Assessment and the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) process.</p> |
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| 6 | 11 & 12 | <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Differentiate the various forms of disaster resilience.2. Assess reducing risk to natural hazards.3. Evaluate hazard mitigation tools & techniques. <p><u>Readings for Week 11 & 12:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Hazard Mitigation & Preparedness Text. Ch. 11 & 12○ GAO Testimony Disaster Resilience Actions Underway○ FEMA) Mitigation Ideas- A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards (2013) <p><u>Video:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Federal Disaster Response○ The Difference Disaster Mitigation Makes (FEMA) <p><u>Module 4: Forum Assignment:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. After completing the Module 6 reading assignments and after viewing the video presentation, discuss mitigation strategies for drought, earthquake, flood, and tornado. In your discussion, be sure to address at least three mitigation strategies for each of the four hazards in the previous sentence. |
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