

# DISASTER MANAGEMENT

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## MINOR / AmeriCorps



## OVERVIEW

What do earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, wildfires, building collapses, hazardous material incidents, pandemics, and terrorist attacks have in common?

Consider the social impacts of terrorism, or the environmental consequences associated with oil spills. The economic disruptions caused by hurricanes, wildfires, and global pandemics are significant and reach well beyond local, state, and national boundaries. In fact, disasters commonly disrupt the economy, the operation of businesses, infrastructure systems, and government services. Regrettably, they may also result in loss of life, and damage to property and the environment.

Experts predict that the frequency of extreme events and their costs will continue to climb. To help confront this challenge, the Disaster Management concentration at Eastern Kentucky University provides students an opportunity to study disaster phenomena and formulate 21st century mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery strategies. Courses offered in support of this concentration provide applied and experiential learning environments in the form of disaster simulations and exercises, and reinforce many professional skills, such as risk and geospatial analysis, and planning associated with disaster resilience.

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## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

### State & Local Government

Emergency Management  
Fire Service  
Homeland Security  
Law Enforcement  
Public Health

### Private Sector

Healthcare  
News Media  
Retail  
Security Operations  
Utility Providers

### Federal Government

Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
U.S. Forest Service  
U.S. Military Services

### Nonprofit Org. Active in Disasters

American Red Cross  
Americares  
The Salvation Army

# DISASTER MANAGEMENT

## Minor Requirements

18 Credit Hours

### Required

9 Credit Hours (Three Courses)

**HLS 260** Disaster Preparedness & Response

**HLS 461** Disaster Resilience

**HLS 491** Disaster Planning & Exercises

### Electives

9 Credit Hours (Three Courses)

**HLS 349** Cooperative Study/Internship

**HLS 391** Risk Analysis

**HLS 445** Field Experience

**HLS 455** Independent Study

**HLS 465** Unconventional Threats

**GEO 325** Environmental Land Use Planning

**GEO 353** Geographic Information Systems

**GEO 453** Adv. Geographic Information Systems

**GEO 456** Remote Sensing

## Undergraduate Courses

### HLS 260 - Disaster Preparedness & Response

Examines disaster preparedness and response context, concepts, theories, principles, programs and requirements. Students apply course concepts using case studies and real-world scenarios.

### HLS 391 - Risk Analysis

History and process of vulnerability and risk assessment (VRA) as it relates to the protection of critical assets and infrastructure. Instruction in common VRA techniques used in both the public and private sectors.

### HLS 461 - Disaster Resilience

Concepts, theories, principles, programs, and requirements of pre- and post-disaster hazard mitigation; governmental programs, planning and practice; hazard and threat modeling and analysis; team building; case studies; project development.

### HLS 465 - Unconventional Threats & Responses

This course addresses concepts, theories, laws and authorities, principles, programs and requirements associated with unconventional threats to our nation that most likely would result in mass casualties, and pose large-scale responses and cascading threats.

### HLS 491 - Disaster Planning & Exercises

Emergency planning requirements, methods, and applications for all levels of government and businesses, including hazard mitigation and emergency operations planning.

### GEO 353 - Geographic Information Systems

Introduction to GIS principles, methods, operations, mapping, and applications. Topics include spatial data, databases, GIS analysis, models, site suitability, environmental and social applications, and more.

### GEO 453 - Advanced Geographic Information Systems

Advanced concepts, operations, and applications of raster and vector GIS. Spatial analysis using scanning, imagery, GPS, global data sets, and derived data for natural and social applications. Use of standards, metadata, open GIS, and other advances.

### GEO 456 - Remote Sensing

Principles, data sources, acquisition, interpretation, analysis, and application of geographic imagery, including maps, air photos, shuttle photography, and satellite digital data. Hands-on emphasis using ERDAS software.

\* Additional courses at EKU may support disaster management and meet elective requirements.



### Kentucky Ready Corps

*A Community Service Opportunity*

The KY READY Corps is an AmeriCorps program that strives to strengthen disaster readiness and resiliency in Kentucky communities through student-centered volunteerism and service, while preparing students for careers in public service and civic engagement. In partnership with community organizations, KY READY Corps members work on service projects such as:

- Conducting risk and needs assessments
- Developing disaster plans
- Disseminating disaster information to the public
- Coordinating the activities of volunteers

By enrolling as a member, students may earn a living allowance and internship credit, as well as a post-service education award. This program is funded by Serve Kentucky and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

For additional information, visit [kyready.eku.edu](http://kyready.eku.edu) or e-mail program staff at [KYREADYCorps@eku.edu](mailto:KYREADYCorps@eku.edu).



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