Course Description

Examines concepts and principles of community risk assessment, planning, and response to fires and natural and human-caused disasters, including National Incident Management Systems—Incident Command Systems (NIMS-ICS), mutual aid and automatic response, training and preparedness, communications, civil disturbances, terrorist threats/incidents, hazardous materials planning, mass casualty incidents, earthquake preparedness, and disaster mitigation and recovery.

Course Textbook


Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Discuss the importance of disaster planning, preparation, and mitigation.
2. Evaluate the hazard assessment processes and role of the firefighter in community disaster planning and recovery.
3. Assess hazard response and planning procedures.
4. Define the impact of hazard occurrence of community response.
5. Define the parameters and effectiveness of an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and its components.
6. Differentiate the multilevel agency responsibilities in disaster mitigation.
7. Define the relationships between disaster planning, mitigation, and recovery.

Academic Integrity

Honesty and integrity are taken very seriously at Waldorf University. All students should be familiar with the Waldorf University Academic Integrity Policy (found in the current Student Handbook) and the consequences that will result from breaches of this policy.

Credits

Upon completion of this course, the students will earn three (3) hours of college credit.

Course Structure

1. **Unit Learning Outcomes:** Each unit contains Learning Outcomes that specify the measurable skills and knowledge students should gain upon completion of the unit.
2. **Unit Lesson:** Each unit contains a Unit Lesson, which discusses unit material.
3. **Reading Assignments:** Each unit contains Reading Assignments from one or more chapters from the textbook. Suggested Readings are listed in the Unit I, III, and IV Study Guides to aid students in their course of study.
4. **Discussion Boards:** Discussion Boards are a part of all Waldorf courses. Information and specifications regarding these assignments are provided in the Course Policies listed in the Course Menu bar.
5. **Unit Assessments:** This course contains eight Unit Assessments, one to be completed at the end of each unit. Assessments are composed of written response questions.
6. **Unit Assignments:** Students are required to submit for grading a Unit Assignment in Unit VII. Specific information and instructions regarding this assignment are provided below.
7. **Ask the Professor:** This communication forum provides you with an opportunity to ask your professor general or course content related questions.

8. **Student Break Room:** This communication forum allows for casual conversation with your classmates.

**Unit Assignments**

**Unit VII Case Study**

**Hurricane Sandy**

Click on the link below to download the PDF and review the Hurricane Sandy FEMA After Action Report.

https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/33772

Complete a three- to five-page (excluding the title, abstract, and reference pages) Case Study in proper APA format that reviews the federal response and identifies key failures in previous government disaster planning.

You must include a title page, abstract, body, and reference page. Be sure to include in-text citations to support your main ideas. You may use information from the assigned readings or conduct further research.

Information about accessing the Blackboard Grading Rubric for this assignment is provided below.

**Submitting Course Papers/Projects**

Once you have completed your papers/projects, submit your completed papers/projects by uploading through the Assignment tab in each unit. Do not e-mail your paper directly to your professor. By using the Assignment tab, your record will automatically be updated to indicate you have submitted your papers/projects and the assignment will be provided to your professor for grading. Instructions for submitting your assignment can be found under the Assignment tab in each unit.

**APA Guidelines**

Waldorf University requires that students use the APA style for papers and projects. Therefore, the APA rules for formatting, quoting, paraphrasing, citing, and listing of sources are to be followed. Information about using APA style can be found in APA Style Help in the Course Menu. This area provides links to Internet sites, tutorials, and guides that provide comprehensive information on APA formatting, including examples and sample papers.

**Grading Rubrics**

This course utilizes analytic grading rubrics as tools for your professor in assigning grades for all learning activities. Each rubric serves as a guide that communicates the expectations of the learning activity and describes the criteria for each level of achievement. In addition, a rubric is a reference tool that lists evaluation criteria and can help you organize your efforts to meet the requirements of that learning activity. It is imperative for you to familiarize yourself with these rubrics because these are the primary tools your professor uses for assessing learning activities.

Rubric categories include: (1) Discussion Board, (2) Assessment (Written Response), and (3) Assignment. However, it is possible that not all of the listed rubric types will be used in a single course (e.g., some courses may not have Assessments).

The Discussion Board rubric can be found within Unit I’s Discussion Board submission instructions.

The Assessment (Written Response) rubric can be found embedded in a link within the directions for each Unit Assessment. However, these rubrics will only be used when written-response questions appear within the Assessment.

Each Assignment type (e.g., article critique, case study, research paper) will have its own rubric. The Assignment rubrics are built into Blackboard, allowing students to review them prior to beginning the Assignment and again once the
Assignment has been scored. This rubric can be accessed via the Assignment link located within the unit where it is to be submitted. Students may also access the rubric through the course menu by selecting the “Grades” link.

Again, it is vitally important for you to become familiar with these rubrics because their application to your Discussion Boards, Assessments, and Assignments is the method by which your instructor assigns all grades.

Communication Forums

These are non-graded discussion forums that allow you to communicate with your professor and other students. Participation in these discussion forums is encouraged, but not required. You can access these forums with the buttons in the Course Menu. Instructions for subscribing/unsubscribing to these forums are provided below.

[Click here for instructions on how to subscribe/unsubscribe and post to the Communication Forums.]

Ask the Professor

This communication forum provides you with an opportunity to ask your professor general or course content questions. Questions may focus on Blackboard locations of online course components, textbook or course content elaboration, additional guidance on assessment requirements, or general advice from other students.

Questions that are specific in nature, such as inquiries regarding assessment/assignment grades or personal accommodation requests, are NOT to be posted on this forum. If you have questions, comments, or concerns of a non-public nature, please feel free to e-mail your professor. Responses to your post will be addressed or e-mailed by the professor within 48 hours.

Before posting, please ensure that you have read all relevant course documentation, including the syllabus, assessment/assignment instructions, faculty feedback, and other important information.

Student Break Room

This communication forum allows for casual conversation with your classmates. Communication on this forum should always maintain a standard of appropriateness and respect for your fellow classmates. This forum should NOT be used to share assessment answers.

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Boards (8 @ 2%)</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Assessments (8 @ 9%)</td>
<td>72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit VII Case Study</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Course Schedule/Checklist (PLEASE PRINT)

The following pages contain a printable Course Schedule to assist you through this course. By following this schedule, you will be assured that you will complete the course within the time allotted.
By following this schedule, you will be assured that you will complete the course within the time allotted. Please keep this schedule for reference as you progress through your course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Introduction to Disaster Planning</th>
<th>Review:</th>
<th>Read:</th>
<th>Discuss:</th>
<th>Submit:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Unit Study Guide</td>
<td>□ Chapter 1: Disaster Planning</td>
<td>□ Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)</td>
<td>□ Assessment by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)</td>
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<td>□ Suggested Reading: See Study Guide</td>
<td>□ Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)</td>
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Notes/Goals:

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<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Community Risk and Training</th>
<th>Review:</th>
<th>Read:</th>
<th>Discuss:</th>
<th>Submit:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Unit Study Guide</td>
<td>□ Chapter 2: Historical Lessons</td>
<td>□ Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)</td>
<td>□ Assessment by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)</td>
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<td>□ Chapter 3: Training and Preparation</td>
<td>□ Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)</td>
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Notes/Goals:

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<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Incident Management and Control</th>
<th>Review:</th>
<th>Read:</th>
<th>Discuss:</th>
<th>Submit:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Unit Study Guide</td>
<td>□ Chapter 4: Organizational Structure and Incident Command</td>
<td>□ Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)</td>
<td>□ Assessment by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)</td>
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<td>□ Chapter 5: Resource Management and Augmentation</td>
<td>□ Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)</td>
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<td>□ Suggested Reading: See Study Guide</td>
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Notes/Goals:
# Course Schedule

## Unit IV: Communications of Disasters and Catastrophic Fires

**Review:**
- Unit Study Guide

**Read:**
- Chapter 6: Communications and Information Management
- Chapter 7: Catastrophic Fires
- Suggested Reading: See Study Guide

**Discuss:**
- Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)
- Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)

**Submit:**
- Assessment by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)

## Notes/Goals:

## Unit V: Transportation and Hazardous Materials

**Review:**
- Unit Study Guide

**Read:**
- Chapter 8: Transportation Disasters
- Chapter 9: Hazardous Materials Disasters

**Discuss:**
- Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)
- Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)

**Submit:**
- Assessment by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)

## Notes/Goals:

## Unit VI: Terrorist Events

**Review:**
- Unit Study Guide

**Read:**
- Chapter 10: Homeland Security and Civil Disorder
- Chapter 11: Terrorism

**Discuss:**
- Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)
- Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)

**Submit:**
- Assessment by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)

## Notes/Goals:
# Course Schedule

## Unit VII: Disasters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Review:</th>
<th>Unit Study Guide</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Read:            | Chapter 12: Mass Casualties and Mass Evacuation  
|                  | Chapter 13: Weather-Related Natural Disasters |
| Discuss:         | Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)  
|                  | Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time) |
| Submit:          | Assessment by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)  
|                  | Case Study by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time) |

## Unit VIII: Physiological Effects of a Disaster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Review:</th>
<th>Unit Study Guide</th>
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| Read:            | Chapter 14: Terrain-Based Natural Disasters  
|                  | Chapter 15: Aftermath and Recovery |
| Discuss:         | Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time)  
|                  | Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time) |
| Submit:          | Assessment by Tuesday, 11:59 p.m. (Central Time) |

Notes/Goals: