Disaster & War Preparedness & Emergency Management

Overview:

The wars in 2008-2009, 2012 and 2014 brought about dramatic change to the management of disasters & wars and emergencies. The emergency response to such wars arise many questions in this issue like the governmental and society & community responsibility. Who are the main members of an emergency team or so called emergency operations center (EOC). Have we learned from the past, do the community had developed plans for such a disaster. Did the war lead to the development of needed legislation to develop and manage a well-organized response to disasters to assist the affected population and areas through disaster and war relief.

This course will begin with a discussion of how the current preparedness and mitigation functions have evolved within the Gaza strip and how emergencies, disasters & wars have influenced the social, legislative, and political situation within the Gaza strip. The reading materials and textbook will highlight the risk management and vulnerability assessment necessary for our communities, as well as the need to prevent, mitigate, respond, and recover from emergencies, wars and disasters.

This course is designed to provide the student with a comprehensive (full) understanding of emergency planning and war & disaster management. In addition to a quick overview of the evolution of emergency and disaster management within the Gaza Strip, we will look at global issues and international emergency and disaster management plans. Through additional readings and reviews of case studies, we will examine both natural and man-made disasters and emergencies. The focus is on man-made disasters and wars. Student is expected to explore the depth and breadth of disaster & war preparedness and emergency management and to critically assess the achievements of national and international efforts.

Course Description:

Effective emergency planning is the key to surviving in both types of disasters, which are natural and man-made disasters. Risk analysis and the formulation of a comprehensive plan, followed by a strong and continuing testing program, are essential elements to surviving an emergency. Topics covered include definition of key terms, risk assessment and risk analysis, formulating a response plan, staffing an emergency operations center (EOC), interagency
coordination and cooperation, managing an actual incident and conducting effective follow-up analysis. Students will select a critical infrastructure component within their regions in the Gaza strip, evaluate/establish strategic planning to respond to a disaster & war at that location, consider environmental impacts of a disaster & war, and present a portfolio of their analysis and response plans in an appropriate format. Actual case studies will be discussed. Students are expected to participate actively in role-playing responses to proposed disaster & war scenarios proposed by the instructor.

**Course Objectives:**

1. To become familiar with definitions and terms used within the disciplines of disaster & war preparedness and emergency management

2. To gain an understanding of the scope and extent to which man-made disasters & wars and emergencies have influenced legislation, as well as the social and political environment

3. To understand the difficulty and complexity in collaboration between the different members of EOC the and local governments and non-governmental organizations

4. To comprehend planning, mitigation, in-crisis decision making, evacuation, response, and recovery within the leadership during an event

5. To illustrate knowledge how to develop feasible plans and suitably consider management options for disaster & war planning and emergency management

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of the course, each student should successfully complete the following:

- Effectively define and describe the terminology used within disaster & war planning and emergency management
- Comprehend the scope, extent, and complexity of man-made disasters and emergencies
- Understand the problems associated with government collaboration and assistance to local governments and non-governmental organizations
- Discuss effective means to plan, mitigate, respond, and recover from disasters,
wars and emergencies, man-made mainly

- Articulate the knowledge gained from a review of case studies of significant importance

**TEXTBOOK:**
Introduction to Emergency Management, 6th ed.
Authors: George D. Haddow, Jane A. Bullock, and Damon P. Coppola
Publisher: Elsevier, Inc
Year: 2011
ISBN: 978-1-85617-959-1 hardback

**Grading policy:**
- Attendance and Participation: 10 %
- Midterm: 25 %
- Project: 25 %
- Final Exam: 40 %