**Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Resilience**

**SUST 380**

**Spring 2021**

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**Office Hours:** TBD; also by appointment

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**Course Description:**

This course provides students instruction and practical strategies to develop the core competencies of basic emergency preparedness. Natural hazards, technological hazards, and man-made threats will be examined through the lens of everyday emergencies and disasters. Emphasis will be placed on community preparedness by addressing hazard and threat awareness, prevention, response, recovery and mitigation.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

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

* Understand local and community risk.
* Understand the importance of personal emergency preparedness and how it impacts the greater community’s resilience.
* Understand how natural and technological hazards, and man-made threats pose a risk to life and property.
* Describe threat prevention and protection techniques for personal safety.
* Identify strategies to prepare for the primary and secondary impacts of disasters.
* Describe strategies to have the financial resources necessary to weather an emergency/disaster
* Understand how personal preparedness and the authority/capability of governmental and non-governmental disaster response and recovery agencies interrelate.

**Experiential Learning Outcomes and Skills:**

More precisely, upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

* Perform CPR on an adult, child or infant and operate an AED
* Apply first aid to manage a medical emergency until emergency medical services arrives.
* Perform skills necessary to respond to a variety of emergencies.
* Demonstrate skills to resolve common roadside emergencies, maintain personal safety during a roadway emergency, and communicate clearly to first response agencies.
* Employ preparedness and response strategies from the SAFE method for threatening situations.
* Properly operate a portable fire extinguisher.
* Develop a personal and family emergency plan
* Create an emergency supply kit for home and car

**Readings:**

Bach, R. ed. (2015) *Strategies for Community Resilience: Multi-national Experiences*. Stockholm: Swedish Defense University. Retrieved from: <https://www.preventionweb.net/publications/view/43699>

Liebsch, B., & Liebsch, J. (2017) Be Ready CCU. *It’s A Disaster! ...and what are YOU gonna do about it? A disaster preparedness, prevention & basic first aid manual* (5th ed.). Tucson, AZ: Fedhealth.

Additional assigned articles, book chapters, presentations, websites, etc. will be posted on Moodle.

**Course Policies:**

1. Late Assignments – All assignments are to be turned in the date that it is due. Late assignments will not be accepted. It is essential for students to plan accordingly, and if there is a scheduling conflict the assignment should be turned in before the due date.
2. Academic Integrity Code – Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of Coastal Carolina University. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. This policy will be observed in this course as well as all SPT courses.

Failure to abide by the current CCU Academic Integrity Code policy will result in the offending student receiving a “0” for the assignment and/or disciplinary action as prescribed in the Code of Student Conduct (Current Coastal Carolina University Student Handbook). A serious offense, or multiple offenses in this course, will result in an F.

1. Education Accessibility – Coastal Carolina University, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973/Section 504, will provide reasonable accommodations for eligible students with disabilities. If you require special assistance please see the instructor privately and seek assistance directly from the Office of Accessibility and Disability Services. You are responsible for initiating arrangements of accommodations for tests and other assignments in collaboration with the Office of Accessibility and Disability Services and your professors. For further information, please contact the Office of Accessibility and Disability Services at 843-349-2503.
2. Inclement Weather Closings – In the event of hazardous weather listen to local radio and television stations or visit the Coastal Carolina University website homepage for official University closing announcements. Please check your email during cases of severe weather conditions or emergencies. If the University cancels classes I may redirect class to complete an additional FEMA Independent Study course.
3. Attendance and Expectations of Students – Students Students are expected to fully abide by the University’s academic integrity and be respectful of others at all times. Students are expected to be on time for class, participate and complete the assigned course work on time. Students are obligated to attend class regularly. Absences, excused or not, do not absolve students from the responsibility of completing all assigned work promptly. Students who miss assignments or other course work obligations due to excused absences will be allowed to make up the work in a manner deemed appropriate by the instructor. It will be the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor and make arrangements at the convenience of the instructor. The instructor is not obligated to allow a student to make up work missed due to an unexcused absence.

Attendance will be taken in all class meetings and a points will be assigned for attendance. Students are allowed one free unexcused absence. After that, participation points will be deducted. According to CCU policy, “An instructor is permitted to impost a penalty, including the grade of F, for unexcused absences in excess of 25% of the regularly scheduled class meetings.”

Students who are involved in athletics, academic competition, or those who have religious obligations will be excused from missing class. Students must provide official documentation from the department or their travel schedule prior to being absent in class. All assignments that are due must be turned in prior to class if the student is going to be absent.

**Course Requirements:**

1. Class Participation – There will be many hands-on activities and training that will accompany instruction. Participation is an important part of your and your fellow classmates’ learning in this course. There will also be group discussions based on emergency/disaster scenarios. You will be expected to contribute to classroom discussions in a respectful manner. You are expected to do all the readings in order to contribute meaningfully to classroom discussions. Regular attendance is required to earn class participation. Ultimately, poor attendance and/or a lack of classroom participation will negatively impact your grade.
2. Assignments – There will be a combination of in-class work and homework. The homework assignments will be made up of reading or real-world event reflections, FEMA Independent Study Courses, and assignments based on specific preparedness measures/strategies where you will produce a practical tool that will better prepare you as an individual.

There are a number in-class trainings and assignments that you will receive a certificate for successful completion from the certifying agency such as the American Heart Association and the National Weather Service. A certificate is required for class credit.

Students will be required to complete a set number of FEMA Independent Study (IS) Courses online covering a wide range of emergency preparedness/management topics. These courses provide an overview of a specific topic with an accompanying exam. Students must submit their certificates as proof of completion. Links to these courses will be posted on Moodle.

How to Get Started

1. FEMA’s Independent Study Program requires a FEMA Student Identification Number (SID) in order to take the exam and receive a certificate for course completion. To obtain a FEMA student ID use this link: https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid
2. Once you have a FEMA SID, click on the links provided in Moodle to take each course
3. You will have the option of downloading the classroom materials
4. Once you have successfully completed each final exam, you will be sent an email from Independent.Study@fema.dhs.gov, within a day or so, with a link that contains your certificate of completion. Download and save your certificate. Upload a copy of your certificate in Moodle by the assignment due date.
5. Class Exercise – All students are required to be present for the class exercise in order to receive credit. The exercise will be based on lessons learned from the Active Shooter/Armed Aggressor SAFE training provided by CCU Public Safety. Participation in the exercise and the after action review are both essential for your grade.
6. Presentation – Each student will be required to make a 10-15 oral minute presentation on a preparedness topic covered in class. Additional details and instructions will be provided in Moodle.

**Grading:**

Students are responsible for tracking their progress of the course on Moodle. Students will also be able to check their grades via Moodle throughout the semester.

The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to the grading scheme, the type and number of assignments, due dates, and the overall course plan as necessary.

*Grade Distribution:*

Participation – 20%

Assignments – 20%

Class Exercise – 15%

Presentation – 10%

Certifications – 15%

Final Exam – 20%

*Grading Scale:*

A 90-100

B+ 87-89

B 80-86

C+ 77-79

C 70-76

D+ 67-69

D 60-66

F < 60

**Tentative Class Schedule**

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| **Week** | **Topics** |
| Week 1 | Introduction to Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Resilience |
| Week 2 | Threat/Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment |
| Week 3 | Hurricane and Severe Weather Preparedness & Response |
| Week 4 | National Weather Service SKYWARN Spotter Training |
| Week 5 | Roadway Emergencies |
| Week 6 | Hazardous Materials Awareness and Fire Safety |
| Week 7 | Threat Awareness & Prevention |
| Week 8 | Active Shooter/Armed Aggressor SAFE Training and Exercise |
| Week 9 | Spring Break |
| Week 10 | Financial Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Planning |
| Week 11 | CPR/AED and First Aid Training |
| Week 12 | CPR/AED and First Aid Training |
| Week 13 | Disaster Recovery and Mitigation |
| Week 14 | Disaster Resilience  |
| Week 15 | Emergency Supply Kit and Student Presentations |
| Week 16 | Student Presentations |

**Final Exam Date:** TBD