DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Department Head: Dr. Jeffrey R. Ryan
JSU McClellan Building 3181

The Department of Emergency Management offers a 120-hour Bachelor of Science degree in Emergency Management. The degree is designed to prepare students for careers related to emergency and disaster management in local, state, or federal government, business, and volunteer organizations.

- Emergency Management (Bachelor of Science) (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/human-services-social-sciences/emergency-management/emergency-management-bs/)
- Emergency Management with a Minor in Public Safety Telecommunications (Bachelor of Science) (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/human-services-social-sciences/emergency-management/emergency-management-minor-public-safety-telecommunications-bs/)
- Emergency Management Minor (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/human-services-social-sciences/emergency-management/emergency-management-minor/)
- Public Safety Telecommunications Minor (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/human-services-social-sciences/emergency-management/public-safety-telecommunications-minor/)

Emergency Management

EM 301 Introduction to Disaster Management (3)
Overview of issues related to disaster management, including a history of the field, key legislation impacting the field, comprehensive emergency management and integrated emergency management, and current issues in the field.

EM 305 Introduction to Homeland Security (3)
An overview of the administrative, legislative, and operational elements of homeland security programs and processes, including a review of homeland security history, policies, and programs.

EM 309 Emergency Response to WMD Event (3)
This course will focus on the potential use of Weapons of Mass Destruction by terrorists and the proper preparedness and response by communities and jurisdictions. This course is appropriate for members of the emergency response community, emergency management, and members of the general population desiring knowledge about the real and ever-present danger of terrorist activity within the United States.

EM 321 Disaster Mitigation & Preparedness (3)
Prerequisite(s): EM 301.
Methods and techniques used to lessen the potential impact of disasters. Approaches related to policy, sustainability, public education, disaster exercises, programming, and the built environment are all considered.

EM 325 Management of Information Security (3)
Study of information security and digital forensics using practical case studies. Emphasis is on developing security policies, security management and practices, utilization of digital forensic tools and techniques, risk management, security project management, and protection mechanisms. Major components of the course are hands-on projects on digital forensic investigation and security management case studies. (EM 325 is cross-listed with CS 307, but only one course can be counted for credit.)

EM 331 Populations at Risk (3)
Prerequisite(s): EM 301.
Documents and analyzes the social construction of vulnerabilities to disaster. Methods to reduce vulnerabilities and build local capacity are covered.

EM 341 Legal Fundamentals in Emergency Management and Homeland Security (3)
Introduction to the legislative underpinnings of domestic homeland security and emergency management processes. Significant legislation will be reviewed with special consideration for the concepts that define legal duties and consequences for first responders and emergency managers.

EM 346 Emergency Medical Operations for CBRNE Incidents (3)
An in-depth study for emergency medical responders that focuses on chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) incident management; treatment of victims of exposure to chemical, biological, and radiological hazards, as well as explosions. Hands-on training modules provide the emergency medical responder with the knowledge and skills to perform triage operations while in personal protective equipment (PPE) and to perform decontamination of victims. Students are required to complete the FEMA resident course AWR-900 at the Center for Domestic Preparedness.

EM 347 Framework for Healthcare Emergency Management (3)
An in-depth study that provides healthcare personnel with a foundation of knowledge in healthcare emergency management. The course focuses on standards, regulations, and organizations affecting healthcare entities and the integration of government agencies and stakeholders; disaster preparedness planning; staffing and personnel; emergency management issues for healthcare; personal protective equipment (PPE) and decontamination; evacuation, isolation, and quarantine; ethical issues; financial issues; public affairs; and training, drills, and exercises. Students are required to complete the FEMA resident course AWR-900 at the Center for Domestic Preparedness.

EM 348 Hospital Emergency Response Training for Mass Casualty Incidents (3)
An in-depth study designed to provide medical operation guidance to healthcare professionals who may become involved in a mass casualty incident (MCI) as a result of a natural, accidental, or intentional event. The course focuses on safe and effective emergency medical response to MCI. Students are required to complete the FEMA resident course PER-902 at the Center for Domestic Preparedness.

EM 349 Radiological Emergency Response Operations (3)
An in-depth study of safe and effective response to radiological incidents. Topics include radiological concepts, radiological response team operations, commercial nuclear power facilities, plume modeling, radiological instrumentation, PPE and decontamination. Students are required to complete the FEMA resident course PER-904 at the Center for Domestic Preparedness.
EM 351  Introduction to Terrorism (3)
The history, methods, and philosophy of terrorism are reviewed. Emphasis is placed on extremism as a foundation for terrorist behavior, types of terrorism, and how governments, and law enforcement agencies respond to terrorism. Case studies of terrorist activities and implications of emergency response issues are highlighted.

EM 361  Hazardous Materials in Emergency Management (3)
Prerequisite(s): EM 301.
Examination of key legislation regarding storage, handling, and transportation of hazardous materials, and review of the emergency management community plans, responds, and recovers when hazardous material incidents occur.

EM 365  Public Information and Policy (3)
A review of the skills needed to effectively deal with the public and media before, during, and after an emergency event. Topics will include role and responsibilities of the Public Information Officer, understanding the roles and responsibilities of the media, conducting awareness campaigns, writing news releases, public speaking, granting interviews, media management, and dealing with high-profile incidents.

EM 366  Social Media in Emergency Management (3)
Overview of the history and evolution of social media in emergency management. Provides an understanding of social media and its uses in all aspects of emergency management. Students will conduct research of better practices and how to grow an agency's social media presence. Additional topics addressed will include: identifying challenges and how to overcome them, choosing the best social media avenues for an agency and topic, and using private sector practices to enhance public sector outreach and effectiveness.

EM 371  Public Administration, Policy, in Emergency Management (3)
Prerequisite(s): EM 301.
Focuses upon the role of local, state and federal government in time of disaster. A history of key legislation related to disasters and how it has impacted the emerging profession is provided.

EM 381  Social Dimensions of Disaster (3)
Open to all majors across the disciplines. Overview of how individuals, groups, families, organizations, communities, and countries handle disasters before, during, and after they occur.

EM 411  Disaster Response & Recovery (3)
Prerequisite(s): EM 301.
Covers how people, groups, organizations, communities and governments manage disaster in the immediate aftermath and long-term including social, physical, business, and infrastructure problems as well as intra- and inter-organizational issues. (EM 411 is cross-listed with CS 412, but only one course can be counted for credit.)

EM 420  Exercise Design and Evaluation (3)
Introduction to the fundamentals of exercise design, development and implementation. Includes a review of the different types of exercises, how they are used, and how they are conducted. Provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to develop and conduct disaster exercises that test a community's emergency response plan and capabilities.

EM 421  Medical Disaster and Emergency Management (3)
Prerequisite(s): EM 301 and EM 411.
Reviews structure and functions of health care delivery systems in massive casualty situations with specific attention to intra and inter-organizational management, ranging from emergency response triage to inter-organizational systemic management issues.

EM 450  Management Systems in Disaster (3)
Integration of emergency functions, response structures, technology use, information management, and decision-making. The National Response Plan and the National Incident Management System will be addressed.

EM 451  Disaster Planning (3)
Prerequisite(s): EM 301.
Reviews and critiques actual plans and engages students in components of effective disaster planning within and across various jurisdictions.

EM 461  Critical Infrastructures (3)
Identifies what constitutes critical infrastructure including cyber as well as physical infrastructure. Evaluation of strategies for promoting vulnerability assessments and risk reduction, and protection of critical infrastructures will be examined. (EM 461 is cross-listed with CS 461, but only one course can be counted for credit.)

EM 471  Emergency Management Capstone Course (3)
Prerequisite(s): Senior Standing in Program.
Integrates prior coursework in an applied and experiential framework through case studies, exercises, applied research, and analytical activities.

EM 475  Current Issues in Homeland Security (3)
The examination of current issues and concerns with Homeland Security including upcoming National Special Security Events that mandate comprehensive security planning and response capabilities. Challenges of implementing and maintaining homeland security will be covered.

EM 481  Disaster Research (3)
Students will conduct research to understand the job of a public safety telecommunicator and is the telecommunicator. This course will provide the information necessary to understand the job of a public safety telecommunicator and is the foundation to begin working in police, fire, EMS or combined service communications center.

EM 483  Planning and Preparedness for Homeland Security (3)
Introduction to the process of assessing and enhancing preparedness for terrorism for organizations and communities. Topics include technical and organizational requirements, risk and vulnerability assessments, continuity of operations, communication and information management, capacity building needs, funding strategies, and recovery systems. Particular attention is given to coordination requirements for incident management for first responder agencies, healthcare systems, and public and private sector response systems.

EM 496  Directed Studies in Emergency Management (3)
Prerequisite(s): Approval of instructor and department head.

EM 497  Internship in Emergency Management (3)
Prerequisite(s): Approval of instructor and internship coordinator.
Provides direct experience and application of principles, concepts and theories acquired in coursework to a real world setting.

Public Safety Telecommunications

PST 110  Introduction to Public Safety Communications (3)
An introduction to telephone and radio communications skills, interpersonal communications, and basics of call handling, legal issues in public safety communications and technologies for the telecommunicator. This course will provide the information necessary to understand the job of a public safety telecommunicator and is the foundation to begin working in police, fire, EMS or combined service communications center.
PST 115 Emergency Medical Dispatching (3)
This course is designed to prepare the student to receive a call requesting assistance for emergency medical services (EMS) and allocate community resources in response to such request. Upon course completion, the student will be qualified to provide pre-arrival medical instructions to the caller, and post-dispatch information to the responding agencies.

PST 221 Role in Hostage Negotiations (3)
This course is designed to provide the student with the principles required for critical thinking to deal with a hostage situation until a highly trained negotiator assumes control.

PST 311 Interpersonal Communications (3)
Introduction to the basic concepts of interpersonal communications and oral communications necessary for the public safety telecommunicator to interact with public safety personnel and citizens of the community. Techniques to overcoming barriers, achieving effective communications, handling difficult callers, listening effectively, and resolving conflicts will be addressed.

PST 312 Legal Issues in Public Safety Communication (3)
An overview of legal issues impacting the public safety communication and telecommunication industry. The course will present a series of case studies which present a rational prospective of the liability exposure of the public safety telecommunicator. The course shall provide the legal principles and processes that, when adhered to, should guide toward minimizing liability exposure.

PST 313 Introduction to Crisis Intervention (3)
The critical principles in support of crisis intervention and techniques for handling domestic violence, potential suicide, hostage, and civil unrest situations as a public safety communicator.

PST 314 Introduction to Weapons of Mass Destruction (3)
The basic principles needed to respond to a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) event. The course will present the role and responsibilities of the public safety telecommunicator in recognizing and dispatching assistance for aid while maintaining documentation of calls for assistance resulting from a WMD incident.

PST 323 Human Resource Management in Public Safety Communications (3)
An overview of Human Resource Management issues including principles of human resources, federal employee regulations, and Americans with Disabilities Act.

PST 325 Management Principles in Public Safety Communications (3)
An overview of basic management principles, including organizational theory, operational models, supervision, evaluations, and steps for effective leadership.

PST 328 Technical Writing for Public Safety Communicators (3)
An introduction to the basic concepts for professional writing. Emphasis on writing skills necessary for the preparation of standard operating procedures, training documents, and related materials.

Professor
Kushma, Jane (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/faculty-admin/faculty/ #kushma159)
Lowe, William A. (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/faculty-admin/faculty/ #lowe173)
Ryan, Jeffrey R. (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/faculty-admin/faculty/ #ryan247)

Associate Professor
Huang, Shih-Kai (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/faculty-admin/faculty/ #huang129)
Islam, Tanveerul (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/faculty-admin/faculty/ #islam134)
Van Slyke, Jeffrey (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/faculty-admin/faculty/ #van_slyke294)

Assistant Professor
Jerolleman, Alessandra (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/faculty-admin/ faculty/#jerolleman136)
Wang, Chongming (catalog.jsu.edu/undergraduate/faculty-admin/ faculty/#wang300)