

Syllabus

CRIJ 4335.001 – Emergency Planning and Risk Management
Spring 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor: Alejandro Castillo

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Preferred form of communication: Do not hesitate to contact me; we can arrange a phone call, in-person visit or zoom meeting.

Office hours: please reach out to me anytime

Class: We can meet in person or zoom to discuss anything at your convenience; assignments will be submitted via Canvas-on-line.

Course Overview

This course explores the effect of man-made emergencies and natural disasters on the communities in which we live. You will have opportunity to learn, explore and understand the roles and duties of emergency management professionals and first responders, including police, fire, EMTs and more. The textbook will expose you to emergency planning resources for natural events such as hurricanes, earthquakes and tornadoes, and for unexpected events such as terrorist activities, explosions and fires, and mass casualty events. In addition to reviewing the emergency response to prior incidents, you will be tasked with analyzing real world scenarios that have yet to occur.

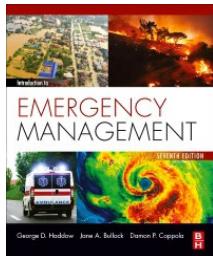
Student Learning Outcomes

Through readings, discussions and other materials, we will pursue the following course objectives:

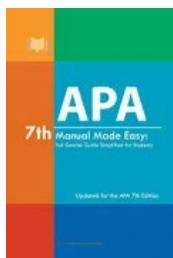
1. Explain the means and methods behind emergency response plans that include multi-agency coordination efforts.
2. Understand how agencies must adapt their emergency response plans to a growing and evolving technological society
3. Identify the immediate needs and resources necessary to respond to small-scale events, wide-scale events, man-made disasters, and natural disasters.
4. Demonstrate proficiency with the APA documentation style (7th ed.).
5. Compose an academically minded paper surrounding emergency response/risk planning.

Required Textbooks

Haddow, G., Bullock, J., & Coppola, D. (2020). *Introduction to Emergency Management*, 7th Edition. Amsterdam: The Netherlands: Elsevier.



American Psychological Association- 7th edition, this is provided by the UT-Tyler library at no cost (this book is not required, but will be very helpful in meeting the term paper requirements)



Assignments and weights/percentage values

Assignments	6%
Quizzes	17%
Discussion	17%
Outline	10%
Semester Paper	20%
Exams (3)	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

Grading Scale

- A = 90% or greater
- B = 80 – 89%
- C = 70 – 79%
- D = 60 – 69%
- F = below 60%

Late Work and Make-Up Exams

The general rule is I will not accept any late assignments. Please pay particular attention to all due dates. Unfortunately, illnesses, deaths in the family, or other traumatic events are part of life. Such events are unwelcomed, please contact me as soon as possible and we will work together to extend an assignment.

Attendance Policy

You are expected to attend every class session, please do your best to communicate with the instructor. There will be important information being discussed that you will need to ensure your success in this course. It is important that you read all reading assignments to have a firm understanding of all material because it will assist you in preparing for the term paper, quizzes and exams.

UT Tyler does have a [Class Attendance policy](#) in the catalog.

University Policies and Information

Withdrawing from Class

Students may withdraw (drop) from this course using the Withdrawal Portal. Withdrawing (dropping) this course can impact your Financial Aid, Scholarships, Veteran Benefits, Exemptions, Waivers, International Student Status, housing, and degree progress. Please speak with your instructors, consider your options, speak with your advisor, and visit the One-Stop Service Center (STE 230) or email enroll@uttyler.edu to get a complete review of your student account and the possible impacts to withdrawing. We want you to make an informed decision. UT Tyler faculty and staff are here for you and often can provide additional support options or assistance. Make sure to carefully read the implications for withdrawing from a course and the instructions on using the Withdrawal portal.

Texas law prohibits students from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career*. The six courses dropped includes those from other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress and other areas, such as financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and Enrollment Services for additional guidance. CAUTION #1: Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule. CAUTION #2: All international students must check with the Office of International Programs before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms. CAUTION #3: All UT Tyler Athletes must check with the Athletic Academic Coordinator before withdrawing from a course. CAUTION #4: All veterans or military-affiliated students should consult with the Military and Veterans Success Center.

* Students who began college for the first time before 2007 are exempt from this law.

Artificial Intelligence Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal,

philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy. Refer to the About This Course section of the UT Tyler Syllabus Module for specific information on appropriate use of AI in your course(s).

Course Requirement Information

Chapter Quizzes

At the end of each weekly chapter, you will be required to complete a comprehension reading chapter quiz. These quizzes will be multiple choice and true/false. The purpose of each quiz is to encourage you to read the chapter. These quizzes will be due by the posted due date/time.

In Class Assessment (discussions)

You must be in attendance to receive credit for the assessments. Reading and being prepared is important for your success in this course and develops a positive discipline. Your overall course grade will also consist of in-class assessments intended to assess your learning and to enhance the learning environment. Please do your best to be in attendance, it's very easy to receive a high-grade completing this task but it's just as easy to receive a low grade. Make sure you read the material and think about it before class. Each of you will be expected to be an active participant in the class discussions. Education research has suggested that the more engaged and active a student is in the learning process; the more learning will occur.

Discussions

You will be required to complete online activities that correspond with the materials presented in the chapter/s for the week and will be provided with instructions for each activity. These entries are designed to allow you the opportunity to analyze the material through the use of critical thinking.

Post/Reply requirements: First, post an original answer to the discussion question. Second, you must respond/comment to at least one of your fellow classmate's posts, this response must also be detailed and complete. To receive full credit, you must complete both sections of the requirement, unless instructed otherwise. The discussion will be due by the posted due date/time.

Exams

There will be three (3) exams throughout the course. The questions are straightforward and arise from your readings. All exams will be due by the posted due date/time.

Semester Paper

You will have a semester paper due near the end of the term, to be completed in APA format-7th edition. You will be working on this paper throughout the semester, do not wait until the weekend before the paper is due to begin working on it. There will be two parts required for submission: outline and final paper.

Please view the module containing the outline and semester paper for complete details. A rubric has been provided for each section of the paper.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates (Tentative course schedule)

Week 1

- Self-Introduction Post
- Plagiarism Certificate
- Syllabus Comprehension Quiz

Week 2

- Chapter 1- The Historical Context of Emergency Management
- Chapter 1- Discussion Post/Reply

Week 3

- Chapter 2- Natural and Technological Hazards and Risk Assessment
- Quiz

Week 4

- Chapter 3- The Disciplines of Emergency Management: Mitigation
- Discussion Post/Reply

Week 5

- Chapter 4- Preparedness
- Exam 1

Week 6

- Chapter 5- Crisis and Risk Communication
- Quiz

Week 7

- Chapter 6- The Disciplines of Emergency Management: Response
- Discussion Post/Reply

Week 8

- Case Study-Hurricane Katrina
- Case Study-Discussion
- Outline

Week 9

- Spring Break- Enjoy your time and be safe

Week 10

- Chapter 7- Recovery
- Quiz

Week 11

- Exam 2

Week 12

- Chapter 8- International Disaster Management
- Quiz

Week 13

- Chapter 9- Emergency Management and the Terrorist Threat
- Quiz

Week 14

- Semester Paper

Week 15

- Chapter 10- The Future of Emergency Management

Week 16

- Exam 3 (Final Exam)