

EMDS 500
Emergency Management Policy and Practices
Fall 2019 Syllabus

- I. Instructor:** Dr. David E. Oliver
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Office Hours: By appointment
Lecture Format: Web-based (Online)
- II. Course Description:** Provides an in-depth look at disaster response and emergency management practices both within the U.S. and globally. The student will develop a thorough working knowledge of The Incident Command System, including application for small to large incidents, integration of command across local, state, federal and international response agencies.
- III. Disability Statement:** In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.
- IV. Class Attendance and Participation:** This is a web-based online course. Students are free to manage their schedules within and around the due dates of the various assignments. Participation in class discussion board assignments is required and students must participate on a regular basis throughout the course. **Class participation is a student responsibility and will be considered in determining the final grade.**
- V. Grading Procedure:** The instructor may modify the syllabus to accommodate appropriate coverage of topics. This course will utilize Blackboard to enhance learning opportunities. You should regularly access the course site to view announcements, course instructions, submit assignments, review lecture notes, etc.

Examinations: Two examinations will be given according to the class outline. Test questions will be taken from discussion assignments, reading assignments, handouts, audiovisuals, and material discussed since the preceding test. Each test will count 100 points with a possible total of 200 points. All exams will be completed using the testing capabilities of the Blackboard learning management system. Students must take the exam at the scheduled date/time. Exams will be timed and scored immediately upon completion. The final exam must be taken on the date stipulated in the WKU Final Exam calendar or as directed by the instructor.

Discussions: The minimum participation is 3 times on 3 separate days a week for each forum. Each discussion assignment will be posted in the Discussion section of Blackboard. **Total points for all 4 discussions is 100 points.** Grading will be based on the following requirements:
A (90-100 points) = Three or more substantial postings in each graded forum. The postings provide insightful comments and stimulate active discussion threads. Posts provide good responses to questions posed, read the comments of others and interact with them.
B (80-89 points) = Meets the minimum participation requirements. Postings initiate few interesting threads and are not interacting with others.
C (70-79 points) = Two substantial posts followed by one general response in each forum per week.
D (60-69 points) = Fewer than 2 postings or one day of participation and non-interacting.

Examinations (2@100 pts. each)	200 pts.	A = 675-750 points
FEMA online courses (5@50 pts. each)	250 pts.	B = 600-674 points
Homework Assignments (4@25 pts. each)	100 pts.	C = 525-599 points
Discussions (4@25pts. each)	100 pts.	D = 450-524 points
Research Paper	100 pts.	F = Below 449 points
Total possible points	750 pts.	

If you have completed a FEMA course online within the last 3 years, you may upload the certificate to the appropriate assignment area as noted.

SCHEDULE

Week 1: Introduction to EMDS Program, EMDS 500, and Incident Command System (ICS)

- Student Secures EMI Student Identification Number: <https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid/register>
- Activity: Completion of IS-100 EMI Online (avg. 3 hours) - <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.c>
- Complete IS-100, and upload certificate to the assignment area as noted.
- Assignment: Select any additional FEMA EMI Online course beyond those assigned in the course (IS 100, 200, 700 & 800) complete and upload certificate to the assignment area as noted by end of week 6.
- Completion of Introduction to Incident Command/Incident Management – Evolution of ICS - Slide Lecture
- Answer posted questions and participate in group discussions in discussion board section.
- Research Project: Select a major incident, national or global (your choice). Research the incident, review the after-action reports, media coverage, published research, etc. Compile a thorough research paper (no more than 20 pages double spaced that addresses the following topics: Due by end of week 6.
 - 1) Describe the events/actions contributing to the Incident onset.
 - 2) Provide assessment of direct impacts to life, property, infrastructure, and commerce.
 - 3) Provide an assessment of Indirect Impacts to community; including time to recovery, estimated costs associated with the event.
 - 4) Describe the incident command structure if provided or discernable from your sources.
 - 5) Detail mitigation actions implemented as a result of this incident to prevent or minimize the impact of a similar incident in the future.

Week 2: Practical Application of Incident Command System for Events and Simple Incidents

- Completion of IS-200 EMI Online – <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-200.c>
- Completion of Slide Lecture 2 – Application of Incident Command System (ICS)
- Individual Homework Assignment 1: Develop Basic ICS Structure

Week 3: Proper Application of Incident Command Post (ICP), Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and Policy Group (PG)

- Completion of IS-700 EMI Online – <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-700.b>
- Completion of Slide Lecture 3 – Dynamic nature of expanding incidents
- Answer posted questions and participate in group discussions in discussion board section.

Week 4: Dynamic transition of Incident Command System in Rapidly Expanding Incidents

- Completion of IS-800 EMI Online – <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-800.c>
- Completion of Slide Lecture 4-
- Individual Homework Assignment 2: Practical Application of ICS
- Completion of Exam # 1

Week 5: Application of Command and General Staff Functions for Large Scale Incidents

- Completion of Slide Lecture 5 – ICS Structures for Large Scale Events / Incidents
- Answer posted questions and participate in group discussions in discussion board section.

Week 6: Management of Large Scale Incidents

- Completion of Slide Lecture 6- Large Scale Incident Management
- Individual Homework Assignment 3: Local Incident Analysis (fillable PDF)

Week 7: Interaction of Local, State and Federal Incident Management

- Completion of Slide Lecture 7- Benefits and Challenges to Integrated Emergency Response
- Answer posted questions and participate in group discussions in discussion board section.
- Individual Homework Assignment 4: Integrated Incident Management

Week 8: Five Phases of Emergency Management

- Completion of Slide Lecture 8 – Five Phases of Emergency Management
- Completion of Final Exam