

**Interagency Disaster Planning and Response
Seminar Format Course
CMH 765
4.0 Credit Hours**

Instructor: Mark Gebhart, MD
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I. Course Description

This course covers a broad range of topics, problems, and activities involved in developing a comprehensive plan of response to a major life and property-threatening emergency at the local level. Through lectures by professionals from a variety of fields and perspectives, the course will provide an overview of the managerial responsibilities and multi-dimensional skills necessary to properly coordinate and control a disaster situation. There will also be a review of past disasters to evaluate what went wrong in the attempts to cope with the crises. Finally, the course will focus on developing techniques and approaches that can be used to handle similar emergencies in the future. Principles of the national incident management system will be emphasized and reinforced during this course.

II. Course/Student Objectives

This course is designed to provide a broad overview of disaster planning and management within both the private and public sectors. Each student should be able to:

1. Apply the course material in a framework for the preparation of a disaster plan, and recognize the necessity to involve all affected agencies in disaster planning.
2. Apply sound principles of incident management as defined in the national incident management system.
3. Recognize the different stages in disaster planning and management.
4. Understand that planning is not limited to the pre-event or event stage, but also to the post-event recovery stage.

III. Course Requirements

This is an intensive course with two lectures per session and two sessions per week. There is a heavy emphasis on note taking during the presentations. A formal research paper must be completed and class participation is mandatory.

IV. Grading and Research Paper

Students are expected to attend each class meeting session. If a student has a schedule conflict she/he should communicate this to the instructor prior to that class session. Class participation is a key component of this learning experience.

The Wright State University Grading Scale will be used to assign final course grades. Grades of incomplete are granted only if three conditions are met: 1) sixty percent of the work is already finished; 2) the request is made one week before the last class; and 3) the reason for the request is circumstances beyond the control of the student. Final grade assignments will be broken down as follows:

Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Research Paper	20%
*Class Participation	20%

**10% of the class participation is peer evaluation, 10% instructor evaluation*

Grading Scale:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

V. Required Text (Provided)

- Beyond Initial Response: Using the National Incident Management System's Incident Command System. By Tim Deal, Michael de Bettencourt, Vickie Huyck, Gary Merrick and Chuck Mills.
- Field Operations Guide. FIRESCOPE. ICS 420-1. Incident Command System Publication. July 2007. (Governor's Office of Emergency Services – FIRESCOPE, California).
- Articles in electronic format