



Training Modules¹

Topic	Content
Introduction to the field of crisis and disaster management	Reviews the interdisciplinary field of crisis and disaster management, trends in crisis and disaster manifestation over the past two decades, and core challenges in crisis and disaster management from the perspective of the physical, social, and natural sciences. Content: Lecture, case studies.
Overview of the 'Disaster Management Cycle'	Introduction to the six phases of crisis and disaster management: risk assessment, mitigation, preparation, response, recovery, and learning. Content: Lecture, case studies, group exercises.
Leadership and Decision Making	Overviews the challenges of leadership decision making in times of crisis. Reviews the decision making traps that vex leaders when confronted with crisis and disaster management. Reviews best practice in decision making in both individual and group settings. Content: Lecture and group decision making exercise.
Problem Definition, Issue Framing, Path Dependency	Definition and discussion of framing and problem representation as a core element of effective crisis management. Group exercise on the way that the definition of a situation early on in a crisis provides a pathway of action that sets a path-dependent course for managers.
Risk Analysis	Training in the basic elements of risk assessment. Introduction to risk assessment tools. Exploration of the challenge of overcoming risk bias and the social psychology of risk perception. Content: Lecture and group exercises

¹ This list contains an overview of the various training components that have been developed by the Crisis and Disaster Management team at Syracuse University. Modules are taught by interdisciplinary group of faculty and practitioners from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, the School of Engineering and Computer Science, the Newhouse School of Public Communication, and the Law School. Modules can be combined in various configurations to support training and education programs ranging in duration from a one-day intensive workshop to one-week seminars, to semester long classes. For more information contact Dr. Bruce W. Dayton bwdayton@syr.edu.

	<p>Group exercise: development of a risk assessment report and presentation of that report</p>
Crisis and Disaster Communication	<p>Overviews the main components of crisis communication including how to prepare a crisis communication plan, identify key audiences, and interacting with the media during times of crisis and disaster.</p> <p>Content: Lecture and group exercises</p>
Social Media During Crisis and Disaster	<p>Explores the evolving role that social media is playing in identifying risks, disseminating information, and coordinating response during crises and disasters.</p> <p>Content: Lecture and group exercises</p>
Community mapping	<p>Introduction to geographical information systems (GIS) and their capacity to map various crisis and disaster dynamics, such as community vulnerability, distribution of infrastructure, evacuation routes, and distribution of hazards.</p> <p>Content: hands on work at the GIS lab</p>
Emergency Management in the United States: History, Design, Gaps, and Challenges	<p>Reviews the evolution and structure of crisis and disaster management governance capacity at the local, state and federal level.</p> <p>Content: Lecture and presentation of case studies</p>
Preparedness and Prevention	<p>Overviews different types of individual, organizational, and societal preparedness. Reviews best practice in preparedness and prevention. Explores common barriers to effective preparedness and prevention.</p> <p>Content: Lecture, case study exploration, group exercises.</p>
Resilience	<p>Discuss evolving conceptualizations of social and organizational resilience. Examines resiliency from multiple perspectives: engineering, social relations, biological systems.</p> <p>Content: Lecture and application of resilience planning in a group exercise</p>
Termination and Learning	<p>Reviews the difference between operational and political closure in crisis and disaster management. Reviews pathways to accountability and overviews three components of learning in post crisis and disaster situations.</p> <p>Content: Lecture, case studies, and group exercises</p>

Case Studies in Crisis and Disaster Management	Draws from the project team’s case bank to discuss individual cases of crises and disasters tailored to the interests of particular audiences (natural disasters, health pandemics, political crises, economic upheaval, humanitarian emergencies, organizational change, technological failures, etc.)
Simulation	A six hour simulation of a major crisis or disaster event. Each participant receives a role and then must work together to manage an unexpected situation with a high degree of threat and urgency. Content: Simulation and simulation de-brief