

Doctor of Science in Emergency Management

The application and admissions schedule* for the 2012 fall semester cohort of students is as follows:

- March 31, 2012 Deadline for submission of all application materials
- April 15 - April 30, 2012 Admissions Committee Review
- May 15, 2012 Applicants notified of decision

Admission materials include a completed application, a Statement of Purpose setting forth career goals and research interests, a resume, three graduate reference forms, official transcripts, and official test scores for the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).

For additional information, please contact:

Dr. Jane Kushma

Doctoral Program Director

jkushma@jsu.edu

*Applicants should consult the 2011-12 *Graduate Studies Bulletin* for future dates related to application and admission. The *Bulletin* is available at:

<http://www.jsu.edu/graduate/bulletin.html>

The Doctor of Science degree requires a total of 60 semester credit hours. Required coursework includes 42 hours in administration and policy, practice areas, and research methods and statistics, plus a minimum of 18 hours of dissertation credit. In addition, applicants must hold a master's degree. While courses are delivered online, students are required to participate in a weeklong seminar on campus once each academic year.

Upon completion of the required 42 hours of coursework, doctoral students are required to pass three qualifying exams. Accommodations will be made to support students with

either onsite or offsite qualifying exam administration. After students have passed all three exams, they may advance to doctoral candidacy.

Doctoral candidates will complete an applied research dissertation. The candidate must enroll for a minimum of 18 hours of dissertation credit during candidacy. All requirements for the degree must be completed in ten years.

Integrative Seminar (In-Residence; 2 hours each; 6 hours required)

- EM 802 Integrative Seminar (1st Year)
- EM 804 Integrative Seminar (2nd Year)
- EM 806 Integrative Seminar (3rd Year)

Administration and Policy (3 hours each; 9 hours required)

- EM 812 Disaster Management Principles and Practice
- EM 814 Interdisciplinary Disaster Theory and Research
- EM 823 Institutional Context and Emergency Management Policy
- EM 825 Systems Thinking and Applications in Emergency Management

Practice Areas (3 hours each; 6 hours required)

- EM 832 Hazards Risk Management and Community Resilience
- EM 834 Risk-Based Response and Recovery Strategy Development and Operations
- EM 843 Emergency Management Program Management

Research Methods and Statistics (3 hours each; 12 hours required)

- EM 853 Research Design
- EM 855 Advanced Data Analysis (See Note below)
- EM 862 Cost-Benefit Analysis or
- EM 864 Qualitative Research or

- EM 866 Evaluation Research or
- EM 868 and EM 869 Directed Research

Electives (3 hours each; 9 hours required)

- EM 871 Voluntary and Nonprofit Disaster Management
- EM 873 Health Care Systems in Disaster
- EM 875 Risk Communication
- EM 877 Crisis Leadership and Management
- EM 878 IT Applications for Emergency Management
- EM 879 Spatial Analysis and GIS for Emergency Management
- EM 882, 884, and 886 Directed Study

Dissertation (3 hours each; 18 hours required)

- EM 899 Dissertation Research

NOTE: Students will be given a Statistics pre-test during their first campus Integrative Seminar (EM 802) to determine if any remedial work is needed prior to enrollment in EM 855, Advanced Data Analysis.

**APPLICATION MATERIALS AND DEADLINES REQUIRED FOR THE
D.SC. IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Applicants for the Doctor of Science in Emergency Management degree must hold a master's degree and must submit all of the following documentation to the College of Graduate Studies, Jacksonville State University, 700 Pelham Road North, Jacksonville, AL 36265-1602, to be considered for admission:

- Completed JSU Graduate Application for Admission.
(http://www.jsu.edu/graduate/grad_app.html)
- Non-refundable \$30 application processing fee.
- A Statement of Purpose setting forth career goals and research interests.

- A resume including education, employment, and service activities.
- Three “Graduate Reference Forms” completed by individuals who can provide qualitative assessment of applicant’s potential for success in doctoral course work and citing potential professional leadership ability.
- Official transcript(s) from all postsecondary institutions attended. (Students who have previously attended JSU do not need to request a transcript from the University.) For international postsecondary institutions, please see section entitled International Student Applicants in the *Graduate Bulletin*.
- Official test scores on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) taken within five years of enrollment.
- If English is not the applicant’s native language, the applicant is required to submit an official TOEFL score report or an IELTS score report.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COURSES

EM 802, 804, 806 Integrative Seminar (2) (2) (2). On-campus integrative seminar during the first three years of program of study. Specialized topics include how to review and critique scholarly literature and research findings, how to present scholarly work at conferences, and how to write for journal publication. Opportunities for students to exchange ideas, present their work, and interact with faculty. Includes special topics of current interest.

EM 812 Disaster Management Principles and Practice (3). In depth analysis of disaster management principles and practice, including historical and emergent trends and conditions relevant to the current state-of-the-practice and standards, plus future development.

EM 814 Interdisciplinary Disaster Theory and Research (3). Examination of the major theoretical topics, questions, and literature that inform the discipline and practice

of emergency management, with topics including the nature of disaster, human and organizational behavior under stress, and risk perception and communication. An interdisciplinary approach whereby students think critically about the epistemological assumptions of alternative theoretical perspectives and divergent policy approaches.

EM 823 Institutional Context and Emergency Management Policy (3). Analysis of political, administrative, and fiscal relationships among governments in the provision of emergency management programs and disaster relief policy in the American political system. Exploration of the role of society in shaping institutions and how these institutions influence and structure public policy making and administration.

EM 825 Systems Thinking and Applications in Emergency Management (3). Analysis and application of systems thinking concepts and methodologies to problems encountered in emergency management.

EM 832 Hazards Risk Management and Community Resilience (3). Tools and methods used to manage risk associated with the hazards facing a community; role of emergency management programs in community resilience and sustainability.

EM 834 Risk-Based Response and Recovery Strategy Development and Operations (3). Explores strategies public officials employ to cope with disasters and their impacts, risk-based operational considerations, and management structures.

EM 843 Emergency Management Program Management (3). Examines emergency management functional demands and program delivery on a day-to-day basis; considers managerial practices such as communication with the public, the meaning of public service, making effective presentations to governing boards and legislatures, effective meetings and group facilitation, citizen engagement, media relations, and ethics.

EM 853 Research Design (3). Social science research methods including research design and approaches to inquiry (quantitative, qualitative, experimental, evaluation), the role of theory in empirical research, causal inference, and reporting and reviewing research.

EM 855 Advanced Data Analysis (3).An examination of statistical and research techniques appropriate to emergency management applied research, including descriptive statistics, probability theory, sampling and statistical inference, hypothesis testing, regression and correlation analysis, analysis of variance, modeling and techniques for data reduction (e.g., factor analysis). Prerequisite: EM 853 (may take concurrently).

EM 862 Cost-Benefit Analysis (3).Research, measurement and methodological requirements for the assessment of benefits and costs of programs and projects. Prerequisites: EM 853 and EM 855.

EM 864 Qualitative Research (3). Examination of qualitative methods that can be applied in the study of disasters; explores a range of activities necessary to perform disaster field research. Prerequisites: EM 853 and EM 855.

EM 866 Evaluation Research (3).Practical application of appropriate social science research methodology to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of public sector and nonprofit policies and programs, with topics including how to develop an evaluation plan; evaluation types such as process, impact, cost-benefit, and cost-effectiveness evaluations; and management of evaluation projects. Prerequisites: EM 853 and EM 855

EM 868 and EM 869 Directed Research (3). Directed reading and research in fields of special interest. Prerequisite: consent of program director.

EM 871 Voluntary and Nonprofit Disaster Management (3). Unique considerations of nonprofit disaster management and service delivery, including volunteer administration, donations management, fundraising, and cross-sector collaboration. Prerequisite: EM 834.

EM 873 Health Care Systems in Disaster (3). Overview of emergency management considerations for health and medical professionals and range of medical, public health, behavioral and psychological problems associated with disaster; incident management processes and organization that integrate health and medical assets into the response. Prerequisite: EM 834.

EM 875 Risk Communication (3).Examines theories related to risk perception and behavior; principles of risk communication and special communication challenges with diverse audiences; and development of crisis and emergency risk communication plans.

EM 877 Crisis Leadership and Management (3). Classic and contemporary theories and models of leadership, with emphasis on the role of leadership in crisis situations; principles of crisis management.

EM 878 IT Applications for Emergency Management (3). Explores the importance of information in emergency management; information requirements and breakdowns; and information technologies applied to crisis and disaster situations.

EM 879 Spatial Analysis and GIS for Emergency Management (3). Disaster-related applications of spatial analysis techniques; use of GIS software.

EM 882, 884, and 886 Directed Study (3) (3) (3). Independent study under the direction of the instructor. Prerequisite: consent of program director.

EM 899 Dissertation Research. At least 18 credit hours required; no credit assigned until dissertation has been completed and filed with the graduate dean. Continuous enrollment required subsequent to passing qualifying exams for admission to candidacy. Students may register for 3, 6, or 9 hours per semester. Prerequisite: consent of program director.