

HUMN 7019 INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 102575

Coordinator Melissa Phillips (<https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Melissa Phillips/>)

Description This subject uses comparative analysis of different disaster responses to provide students with the skills and knowledge required to play a role in future emergency and disaster management. Students will gain critical understanding of key international frameworks and standards that shape humanitarian responses, the motivations of aid donors and humanitarian NGOs and the increasing efforts to empower local communities with Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and response capabilities. Drawing on theoretical models of disaster management and planning, students work to resolve practical challenges of field-level humanitarian response while balancing resource constraints and the needs of multiple stakeholder groups.

School Social Sciences

Discipline Studies in Human Society, Not Elsewhere Classified.

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Contrast the different emergency responses to humanitarian disasters through a comparative analysis of the skills and knowledge required in emergency and disaster management.
2. Critically analyse the geo-political forces and key international frameworks and standards that shape humanitarian responses
3. Articulate the motivations and approaches of aid donors and humanitarian NGOs when intervening in states.
4. Demonstrate a foundational knowledge in the assessment of NGO capacities and organisational infrastructure such as organisational structures and cultures, donor priorities, support systems and personnel for managing emergencies.

Subject Content

- A comparative analysis of the different emergency responses to humanitarian disasters in development of the skills and knowledge required in emergency and disaster management.
- A critical analysis of the geo-political forces and key international frameworks and standards that shape humanitarian responses.
- An exploration of the motivations and approaches of aid donors and humanitarian NGOs when intervening in states.
- A foundational knowledge of the assessment of NGO capacities and organisational infrastructure such as organisational structures and cultures, donor priorities, support systems and personnel for managing emergencies.

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are

regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Essay	1,500 words	30	N	Individual	N
Case Study	1,500 words	40	N	Individual	N
Quiz	90 minutes	30	N	Individual	N

Prescribed Texts

- James, E., 2017. Managing humanitarian relief: an operational guide for NGOs. Second Edition. Practical Action Publishing.

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Parramatta City - Macquarie St

Hybrid

Subject Contact Melissa Phillips (<https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Melissa Phillips/>)

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=HUMN7019_25-AUT_PC_3#subjects)