

PUBH 3005 DISASTER AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 300880

Coordinator Maggie Davidson ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maggie Davidson/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maggie%20Davidson/))

Description This subject explores the management of planning and preparation for and community responses to disasters and emergencies. Through case studies and presentations from current and cutting-edge professional practitioners in the field, students develop a 'hands on' understanding of risk assessment and prevention strategies for community safety during times of critical incidents. This includes emergency management strategies for community recovery and public education and preparation for potentially critical incidents. Workshop activities facilitate collaborative student learning through the use of developing scenarios including infectious disease pandemics, natural disasters and manmade emergencies such as terrorism.

School Science

Discipline Environmental Studies, Not Elsewhere Classified.

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 2 10cp

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

Level Undergraduate Level 3 subject

Equivalent Subjects LGYA 6064 - Environment Health and Emergency Management PUBH 3004 - Disaster and Emergency Management

Restrictions

Successful completion of 120 credit points

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Explain the inter-sectoral and trans-disciplinary arrangements for the assessment of and response to Environmental Health risks associated with the breakdown of urban infrastructure including power supplies, access to safe food and water and sewage treatment
2. Work collaboratively and across professions to ensure the currency of inter-agency emergency management systems for community protection/recovery
3. Apply appropriate risk assessment strategies in planning for community safety during critical incidents
4. Plan for effective communication and appropriate public education for emergency prevention and community recover
5. Plan for and implement inter-agency and trans-professional collaboration in risk prevention for community safety during critical incidents
6. Critique and update existing Disaster and Emergency Management plans for responding to disasters, emergencies and critical incidents at a local level

Subject Content

1. Definitions and categories of emergencies, disasters and critical incidents

2. Investigation and inquiry into the role of different agencies in preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies and disasters
3. The use of case studies to explore the strengths and weaknesses of emergency management strategies
4. Urban Infrastructure for communities ? environmental health risk assessment (safe water, sewerage services, power & food supply)
5. Planning prevention strategies for community safety
6. Critical incident types & environmental health risk assessment (pre-incident planning systems, environmental health protection strategies)
7. Emergency management systems for community protection/recovery
8. Public education for community emergency prevention planning
9. Role of professional practitioners in critical incident management planning (such as pollution, fire, flood and earthquake)
10. The role of Environmental Health Officers before, during and after a Disaster
11. Legislative framework for managing and responding to disasters

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
Quiz	10 questions each quiz	20	N	Individual	Y
Presentatio	15 minutes	30	N	Group	N
Report	3000 words +/- 10%	50	N	Individual	N

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Hawkesbury

Hybrid

Subject Contact Maggie Davidson ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maggie Davidson/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maggie%20Davidson/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=PUBH3005_25-AUT_HW_3#subjects)