



EMGT STUDENT

Issue 4

2007

Important Dates

NDSU Campus Tours

When: By appointment Monday
through Saturday

Where: NDSU

Contact: 800-488-NDSU or
701-231-8643

Applications Due

When: NO DEADLINE!

Where: Online or Paper

[http://www.ndsu.edu/
prospective_students/requirements/](http://www.ndsu.edu/prospective_students/requirements/)

Financial Aid Applications

When: Based on availability of funds
after February 28, 2007

Where: <http://www.ndsu.edu/finaid>

Emergency Management: a growing career field

The images of Hurricane Katrina are engrained forever in the national psyche. No one will forget the scenes of chaos, devastation and suffering which flashed before our eyes in the aftermath of this recent disaster.

Day after day thousands of people milled around the convention center in New Orleans in desperate need of food, clothing, medical care, shelter. Along the highways people walked, slept, and begged for help. Atop roofs graffiti beckoned medical attention, food, or evacuation. Hurricane Katrina impacted an area of 90,000 square miles, and left more than 500,000 displaced, 3,200 still missing, and an estimated 1,418 dead in its wake.

The fact that local, state, and even federal response capabilities were overwhelmed goes without saying. Hurricane Katrina may be the most recent of disasters, but the list within the last fifteen years is staggering; Hurricane An-

drew in 1992, the Midwest floods of 1993, the Loma Prieta and Northridge Earthquakes of 1994, the Red River Flood of 1997, and the September 11, 2001 terrorist bombings.

Research has shown that E&D, natural or man-made, will occur with more frequency and with greater impact in the future. It is clear from 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina that the future is now.

Educated trained professionals specializing in emergency management are needed now more than ever. Whether a person wants to work in the military, as a police officer in law enforcement, a firefighter, with FEMA, the Red Cross, as a county or state emergency manager, or in countless other governmental and non-profit organizations involved in disaster response, everyone can benefit from specialized education.

North Dakota State University's Department of Sociology, An-

thropology, and Emergency Management began the Emergency Management Program in 2001 to address the growing need for educated professionals.

Emergency management is both a profession and a field of study addressing the four stages of disaster management: preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. The field covers natural and technological disasters, as well as issues of homeland security. The mission of the major is to create a cadre of graduates with extensive theoretical and applied knowledge in emergency management and disaster research.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics the average emergency management specialist salary was \$49,350 in 2004. The field currently has more than 10,000 jobs and is expected to grow by 28.2% between now and 2012! It is the perfect time to get into this exciting and growing career field.

A New and Challenging Curriculum

NDSU offers a minor and a major at the baccalaureate level, a master's degree and Ph.D. degree in emergency management. NDSU's program is the first of its kind in the nation to offer a stand-alone doctoral degree in emergency management.

Each of the degree programs is organized around three areas:

1. Core courses provide broad knowledge and fundamentals of emergency management and disasters (e.g. sociology of disasters, crisis communication)
2. Disaster-stage courses apply techniques and instruct students in current emergency management processes, regulations and responses (e.g. response and recovery)
3. Disaster area studies introduce students to multidisciplinary dimensions of emergency management and specific areas of emergency management-related expertise (e.g. courses in social and behavioral sciences; earth sciences and related fields)
4. All stage-courses involve an element of service learning where students take what they have learned in class and apply it in service to the community. (e.g. creating emergency operations plans for local townships)

Some of the exciting core courses include: Introduction to Emergency Management, Sociology of Disaster, Community Disaster Preparedness, Hazard Mitigation Theory and Practice, Disaster Response Operations and Leadership, and Holistic Disaster Recovery.

The emergency management program offers an adaptable individualized approach. If a student is interested in administrative work, research, business continuity or other areas in the emergency management field, our curriculum can be tailored to serve individual needs.

The benefit of getting a minor

All students majoring in emergency management have to get a minor as well. Minors offer students the opportunity to get specialized knowledge in an area where they might apply their emergency management knowledge upon graduation.

Recommended minors include: Business Administration, Communication, Community Development, Geography, Political Sci-

ence, Construction Management, Economics, Criminal Justice, and Hospitality and Tourism Management among others.

A major in emergency management and a minor in business would prepare a student to work in business continuity, a growing career in the private sector, upon graduating. A major in emergency management and a minor in construction management would pre-

pare a student to help companies and communities with disaster resistant construction.

Theoretically, almost any minor could provide value and enhance employability in some sector of emergency management.

Students are encouraged to be creative in exploring one or more minor options. Double majors can also be an effective strategy.

Real World Experience

Experience in emergency management is valuable to potential employers in the field. NDSU's emergency management program is aware of that fact and wants to ensure that students graduate with the right combination of academic knowledge and real world experience in emergency management.

Undergraduate majors are required to complete six credits of internship experience. Internships are designed around students individual interests, career goals and availability.

EMGT students are currently working in meaningful internship positions at Cass Fargo Emergency Management, ND Department of Public Health, the Red Cross,

FEMA's Disaster Resistant University Project, and Emergency Operations Planning in Glyndon.

If you are considering a major in emergency management, you should schedule an appointment with the Internship Coordinator, Carol Cwiak, soon so she can start designing an internship for you. She can be reached at 701-231-5847.

IEMSA...By Students for Students

The International Emergency Management Student Association (IEMSA) is the student component of the International Emergency Management Association (IAEM). IAEM is the largest professional organization of emergency managers in the country with over 3,000 members.

The NDSU Chapter of IEMSA was founded in 2004 by students for students. IEMSA is a student academic and social organization for undergraduate and graduate students with the goal of helping provide a forum for leadership, job experience, and community service related to emergency man-

agement and homeland security.

IEMSA membership offers many opportunities:

- program scholarship exclusively for IEMSA members
- networking with other students in the program
- making connections with professionals in the emergency management field
- serving the community
- getting valuable training towards your CEM
- learning how to navigate the job market

- funding for the annual IAEM conference
- experience working in a non-profit organization
- officer positions available — President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer
- looks great on a resume!!!!

This list isn't all IEMSA has to offer — the sky is the limit. Because it is student-driven organization, members can take it in any direction they want.

Students interested in the major are encouraged to become part of IEMSA right from the start!

Cutting Edge Training and Software

Knowledge of software and computer programs is becoming increasingly important in the emergency management field. Being familiar with the most used software will set graduates apart from the pack when applying for jobs. As one emergency manager said, "Students need to learn how to work with and manipulate information so that they are supporting the needs of their elected

officials AND the citizens they are charged with protecting."

NDSU's Emergency Management Program either has, or is in the process of purchasing, several of the key software packages identified by practitioners such as ETeam, webEOC, Arc GIS, Auto Cat, HAZUS, and HURREVAC to name a few. Graduating students will have had the opportunity to

know more than just cutting edge software though — they will know how to run equipment as well.

In a survey recently conducted by program interns, responses indicated that graduates should be able to operate projectors, audio visual display equipment, all types of radio (VHF, VF, ham, 700/800mhz), and satellite phones.

The Types of Jobs EMGT Graduates Get

Numerous career opportunities are available to those graduating with an emergency management major. Positions are available at all levels of government including city, county, state, and federal. A wide variety of local, national, and international voluntary organizations routinely hire people trained in emergency management, and there is increasing emphasis on

hiring emergency managers in the private, business sector.

Recent program graduates found employment as a regional emergency planner, homeland security planner, hospital emergency manager, emergency manager with the national guard, disaster insurance adjuster and academic associate for an emergency manage-

ment program in the southwest. Many undergraduates also have chosen to go on for a master's degree.

In light of the continuing need to manage natural and technological disasters and current homeland security issues, there will be an increasing need for highly skilled emergency managers.



North Dakota State University

Department of Sociology, Anthropology
and Emergency Management

P.O. Box 5075

Fargo, ND 58105

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

EMGT STUDENT NEWSLETTER

FOUNDER AND WRITER

JESSICA LEIFELD

GRADUATE ASSISTANT

EMAIL: JESSICA.LEIFELD@NDSU.EDU

PHONE: (701)231-5761

For More Emergency Management Program Information

Dr. Daniel J. Klenow, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Emergency Management
Email: Daniel.Klenow@ndsu.edu
Office: 402 C Minard Hall
Phone: (701) 231-8925

Dr. George Youngs, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Emergency Management
Email: George.Youngs@ndsu.edu
Office: 404A Minard Hall
Phone: (701) 231-8941

Carol Cwiak, J.D.
Faculty, Internship Coordinator
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Emergency Management
Email: Carol.Cwiak@ndsu.edu
Office: 408A Minard Hall
Phone: (701) 231-5847

Message from the Chair

The past year has been an exciting one for the Emergency Management Program at North Dakota State University (NDSU). First, the departmental name will be changed to Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Emergency Management. Second, two new faculty were hired. Finally, new courses in *Spatial Analysis in Emergency Management (GIS)* and *Disaster and Culture* will be offered this fall by the new faculty members.

During the spring semester, our Disaster Case Study Seminar on Hurricane Katrina has generated some important discussions and the undergraduate capstone students established contact with the field through the “Meet the Manager” program. Undergraduate students have had question and answer interactions with local emergency managers as well as managers from as far away as Virginia and Kansas. Our “Meet the Manager” series included present International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) President Michael Selves.

The 2007-2008 academic year will be an exciting one for the program. It is our hope that high school students in the region will discover our program and make a decision to attend NDSU. I am available for questions from prospective students either by phone (701-231-8925) or e-mail (daniel.klenow@ndsu.edu).