

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTH ASPECTS OF DISASTERS

Course: PUBH7117 - Summer Semester 2017-2018
Duration: 11th-15th December 2017 (1 week intensive)
Location: Herston, Brisbane (Room TBA)
Presenters: Jo Durham
Fees: Domestic Student AUD\$2270 International Student AUD\$3592 Participant AUD\$1995

Testimonial

I undertook the Health Aspects of Disasters summer intensive in 2013. The course attracted health and defence force professionals



from around the world, serving to make the class a hub of interesting and diverse discussion. I particularly enjoyed the range of issues that the course introduced me to, from the ethical dilemmas faced in humanitarian response to the plethora of pragmatic challenges to delivering health care in a disaster context.

While the scope of the course resulted in a more generalized coverage of most topics, the assessment pieces and readings allowed one to delve deeper into areas of interest. My final essay lead me into my MIPH dissertation. The style in which the course is delivered facilitates discussion and debate, with opportunities to mimic the type of communication that would occur in a disaster scenario.

The assessment itself is designed to provide an insight into the pressures and challenges of planning and coordinating in disasters. I would recommend Health Aspects of Disasters to any student who wishes to learn about the application of public health principles in a context where they are tested and tried and to anyone who enjoys group collaboration.

Contact

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Course overview

This course will cover important thematic areas such as: types, phases and effects of disasters on health, public health and medical responses; infectious diseases and pandemic scenarios; psychosocial effects; co-ordination of donor and aid agencies; and disaster preparedness. The course will include case studies of recent Australian and international disasters presented by a panel of experts with direct and ongoing experience of these situations.

The short course will have significant inputs from academic, military, civilian, non-government and international organizations in both case studies of particular disasters and important themes in health aspects of disasters. The course also aims to foster interaction between the various responding organisations.

Course objectives

This course aims to enhance the knowledge, concepts and practice of individuals with interest in working in disasters and complex emergencies. At the end of the course the student should be able to:

1. Analyse the different perspectives, legal frameworks and guidelines and their implications for disaster management settings.
2. Critically analyse the diverse types of disasters, their effects on population health and the response in the different phases of a disaster in different disaster settings.
3. Critically evaluate the type and sources of information in order to establish early warning systems, plan and evaluate the disaster response in different settings.
4. Identify, categorise and differentiate key stakeholders in disasters and their roles in the different types of disasters and in the different stages of a disaster.
5. Critically apply the principles of disaster management to a specific disaster identifying how the type of disaster and the social, political, and economic context influence the different stages of preparedness, disaster response and recovery and purpose recommendations.

Who is this course for?

- MPH students from The University of Queensland and other academic institutions who are currently undertaking their MPH or similar degrees.
- People working in state and federal government departments, non-government organisations or the private sector in a variety of roles who may become involved in disaster response either in Australia or Internationally.
- People who have experience in disasters who feel that formal education will complement their practical experience and skills.
- Anyone with an interest in understanding more about health aspects of disasters in Australia and internationally.

Cost

Local/Domestic Student: \$2270 - enrol via UQ's Si-Net system
International student: \$3592 - enrol via UQ's Si-Net system
Non-Award Enrolment: \$2270 - complete non-award applic.
<http://www.uq.edu.au/study/forms/enrolment/Non-AwardApplic>.
Participant: \$1995 - complete attached form; for payment go to:
<https://payments.uq.edu.au/OneStopWeb/asp/transform.aspx?TRAN-TYPE=W01SOPH05>

Email completed registration form with receipt to:
e.gear@uq.edu.au.

NB: Registration form without receipt will not be accepted.



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