

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

College of Health and Human Services

School of Criminology, Criminal Justice and Emergency Management

**Program Director:** Ryan G. Fischer, Ph.D.

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**Graduate Advisor:** Peter G. Kreysa

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## Career Possibilities

In recent years, emergency services professions have become extremely competitive, with demands for personnel to further their education to attain promotion and keep up with technical advances. Those in the following fields are well-suited for this program:

- Firefighters
- Law enforcement
- Emergency medical services personnel
- Military personnel
- Emergency managers
- Public health practitioners
- Public administrators
- NGO administrators
- Business continuity planners
- Other professionals with a strong interest in how disasters influence their field

(Some of these, and other careers, require additional education or experience. For more information, visit [www.careers.csulb.edu](http://www.careers.csulb.edu).)

## Master of Science in Emergency Services Administration

The Master of Science in Emergency Services Administration (EMER) degree program at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) is an entirely online program that will help students develop the leadership and critical thinking skills needed to build stronger organizations and disaster-resilient communities. The program will educate you in the interdisciplinary research and theory of disaster management as you create a project that directly strengthens and benefits your organization or community. This program is offered only through College of Continuing and Professional Education at a higher tuition rate.

### Admission Criteria

1. Obtain admission to the graduate program by completing and forwarding the official CSULB graduate admissions forms and fees to the University's Office of Enrollment Services. Each applicant for graduate standing shall have completed an appropriate baccalaureate degree from an accredited university.
2. A resume and a letter of intent that includes a summary

of the applicant's reasons for seeking a master's degree in Emergency Services Administration. Both documents must be sent directly to the Department's Graduate Advisor.

3. Three letters of recommendation from persons able to testify to the applicant's academic ability, preferably from former professors or immediate supervisors. These letters must be sent directly to the Department's Graduate Advisor.
4. Have at least a 3.0 grade-point average in the last 60 semester units attempted. A student whose overall grade point average is less than 3.0, but who presents acceptable evidence of professional potential either through recent academic performance and/or experiential background may be admitted by special action of the Department's Graduate Committee.
5. Be accepted by the department and graduate advisor for admission to the program.

### Advancement to Candidacy

1. Satisfaction of the general University requirements for advancement to candidacy, including successful completion of the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR);
2. Completion of all core courses;
3. Maintenance of "B" average (3.0 GPA) in all work completed in graduate program;
4. Approval of Emergency Management Graduate Faculty and Director of Graduate Studies and Research, College of Health and Human Services.

### Requirements

Satisfactory completion of 32 units of approved graduate courses to include:

1. Take all of the following courses (23 units):
  - EMER 500 Information Literacy and Practical Writing Applications for Emergency Management
  - EMER 506 Emergency Planning and Management (3)  
Prerequisites: None.
  - EMER 530 Applied Research Methods and Analytical Techniques for Decision Support and Innovation (4)  
Prerequisites: EMER 506.
  - EMER 540 Emergency Management Organizations: Constructs for Influencing Complex Systems (3)  
Prerequisites: None.
  - EMER 548 Risk, Crisis, and Inter-Agency Communications (3)  
Prerequisites: EMER 500
  - EMER 661 Emergency Management Leadership Across the Megacommunity (3)  
Prerequisites: EMER 500, EMER 506, EMER 530 and 540.
  - EMER 671 Strategic Planning and Integrative Practices in Emergency Services Administration (3)  
Prerequisites: EMER 500, EMER 506, EMER 530, EMER 540, and EMER 548.
2. Take two additional elective courses selected in consultation with a faculty advisor (6 units).
3. In order to satisfy the culminating activity requirement (thesis, project, or comprehensive examination dependent upon the program), students must earn at least three

(3) units and no more than six (6) units related to the completion of the culminating activity. Take all of the following courses as noted (4 units):

Project Students take both the following courses:

EMER 694A Project Proposal Defense: Strategic Planning and Integrative Practices in Emergency Services Administration (1)  
Prerequisites: EMER 671 and Advancement to Candidacy

EMER 694B Project: Strategic Planning and Integrative Practices in Emergency Services Administration (3)  
Prerequisites: EMER 671.

Thesis Students take the following course (Note: In order to satisfy the culminating activity requirement (thesis, project, or comprehensive examination dependent upon the program), students must earn at least three (3) units and no more than six (6) units related to the completion of the culminating activity):

EMER 698 Thesis (1-4)

Prerequisites: Advancement to Candidacy.

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## Courses (EMER)

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### GRADUATE LEVEL

#### **500. Information Literacy and Practical Writing Applications for Emergency Management (3)**

Prerequisite: None

Corequisite: None

Research processes and methods for retrieving emergency management information. Writing preparation for academic and professional documents in emergency management. On-campus and free-source e-learning technologies to interface with program content, student and faculty communications, and course projects and evaluations. Construction of webpages.

Letter grade only (A-F). Not open for credit to students with credit in EMER 502 or EMER 504.

#### **506. Emergency Planning and Management (3)**

The planning and management processes and the issues involved in large-scale emergencies. The nature of natural and technological risk and emergency will be explored via case studies. Public sector roles in contingency planning and response will be assessed.

Letter grade only (A-F). Same course as PPA 542. Not open for credit to students with credit in PPA 542 or EMER 542.

#### **530. Applied Research Methods and Analytical Techniques for Decision Support and Innovation (4)**

Prerequisite: EMER 506

Critical analysis of interdisciplinary research, theory and multi-methods appropriate for application within emergency services and management are examined using quantitative and qualitative analysis.

Letter grade only (A-F).

#### **540. Emergency Management Organizations: Constructs for Influencing Complex Systems (3)**

Historical events, policies, and complex organizational settings that shape emergency management organizations. Critical reviews of modern and post-modern organizational theories associated with complex systems. Strategic improvements in emergency management organizations.

Letter grade only (A-F).

#### **543. Legal, Economic, and Human Issues in Emergency Administration (3)**

Legal, strategic, political, economic, ethical, and human issues encountered in the management of disasters or major traumatic public events.

Letter grade only (A-F). (Discussion 3 hours.)

#### **545. Disaster Mental Health Issues in Emergency Management (3)**

Prerequisites: EMER 500

Theories and practical applications of emergency mental health and self-care for those responding to, or managing response to, widespread natural and human-induced disasters.

Letter grade only (A-F).

#### **547. Continuity of Operations, Recovery, and Emergency Management (3)**

Prerequisites: EMER 500 and EMER 506

Development and maintenance of comprehensive emergency management programs for business and industry. Plan development and implementation, vulnerability analysis, hazard identification, life safety, property protection, communications and community outreach.

Letter grade only (A-F).

#### **548. Risk, Crisis, and Inter-Agency Communications (3)**

Prerequisite: EMER 500

Theory and practical applications of emergency communications for those responding to or managing response to widespread natural and human-induced disasters.

Letter grade only (A-F).

#### **601. Technology, Cybersecurity, and Emergency Management (3)**

Prerequisite: EMER 500 and EMER 506.

Role of technology in effective emergency management. Exploration of Internet, disaster simulation software, and geographic tools such as GIS, GPS, and direct and remote sensing devices through case study analyses and in-class simulations.

Letter grade only (A-F).

#### **605. Public Health Issues in Emergency Management (3)**

Prerequisite: EMER 500.

Roles and responsibilities of the public health system in emergency management. Structure of public health systems, management tools, public health intervention strategies, communication, collaboration, and ethical considerations. Role of public health regarding assessments following disasters and maintaining public health standards.

Letter grade only (A-F).

#### **631. International Emergency Administration Systems: Comparative Analysis (3)**

Prerequisite: EMER 500

Comparative analysis of international emergency management systems and structures. Implications of emerging threats and disasters in an increasingly interdependent world.

Letter grade only (A-F).

#### **650. Graduate Seminar (3)**

Prerequisites: EMER 500 and EMER 506

Students will undertake literature reviews and/or research to explore emerging issues, trends and research in the field of emergency services administration.

Letter grade only (A-F).

### **661. Emergency Management Leadership Across the Megacommunity (3)**

Prerequisites: EMER 500, EMER 506, EMER 530 and 540.

Competencies of professional emergency management defined through the megacommunity. Models of strategic leadership in all phases of disaster management, with often competing professional organizations and networks, across culturally and economically diverse constituencies, and for natural or human-made disasters.

Letter grade only (A-F).

### **671. Strategic Planning and Integrative Practices in Emergency Services Administration (3)**

Prerequisites: EMER 500, EMER 506, EMER 530, EMER 540, and EMER 548

Capstone course focusing on all phases of disaster management of selected disaster case studies, a natural disaster and human-made event, using existing research literature, Internet-based simulation software, and post-incident evaluation techniques.

Letter grade only (A-F).

### **690. Selected Topics in Emergency Management (1-6)**

Prerequisites: EMER 500 and EMER 506

Group investigation of selected topics.

Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units with different topics in the same semester. Topics announced in the *Schedule of Classes*.

### **694A. Project Proposal Defense: Strategic Planning and Integrative Practices in Emergency Services Administration (1)**

Prerequisite: EMER 671 and Advancement to Candidacy

Capstone course synthesizing research on all phases of disaster management and research methodologies leading to the development and implementation of a collaborative group project designed to provide practical solutions to an existing problem within the emergency services megacommunity.

Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated up to nine units in different semesters.

### **694B. Project: Strategic Planning and Integrative Practices in Emergency Services Administration (3)**

Prerequisite: EMER 671

Presentation to EMER faculty of EMER 694A Capstone Group Project delivered through digital media. Evaluation of individual student electronic portfolios.

Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated up to three units in different semesters.

### **695. Independent Study (1-6)**

For students who wish to focus their studies on a specific area of emergency services administration which coincides with a faculty member's research or practical expertise.

Letter grade only (A-F).

### **697. Directed Studies (3)**

Prerequisites: Advancement to Candidacy

Research in an area of specialization under the direction of a faculty member.

Letter grade only (A-F).

### **698. Thesis (1-4)**

Prerequisites: Advancement to Candidacy.

Planning, preparation, and completion of a thesis

Letter grade only (A-F).