

## **THE ROBERTSON SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT**

Terrorism and Disaster Consequence Management

GOV 678 (On-Line)

Public Syllabus

### **PROFESSOR:**

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“Get every Greyhound bus in the country moving to New Orleans”  
Mayor Ray Nagin

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE:**

“There is no country, no community, and no person immune to the impacts of disasters.” Since 9/11, we can also add terrorism to the list of what “might” possibly happen to America. As we have recently seen in the disaster laden summer and fall of 2005, disaster preparedness and terrorism consequence management still have a long way to go before the American public is truly satisfied that we are ready for the next event (either natural or manmade). Most citizens see the “next” event as not a matter of “if” but “when.” The purpose of this course is to analyze the role of federal, state and local government as they relate to consequences that occur during and after a potential terrorist inspired event or natural disaster. As we have seen in the response of government at nearly every level toward Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma and the potential Al Qaeda threat against American rail transportation systems, much more needs to be studied as to “who” will do “what” during such crises. Questions of what are federal responsibilities and what can and should be left to state and local governments needs to be further explored. What is the role of FEMA and the US military during such events? For example, after a very thorough and largely bi-partisan review by a special commission that investigated the 9/11 attack, it has become clear that the US preparedness to terrorist inspired events on US soil was severely lacking on a number of fundamental levels. So what has government (federal, state, and local) done about it since that fateful day?

We now know that “emergency management is the discipline of dealing with risk and risk avoidance.” However, risk can include a “broad range of issues” and become complicated by politics. During the course, we will also explore the politics of how governments make decisions during a crisis. What is the role of the media in these events and how does it influence political decision making? What happened to Civil Defense since the end of the Cold War? What needs to be done in this area in order to improve overall readiness?

This course is designed to broaden individual understanding of the ever changing nature of multilevel governmental emergency management. Further, the course will also cover how and why governments make the decisions that they do during a crisis. We will begin by studying the definition and nature of terrorism and natural disasters. We will then

shift focus to the three essential levels of governmental decision making (federal, state and local) but will also briefly cover the role of the media during and after such events. Finally, we will focus on current trends in modern emergency management. This course will emphasize student understanding of the evolving issue of terrorism and natural disaster consequence management make some projections as to its future direction and what the federal, state and local governments can and must do about it.

### **CONNECTION TO PROGRAM OF STUDY:**

This course is designed to train leaders to help develop the divine foundations of US, state and local governmental emergency planning. The foundations and concepts of the course will help students understand current emergency management policy and how and why governmental decisions get made in the way that they do at all three levels of government. The course will also focus on the safeguarding of basic human life during and after disasters (both natural and manmade).

### **COURSE GOALS:**

1. To acquaint students with more of the theoretical issues surrounding terrorism and disaster consequence management.
2. To understand how multilevel governmental decisions get made during a crisis.
3. To understand the role of federal, state, and local government in a crisis.
4. To understand the role of FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) and DoD (the Department of Defense) in terrorist events and natural disasters.
5. To understand the role of state governors and local officials in US counter-terrorism policy and the present state of the war on terrorism from both domestic and international perspectives.
6. To enhance each student's ability to understand issues surrounding governmental consequence management and political decision making.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

At the conclusion of this course, students should have a thorough understanding the theoretical basis for US, state and local disaster and terrorism consequence management. Further, students will be able to understand the roles of federal, state and local government and what each level is supposed to do during disasters of major consequence. Finally, students will be able to understand and adequately analyze the future direction of disaster and terrorism consequence management.

## **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Title: *Disaster: Rebuilding a Resilient Nation*

Author: Stephen Flynn

Publisher: Random House

ISBN: 1-4000-6551-8

Edition: 2006

This is a required book.

Title: *Introduction to Emergency Management*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.

Author: George Haddow and Jane Bullock

Publisher: Butterworth-Heinemann

ISBN: 13: 978-0-7506-7961-9

Edition: 2006

This is a required book.

Title: *Homeland Security*

Author: Mark Sauter and James Carafano

Publisher: MCG

ISBN: 9780071440646

Edition: 2005

This is a required book.

Title: *Understanding Terrorism & Managing the Consequences*

Author: Maniscalco

Publisher: PH

ISBN: 9780130212290

Edition: 2002

This is a required book.

Title: *On Risk and Disaster: Lessons from Hurricane Katrina*

Authors: Ronald Daniels, Donald F. Ketti, and Howard Kunreuther, eds.

Publisher: University of Pennsylvania Press

ISBN: 13: 978-0-8122-1959-3

Edition: 2006

This is a required book

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- A. Read the weekly assigned reading and participate in Blackboard discussion. Class participation and overall grasp of the material class concepts and principles will be evaluated by depth and participation in online discussions between students. I expect all students to post at least one submission per question per week.
  
- B. All students will be required to submit (2) ten page research papers. The first research paper, due at mid-term, will deal with a theoretical problem of consequence management at the federal level. How much can and should the government be doing to mitigate the suffering caused by a major disaster or

terrorist-led event? Topic selection should be submitted and approved by the professor not later than the end of the second week of class. Topics can be submitted to me for approval via email. The second research paper will deal with a problem of the state or local consequence management. What should state and local governments be clearly responsible for during a crisis involving the significant loss of human life. Topic approval may be submitted to me via email and approval should be gained from the professor no later than mid-term.

**Midterm Paper is due 3 March 2008. Final Paper is due 24 April 2008.**

- A. Students will also be graded on their weekly Blackboard participation levels.
- B. All written assignments and out of class questions or comments can be emailed to (charles.neimeyer@usmc.mil) with the subject line GOV 678. For example, GOV 678 John Doe, Paper One, etc.
- C. All email attachments must be submitted as a Word document and please ensure that you place your name on the first page of your attached document.

**GRADING:**

Students will be evaluated on the basis of:

- A. The quality of your first research paper 40%
- B. The quality of your second research paper 40%
- C. The quality and level of activity in the classroom 20%

**Grading Scale**

94-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
82-86	B
80-81	B-
76-79	C+
72-75	C
70-71	C-
65-69	D
Below 65	F

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

- A. Academic Honesty: Students at Regent University shall abide by the highest standards of academic integrity. Cheating and plagiarism cannot be tolerated and are contrary to the mission of the University and the tenants of Christianity. Transgressions shall be investigated by the professor and appropriate punitive action taken (including expulsion from the course) if found culpable of such offenses.

- B. Classroom Decorum: Students at Regent University are expected to treat each other and their opinions with mutual respect and Christian civility at all times. Failure to do so could result in expulsion from the class by the professor.
- C. Incomplete Grades: An incomplete grade (I) may be given only for legitimate and extenuating circumstances due to illness or emergencies and shall be given only upon approval by the professor. For further details, please refer to current school wide regulations found in the on line catalog regarding the awarding of incomplete grades.
- D. Student Feedback: At the end of the course, students will be invited to submit written comments to the teacher regarding the conduct and content of the course. These comments are designed to assist the teacher in being a more effective classroom instructor and to be able to adjust the course to better suit the needs of the student – especially concerning course organization and text selection.

#### **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Barnett, Thomas P. M. *The Pentagon's New Map: War and Peace in the Twenty-First Century*. New York: Putnam & Sons, 2004.

Birdsong, George M. "Weapons of Mass Destruction: Terrorist Use and State of Domestic Response." U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA, 1997.

Burke, Robert. *Counter Terrorism for Emergency Responders*, CRC Lewis, 2000.

Cordesman, Anthony H. *Defending America: Redefining the Conceptual Borders of Homeland Defense*. Washington, DC: Center for Strategic and International Studies, 2000.

Crenshaw, Martha, ed. *Terrorism in Context*. University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1995.

Douglass, Joseph D. and Neil C. Livingstone. *America the Vulnerable: The Threat of Chemical and Biological Warfare*. Lexington, MA: Lexington Books, 1987.

Erickson, Paul A. *Emergency Response Planning for Corporate and Municipal Managers*.

Fisher, Louis. *Presidential War Power*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1995.

Gilbert, Roy and Alcira Kreimer. *Learning from the World Bank's Experience of Natural Disaster Related Assistance*, Wash. DC: The World Bank, 1999.

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Ikle, Fred C. *Defending the U.S. Homeland: Strategic and Legal Issues for DoD and the Armed Services*. Washington, DC: CSIS Press, 1999.

Lord, Carnes. *The Presidency and the Management of National Security*. New York: The Free Press, 1988.

Mansfield, Harvey C., Jr. *Taming the Prince: The Ambivalence of Modern Executive Power*. New York, 1989.

McGuckin, Frank, ed. *Terrorism in the United States*. New York: H.W. Wilson, 1997.

Miller, Judith, Stephen Engelberg, and William Broad. *Germs: Biological Weapons and America's Secret War*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2001.

Neustadt, Richard E. and Ernest R. May. *Thinking in Time: The Uses of History for Decision Makers*. New York: The Free Press, 1986.

Ulam, Adam. *In the Name of the People*. New York: Viking Press, 1977.

White, Jonathan R. *Terrorism*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Belmont, CA: West/Wadsworth Publishing Co., 1998