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## **DISASTER SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT**

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Telephone: (302) 831 – 6618

<http://www.disa.udel.edu>

Faculty Listing: <http://www.disa.udel.edu/Faculty.htm>

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Disaster Science and Management (DISA) program offers programs leading to master's and doctoral degrees. It is an interdisciplinary program that draws faculty from several different units including the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, the Department of Political Science and International Relations, the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy, the School of Nursing, and the College of Marine Studies. The program is administered through the Disaster Research Center and the School of Urban Affairs & Public Policy. Two graduate degree programs are offered: a Master's in Science and a Doctor of Philosophy.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION**

Students will be admitted to the program based on enrollment availability and their ability to meet the following minimum recommended entrance requirements. Applicants to the MS program must have:

- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.
- A recommended GRE score of 1050 on math and verbal sections combined
- An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Written statement of goals and objectives (the personal statement) that clearly identifies the applicant's research and curriculum interests and explains how admission to the program will facilitate his or her professional objectives.

Applicants to the PhD Program must have

- MS or equivalent degree from an accredited college or university
- A recommended GRE score of 1050 on math and verbal sections combined
- A graduate GPA of 3.5 or higher.
- Written statement of goals and objectives (the personal statement) that clearly identifies the applicant's research and curriculum interests and explains how admission to the program will facilitate his or her professional objectives.

Admission to the graduate program is competitive. Those who meet stated minimum requirements are not guaranteed admission, nor are those who fail to meet all of those requirements necessarily precluded from admission if they offer appropriate strengths.

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Financial assistance for students in the DISA program is obtained from a variety of external sources and will therefore vary in form and availability. Assistance will be awarded on a competitive basis to applicants best fitting the needs of the granting agencies and sponsoring

faculty. Preference for graduate student stipends will be first given to students in the PhD Program, then students in the MS program with the thesis option and finally to students in the MS program with no thesis. Students receiving full stipends will be expected to work up to 20 hours per week on faculty projects and students are expected to maintain full-time status.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DISASTER SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Students are required to work with their advisor during their first semester of study and develop a plan of study. The Master of Science in Disaster Science and Management requires 30 credits. The non-thesis option requires 24 credits of graduate level coursework, at least 3 semesters of seminar (DISA 680 Disaster Science and Management Seminar ) (taken at least 2 semesters at 1 credit per semester and 1 semester as a listener), and 4 credits of practicum. The thesis option includes 21 credits of graduate level courses, at least 4 semesters of seminar (DISA 680 Disaster Science and Management Seminar ) (taken at least 2 semesters at 1 credit per semester and 2 semesters as a listener), 1 credit of practicum, and 6 credits of thesis.

The coursework credits are specified in the student's plan of study and must include: 1) Three core courses (9 credits) (DISA 650 - Introduction to Disasters/Historical Aspects of disasters, POSC 656 - The Politics of Disaster/Public Policy Aspects of Disasters, and DISA 651 - International Aspects of Disasters/Development/Comparative Analysis). 2) Research/Methods/Analysis Courses (3 credits in the non-thesis option from either EDUC 850 – Qualitative Research or EDUC 665 – Elementary Statistics, and 6 credits in the thesis option from both EDUC 655 and EDUC 850). 3) Public Policy and Organizational Decision Making (3 credits) (UAPP 819 – Management Decision Making for Public and Non-Profit Sectors (3 credits) or MAST 663 - Decision Tools for Policy Analysis (3 credits))

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN DISASTER SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The Doctor of Philosophy in Disaster Science and Management requires 42 credits of graduate-level coursework beyond the master's degree and 9 credits of dissertation. Students are expected to choose a thematic area. The 42 credits of coursework are specified in the individual planned program of study, and must include: 1) At least 9 credits from a thematic area. 2) At least 6 credits of research methods (qualitative or quantitative). 3) 9 credits of PhD Thesis in the thematic area. In addition students must register for and attend three semesters of seminar (DISA 680). Students are expected to participate in seminar as a listener for other semesters that they are on campus. Additional courses are electives but should be selected in consultation with the student's advisor.