

**Disaster Management in the 21st Century
Geography 98/198 (Course #XXXXX) Fall 2019
Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-5:00pm, 575 McCone Hall**

Student Facilitators:

Allison Weber (alli.weber@berkeley.edu) and Zachary Weiner (zweiner@berkeley.edu)

Instructor of Record: Nathan Sayre (nsayre@berkeley.edu)

Course Introduction

Over the course of the semester, we will review 10 case studies and discuss a wide variety of topics related to disaster management. Our goal is to help you appreciate the complexity of disasters as phenomena and disaster management as a professional discipline. As we go through the course, we hope that you will think critically and question the status quo.

Our class time will be a mix of lectures, whole class discussions, small group discussions and other learning activities.

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Discuss different ways in which the term “disaster” can be defined and explain the role that these definitions play in modern disaster management.
- Discuss specific 21st century disasters using the disaster management cycle as a framework for understanding the events that occurred.
- Read and critically analyze books, magazine articles, academic articles and news articles that discuss disaster management. Your analysis should be able to place disaster management in a larger geographic, political, economic, and social context.

We look forward to working with you this semester. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Allison and Zac

Course Contacts

In general, please contact **both** Allison and Zac (contact information below) via e-mail or bCourses. You may also set up an office hours appointment with one or both of us. Please put Geography 198 in the subject line of any e-mails. One of us will usually respond to emails and bCourses messages within 48 hours. If your question is one that is pertinent to the entire class, we may post the answer for the entire class to see in bCourses. If you have any issues that Zac and Allison are unable address, they will contact the professor of record, Nathan Sayre. You are also welcome to contact or meet with Professor Sayre independently (contact information and office hours below) if you have any concerns.

Zac Weiner
zweiner@berkeley.edu

Allison Weber
alli.weber@berkeley.edu

Nathan Sayre
nsayre@berkeley.edu
Office Hours: Sign up sheet on office door (599 McCone Hall)

Required Books and Readings

This course has an average of 3 hours per week of reading. Most readings are available on bCourses, with the exception of the following book:

The Big Truck That Went By (Jonathan M. Katz, 314 pages) ISBN-13: 978-1137278975

Copies of the book will be made available on course reserve at Moffitt Library.

Course Schedule

Date	Topics	Readings and Assignments
8/29	Course Introduction	Syllabus
9/3	Definitions of Disasters	Syllabus Quiz
9/5	History of Disaster Management	Introduction to Emergency Management, 5th Edition, Chapter 1 (available in bCourses) Reading Response #1
9/10	The Disaster Management Cycle	
9/12	National Response Framework, Federal Laws and Medical/Rescue/Security	Hurricane Katrina Task Force Subcommittee Report (available in bCourses) Reading Response #2
9/17	Case Study: Hurricane Katrina (Louisiana, USA)	
9/19	ICS/SEMS and Evacuations/Shelter/Food/Water	Complete Online FEMA Trainings
9/24	Case Study: The Camp Fire (California, USA)	
9/26	Quiz 1	
10/1	International Institutions, Role of Media	
10/3	Case Study: Haiti earthquake Research Project Introduction	The Big Truck That Went By Reading Response #3
10/8	Insurance and Risk Management	https://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/26/magazine/26neworleans-t.html https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/08/climate/climate-flood-insurance.html Reading Response #4
10/10	Case Study: 2019 Tornadoes and Floods (USA)	
10/15	Academic Research in Disaster Management	Ascertainment Of The Estimated Excess Mortality From Hurricane Maria In Puerto Rico (available in bCourses) Reading Response #5

10/17	Case Study: Hurricane Maria (Puerto Rico, USA)	
10/22	Warning Systems and Emergency Alerting	PTWC History and FEMA IPAWS Video
10/24	Case Study: Indian Ocean Tsunamis (Asia)	
10/29	Quiz 2	
10/31	Investigations and After Action Reports	Deepwater Horizon Report (available in bCourses) Reading Response #6
11/5	Case Studies: Fukushima and Deepwater Horizon	Understanding the Accident of Fukushima Daiichi Video
11/7	Trainings, Simulations and Exercises	Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (available in bCourses) Reading Response #7
11/12	Case Studies: Avian Flu and Zika and Ebola Outbreaks	WHO on Zika Outbreak- Sections 1-6 WHO on Ebola Outbreak, Sections 1-14 Reading Response #8
11/14	International Relations and Civil Wars	Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War (available in bCourses) Reading Response #9
11/19	Case Studies: Syria/Yemen and Egypt	
11/21	Climate Change	IPCC Summary for Policy Makers (available in bCourses) Reading Response #10
11/26	Computers and Computer Networks: Risks and Opportunities	
11/28	----- NO CLASS -----	
12/3	Research Presentations	Research Presentation
12/5	Quiz 3	

Assignments and Grading

This course is offered on a P/NP or S/U basis only. It is not a variable unit course. **You must enroll for 3 units.**

In order to receive a Pass or Satisfactory grade for the course, **you must achieve a minimum grade of 70% (undergraduate students) or 80% (graduate students) and meet the requirements detailed below for the Attendance Policy and Syllabus Quiz.**

In accordance with campus policy, final grades will be assigned by Professor Sayre after consultation with Allison and Zac.

Grades will be determined based on the following:

Attendance Policy (Required)

In order to pass the class, you must attend and participate in class, with no more than 4 unexcused absences (information about excused absences is given in Additional Information and Policies).

Syllabus Quiz (Required)

You must complete the online (open book/open note) syllabus quiz with a score of 100% by the second class meeting or within one week of adding the class. You will be allowed as many attempts as needed.

Reading Responses (40% of total grade)

Over the course of the semester, there will be 10 graded reading responses, which are due at 3:30pm on the day those readings are presented in class. Your two lowest scores for reading responses will be dropped. Each of the remaining 8 reading responses is worth 5% of your final grade. Reading responses should be 250-500 words. Additional guidelines for reading responses and prompts for each week will be posted in bCourses.

Quizzes (45% of total grade)

There will be three in class quizzes, which will be equally weighted (each quiz will be worth 15% of your grade). Study guides will be provided 1 week before each quiz. The quizzes will be a combination of multiple choice, fill in the blank, annotation of maps/diagrams and short answer questions.

Online FEMA Trainings (5% of total grade)

You will complete at least 8 hours of online FEMA trainings. A list of approved trainings will be posted in bCourses.

Research Project (10% of total grade)

Over the course of the semester, you will engage in a research project over the course of the semester and present it during the last week of class. Additional guidelines for the research project will be posted in bCourses and discussed in class.

Campus and Course Policies

This course is subject to various campus policies and guidelines (links to those policies and guidelines are at the end of this section). The details for how those policies and guidelines will be implemented are discussed below.

Classroom Agreements and Sensitive Topics

Because of the sensitive and potentially upsetting nature of some of the course material, we will ask all participants to abide by a set of classroom agreements that will be developed jointly on the first day of class. These agreements will enumerate what you can expect from me, what I can expect from you, and what you can expect from each other.

This course will cover numerous topics (including fires, earthquakes, hurricanes, and wars) that may be sensitive for certain students. If you want to avoid exposure to certain topics, please let Allison and Zac know as soon as possible so that we can discuss whether modifications to the course or course requirements are possible.

Electronic Devices and Recording

Many students rely on electronic devices for note taking and organization. Some students also have outside responsibilities (such as caregiving) that require them to be available by phone and/or text message. However, electronic devices can sometimes be distracting for both the users and surrounding students. Furthermore, the potential for using electronic devices in ways that are not related to the course are significant. As part of our classroom agreements, we will develop guidelines for the use of electronic devices in class.

Audio and/or video recording of the class is prohibited without prior consent of the facilitators. Exceptions to this policy will be granted on a case by case basis.

Academic Difficulties, Absences and Late Work

In general, please feel free to contact Allison and/or Zac if you have any concerns or feel that you are struggling in the class. If you reach out, we can work with you to develop a plan for you to succeed.

Excused absences and extensions for assignments will be granted in keeping with University policies regarding accommodations to be given due to religious observances, extracurricular activities, illnesses, disabilities, pregnancy and parenting, sexual violence/sexual harassment, and hardships. Absences may also be excused or extensions granted in the case of other extenuating circumstances not specifically covered by University policies. Depending on the circumstances, documentation may be required in order for an absence to be excused or an extension granted.

If you wish to have an excused absence should contact Allison and Zac as soon as possible (preferably before the missed class session). In order to be granted an excused absence, students may have to complete a short assignment comparable to any activities that were completed in the class session that was missed. Make up exams will be offered for exams for which students have an excused absence. It is possible that the make up exam may need to be scheduled for a date and time that is prior to the originally scheduled date and time for the exam. Students should contact Allison and Zac as soon as they become aware that they will need a makeup exam in order to facilitate scheduling.

If you miss class, you are responsible for the content presented on the day that was missed regardless of whether the absence is excused or unexcused. Please keep in mind that much of the material presented in class is not covered in the readings. We strongly encourage students who have missed class to review any lecture materials (available after the lecture on bCourses), get notes from a classmate and meet with us in office hours.

Late work for which you have not received an extension will be penalized by 5% of the total grade for the assignment per 24 hours that it is late. If you need an extension on an assignment, please contact Allison and Zac as soon as possible (preferably before the assignment is due).

If you are unable to complete the course work during the semester due to extenuating circumstances and anticipate that you may need to request an Incomplete for the course, you should contact Allison and Zac as soon as possible. The final decision to

grant an Incomplete will be made by Professor Sayre in consultation with Allison and Zac.

Disability Accommodations

Students who are eligible for academic accommodations through the Disabled Students Program should contact Allison and Zac as soon as possible so that arrangements for accommodations can be made. For more information about the Disabled Students Program, please go to dsp.berkeley.edu.

Student Conduct and Academic Dishonesty

You are expected to abide by all applicable University policies, including the Code of Student Conduct. Any suspected instances of plagiarism or cheating will be immediately reported to Professor Sayre, who will determine the appropriate consequences given the circumstances. Consequences for cheating or plagiarism could include receiving a 0 for the assignment, receiving an F in the course, and/or referral to the Office of Student Conduct. Other violations of the Code of Student Conduct will be handled on a case by case basis. If you have questions about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please contact Allison, Zac or Professor Sayre.

Student Confidentiality

We take the issue of student confidentiality very seriously. Please be advised that potentially confidential student information will be shared with the course Instructor of Record in order to facilitate administration of the course. There may also be situations where University policies or applicable laws require us to share potentially confidential information. If you have particular concerns about confidentiality, please let Allison and Zac know.

Links to Campus Policies

The following links are for your reference. The minimum standards set by the policies below are met or exceeded by the course policies described above.

Academic Calendar and Student Accommodations

<https://teaching.berkeley.edu/academic-calendar-and-student-accommodations-campus-policies-and-guidelines>

FERPA (Privacy Disclosure)

<https://registrar.berkeley.edu/academic-policies-procedures/ferpa>

Student Code of Conduct

<https://sa.berkeley.edu/code-of-conduct>

Classroom Note-Taking and Recording Policy

<http://guide.berkeley.edu/academic-policies/#otherpolicies>text

Special Studies 98/198 Courses (Academic Senate)

<https://vcue.berkeley.edu/special-studies>