Overview
As a result of recent national, state, and local experiences such as September 11, 2001, and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, the United States must address topics such as government responsibility and accountability, coordinated response and recovery, and citizen awareness and preparedness. The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Department of Public Administration has a program to help individuals and the nation respond. Specifically we offer a program in Crisis and Emergency Management.

Students interested in:
- The general framework of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- Leadership, management and coordination skills for Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- Community preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery from natural and man made disasters
- Actually participating in exercise planning and execution.

You should contact UNLV, we have the program for you.

- Executive Master’s in Crisis and Emergency Management (ECEM) (36 credits)

This degree is designed to give students the theoretical and practical knowledge necessary to become leaders in their profession. Specifically, the mission of the program is to provide a well-rounded graduate learning experience to current and future crisis and emergency management leaders for effectively addressing natural, intentional, and technical disasters.

This program is geared for individuals who are working full-time and cannot easily come to campus and is principally completed on-line with six long weekends on campus.

Learning Format

Executive Masters Degree

The ECEM degree program is twenty four months in duration and requires the successful completion of twelve, three credit courses for a total of thirty-six credit hours.

A. To achieve this degree, the program is organized into four modules of study, with each module consisting of three courses. Each module will encompass six months of course instruction. During each six month module, students will be required to attend an on-campus weekend session. Each on-campus session will be scheduled for Friday morning through Sunday evening. Course assignments in the curriculum are designed to provide students with opportunities to demonstrate mastery in emergency management and homeland security Students will be required to compile a set of materials in an electronic portfolio that summarizes and displays individual mastery of the degree’s learning outcomes module by module.

1st weekend: Introduction to Program, Web Campus, and Faculty
2nd weekend: End of first module
3rd weekend: End of second module
4th weekend: End of third module
5th weekend: End of Program
B. ECEM Curriculum Requirements and Courses

Module 1:
- ECEM 711 Crises and Emergency Management
- ECEM 712 Science of Catastrophes
- ECEM 713 Evolution of Terrorism

Module 2:
- ECEM 714 Intergovernmental Affairs
- ECEM 721 Organizational Leadership
- ECEM 722 Community Preparedness

Module 3:
- ECEM 723 Human Considerations
- ECEM 724 Exercise Design and Response Plan
- ECEM 731 Risk and Mitigation

Module 4
- ECEM 732 Prevention and Planning
- ECEM 733 Response and Recovery
- ECEM 734 Concept Implementation

When not on campus, students will be required to interface with instructors and classmates via web-based application, email, and telephone. Reliable access to such means of communication is required for successful completion of the program.

Schedule

Module 1 Start Date: July 8, 2016
First On-Campus Meeting: July 15-17, 2016
Module 1 On-Campus Meeting: December 2-4, 2016
Module 1 End Date: December 5, 2016
Module 2 Start Date: January 9, 2017
Module 2 On-Campus Meeting: June 9-11, 2017
Module 2 End Date: June 12, 2017
Module 3 Start Date: July 14, 2017
Module 3 Exercise On-Campus Meeting: To be determined
Module 3 On-Campus Meeting: December 8-10, 2017
Module 3 End Date: December 11, 2017
Module 4 Start Date: January 10, 2018
Module 4 On-Campus Meeting: June 8-10, 2018
Module 4 End Date: June 12, 2018
Program End Date: June 12, 2018

Cohort Study
All students who enter the program are expected to complete the program as a cohort. Cohort composition will attempt to provide a cross-section of professionals with the capability to provide unique perspectives to the learning experience and for the benefit of the entire cohort.
- An earned undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or better.
  - If less than a 3.0 GPA, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Scores may be required. You may apply for a GRE waiver if you have significant work experience.

**Admission Requirements**

- Evidence of having been awarded the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university
- Three letters of recommendation.
- A resume indicating educational and professional experience
- A personal statement indicating career and educational goals with an ECEM degree

To apply for admission students must submit the following:
- A completed UNLV Graduate College application
- Official transcripts displaying all previous regionally accredited college/university work
- Exchange applicants must also submit:
  - An official TOEFL score (minimum score of 550) or comparable evidence of competence in English
  - A completed financial statement before credentials can be reviewed

**You can contact us by mail/telephone at the following:**

**Robert White, ECEM Program Coordinator**
School of Environmental and Public Affairs
GUA 5104, Box 453007, 4505 S. Maryland Parkway
Las Vegas, NV 89154-3007
Robert.White@unlv.edu
702.895.2640

**Dr. Christine Springer, ECEM Director**
School of Environmental and Public Affairs
GUA 3118, Box 454030, 4505 S. Maryland Parkway
Las Vegas, NV 89154-4030
Christine.Springer@unlv.edu
702.895.4835

You are encouraged to submit your applications as early as possible no later than April 1, 2016 to be safe that the application will have time to be reviewed and accepted by the university and the graduate college.
**Tuition and Policies**

The cost of the ECEM program for the Fall 2016 Cohort is $28,974. The tuition is payable in four installments of $7,243.50 as the Four Modules progress. Program Fees are due at the beginning of classes.

The program fee covers most tuition and university fees. Travel costs are **NOT** included in the tuition. Students are responsible for coordinating and paying for individual travel expenses.

**Financial Assistance**

Financial aid is available through the university. Some individuals may receive tuition assistance from their employers. Active duty military and National Guard members may qualify for the GI Bill or tuition assistance.

Information on university grants, loans and employment opportunities may be obtained from Student Financial Services at (702) 895-3424 or [http://financialaid.unlv.edu/](http://financialaid.unlv.edu/). Financial services also offer the tuition management system whereby students can pay fees over a set period of time. Students interested in financial aid for the ECEM Degree need to submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). A link to FAFSA is on the financial aid website.

Request for withdrawal from the ECEM program must be written and submitted one week prior to the start of a forthcoming module. The tuition refund will only reflect the amount paid for the forthcoming module for which the request was made. All refunds will be consistent with university policy.
APPENDIX A
ECEM Learning Outcomes

1. Internalize comprehensive emergency management professional values and business practices, differentiate definitions of disasters, critique commonly held myths about disasters and understand the evolution of disaster policy and the practice of emergency management
2. Recognize the major elements of natural, intentional, and technical disasters and the scientific principles that explain, measure and define them as well as being able to clearly articulate how to plan for, prevent, respond to and recover from them using effective verbal and written communication
3. Understand the evolution of terrorism and the underlying social, political, and economic causes for terrorism
4. Understand the authority and responsibility of the three levels of government dealing with natural, intentional, and technical disasters and the legislation, regulations, directives, policies and industry codes of practice that apply
5. Understand how to identify, monitor and mitigate hazards by first determining the vulnerability of people, property and specific entities to those hazards using quantitative and qualitative methods and then integrating those concepts into mitigation through strategies that reduce short and long term vulnerability
6. Analyze leadership and organizational theory in the context of emergency management and be able to differentiate between individual and organizational leadership and decision-making styles as well as how to coordinate actions with appropriate internal or external stakeholders
7. Explain social vulnerability and the principles involved in building community resilience using effective crisis communication and public information procedures to gather, monitor and disseminate information while maintaining a central contact
8. Comprehend the human side of emergencies by analyzing psychological, economic and sociological impacts associated with different disasters and how they differ based on gender, functional need, age, religion, region, educational level, socio-economic status and then affect the public reaction and response to different disaster events
9. Understand how to develop and implement a systematic approach to exercise development, evaluation and post-exercise evaluation of exercise design elements and organizational response plan fundamentals as well as maintaining and updating training, testing and exercising to ensure that plans remain operable and current.
10. Distinguish the principles behind effective approaches for prevention, planning, risk, mitigation, response, and recovery strategies and efforts as well as incident management to protect people (including those with specials needs), property operations, the environment and incident stabilization.
11. Demonstrate an understanding of comprehensive emergency management fundamentals for application to real-world events and how to identify, develop and manage resources like Mutual Aid Agreements as well as how to develop, coordinate and implement operational procedures to support the program and execute the plan.
APPENDIX B

Executive Masters Course Description

ECEM Course Descriptions

ECEM 711-Crisis and Emergency Management
This course focuses on the evolution of U.S. disaster policy and the corresponding practice of emergency management. It presents comprehensive emergency management fundamentals, examines major policy issues, differentiates definitions of disasters, and discusses commonly held myths about disasters.

ECEM 712-Science of Catastrophes
This course provides an understanding of the underlying scientific issues that arise from natural, intentional, and technical disasters. It presents information at a managerial level, providing students with a sufficient overview to recognize and understand the complexity of potential catastrophic events which they must plan for and manage.

ECEM 713-Evolution of Terrorism
This course focuses on the historical roots of terrorism and stresses the importance of understanding the past to adequately prepare for the future. Through a historical perspective, this course provides the basis for and discusses the aspects that make contemporary terrorism of today different from traditional terrorism of the past.

ECEM 714-Intergovernmental Affairs
This course provides an overview and analysis of intergovernmental issues facing public administrators involved in the administrative, regulatory, and political dimensions of emergency management. It introduces concepts and provides information about the political system in which emergency managers must navigate and presents an overview of key governmental agencies and actors.

ECEM 721-Organizational Leadership
This course provides an introduction to leadership and organizational theory in the context of emergency management. It will examine theory and develop a range of skills in a number of interpersonal areas, to include conflict management, use of power, group dynamics, and leadership and influence.

ECEM 722-Community Preparedness
This course provides an understanding of how communities prepare for disasters through social vulnerability analysis and community capacity analysis. It examines historical, geographical, social, and cultural factors and conditions that put people differentially at risk in the community and require integration and coordination among agencies and organizations.

ECEM 723-Human Considerations
This course explores the human aspect of emergencies by analyzing the public response to natural, intentional, and technical disasters. It specifically addresses the psychological component (to include counseling) on the afflicted population and the long-range considerations that must be addressed when effectively managing an incident.

ECEM 724-Exercise/Response Plan
This course provides a synthesis of student learning by providing thorough instruction in the fundamentals of simulating disasters, planning and conducting table-top exercises, as well as, drafting organizational response plans.
ECEM 731 - Risk and Mitigation
This course explores the use of “risk” in making individual and group decisions. It explores qualitative and quantitative methods for evaluating risk and develops practices to use such information to improve decision making processes in the context of emergency management.

ECEM 732 - Prevention and Planning
This course analyzes comprehensive continuity management processes by identifying potential impacts that threaten an organization and by providing a framework for guiding resilience by building capacity for an effective response that promotes organizational mission achievement as well as fulfilling the interest of key stakeholders.

ECEM 733 - Response and Recovery
This course analyzes the methods by which governmental organizations, private sector entities, and the general public can respond to and recover from natural, intentional, and technical disasters. It will discuss topics such as crisis action planning, conducting a needs assessment, establishing unity of effort, and integrating key personnel and organizations.

ECEM 734 - Concept Implementation
This course provides a culminating experience for students to demonstrate proficiency in applying the fundamentals of disaster simulation, table-top exercise formulation and execution, functional full-scale exercise formulation and execution, and organizational response plan creation. It will require mastery and integration of previously presented program topics.
APPENDIX C

Supplemental information to use with the UNLV Graduate College on-line Application system

- Complete the Graduate College’s application at https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=unlvgrad
- If you have a previous application account, log in and start filling out the application.
- For those new to the UNLV Graduate School application system, please click “Create Account” and complete the “Applicant Account Profile” to establish your application account. Then log-in to complete the application.
- On the next webpage, you should click the “Application for admission” link located above the “Admission Status” text.
- Carefully read and follow the application information provided.
- The following information is provided to add clarity to the application system.
  - Residency Section of application – The program’s cost is not affected by Residency Status.
  - Standardize Section – The GRE score is required only under certain situations as specified in the program information provided. If you do not have this information please contact one of us listed on page three.
  - Program information section – Click on the drop down arrow and find “Public Administration/Crisis and Emergency Management (MS). This is a stand alone program and as such no concentration information is required.
  - Transfer Credit section – Currently no transfer credits are allowed.
  - Financial Aid Section – We recommend that you complete the FAFSA if you remotely think that you will request financial aid. Better to have completed and not use than to need it and have to compete it later delaying your request.
  - Departmental Application section – We do not use a supplemental application.
- We recommend saving a copy of the application to your computer for your file.