



**Academic Year 2016-2017**

**Syllabus**

**Natural Disasters: Prevention and Reaction**

**CFU 6**

**Prof. Donato Abruzzese, Prof. Erdem Ergin**

### **Course Description**

The occurrence of extreme events is increasing around the world, causing significant human suffering and socio-economic on development and growth. To the known natural events such as earthquakes, floods, landslides etc. we now have to add the impact of climate change. These events interact with demographic shift, rapid urbanization, inadequate management of natural resource, etc. to increase the risk in our societies. The combination of these factors is unique to each country/city. Many cities and countries need thus to develop their own, tailored disaster risk management (DRM) strategies. The course takes a systemic approach to DRM and is structured around 3 modules, aiming to:

- Develop an understanding of disaster risk management concepts, terminology and dynamics;
- Provide a detailed overview of various DRM strategies including sample/case studies;
- Build up capacity to integrate DRM strategies into various field of interest.

### **Teaching Method**

The material will be covered using a mix of lectures, discussions, simulations and hands-on exercises. A field visit is possible. Regular class attendance and active participation are expected, as they will help achieve the learning goals and contribute to an overall positive learning environment.

### **Schedule of Topics**

Session 1	Principles, Concepts, Definitions
Session 2	Natural Hazards (Earthquake, Floods, Landslides, etc.)
Session 3	Structural Changes, System Thinking and Resilience
Session 4	Risk Assessment
Session 5	Risk Management: Prevention
Session 6	Risk Management: Protection
Session 7	Risk Management: Preparedness
Session 8	Disaster Management: Response
Session 9	Disaster Management: Recovery
Session 10	Disaster Management: Reconstruction
Session 11	Trends: Critical Infrastructure, Business Continuity, Water Security
Session 12	Guest Lecturer

### **Textbook and Materials**

The course is presented as distinct stand-alone modules that complete each other. The instructor will circulate the presentation and material used in class after each class session. For those interested in acquiring more material, a good reference textbook is: Introduction to International Disaster Risk Management, Damon Coppola, (3<sup>rd</sup> edition), 2015, Butterworth-Heinemann. This is NOT a mandatory textbook.

## **Assessment**

The grading will be based on the following: keep a class journal (%15), 2 tests (20% each), final exam (30%), and class participation (15%). Both the tests and final will be written exams.

Non-attending students (more than 20% absence) will be assigned reading, set assignments and take a final exam.

## **Office hours**

Erdem Ergin, Wednesday upon appointment ([erdemergin6@gmail.com](mailto:erdemergin6@gmail.com)).

**NOTE:** Since the course is provided for a limited number of students, **Erasmus and non-Global Governance students** who would like to attend this course and take this exam need to contact the Secretariat of Global Governance by e-mail [global.governance@uniroma2.it](mailto:global.governance@uniroma2.it) for registration and sign the Code of Conduct.