

Course Title: **Emergency and Disaster Risk Communication**

Course Code: **EMGT806**

Descriptor Start Date: **02/01/2026**

POINTS: **15.00**

LEVEL: **8**

PREREQUISITE/S:

COREQUISITE/S:

RESTRICTION/S:

## LEARNING HOURS

Hours may include lectures, tutorials, online forums, laboratories. Refer to your timetable and course information in Canvas for detailed information.

**Total learning hours: 150**

## PRESCRIPTOR

Critically analyses communication strategies to reduce disaster risk. Using a mix of theoretical material and case studies examining the role of the media, emerging technology and social media in emergency and disaster management. Develops tools and methods to effectively communicate with the public before, during and after emergency in order to achieve disaster risk reduction.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Critically analyse the relationship between the principles of effective communication and their applications to emergency and disaster management in New Zealand and globally.
2. Critically examine the communication and management role and responsibilities of governments and non-government organisations, including the responsibilities to hapū and iwi Māori and honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
3. Critically develop public information strategies that effectively communicate with diverse and/or vulnerable individuals and communities during emergencies and disasters.
4. Recommend and justify how the media, emerging technology, and social media, can be used before, during and after disasters.

**Disclaimer: Course descriptors may be amended between teaching periods/semesters**

## CONTENT

- Principles of communication
- Risk communication functions and process – characteristics of the message itself and personal characteristics of those receiving the message
- Principles of communication and relationship building with hapū and iwi Māori at times of emergencies and disasters
- Constraints to effective communications in emergencies and disasters
- Role and responsibility of government and non-government organisations, including the responsibilities to hapū and iwi Māori, and honouring the Tiriti o Waitangi
- Public information function during an emergency or disaster
- Warning and emergency risk communication
- The role of technology and media in pre, during and post emergency and disaster situations

## LEARNING & TEACHING STRATEGIES

Teaching and learning methods will include a mix of lectures, online learning tasks and in class active learning techniques. This course will emphasise interactive learning and class participation via discussions, group activities and presentations.

## ASSESSMENT PLAN

Assessment Event	Weighting %	Learning Outcomes
Written Assessment (2,500 words)	40.00	LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4
Presentation	60.00	LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4

<b>Grade Map</b>	<b>MAP1</b>
	A+ A A- Pass with Distinction
	B+ B B- Pass with Merit
	C+ C C- Pass
	D Fail

### Overall requirement/s to pass the course:

Students must achieve an overall average grade of at least C- across all summative assessments to pass this course.

## LEARNING RESOURCES

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**For further information, contact:** Te Ara Hauora A Putaiao - Faculty of Health & Environmental Science

<b>Principal Programme:</b>	<b>AK3930, Master of Disaster Risk Management and Development</b>
<b>Related Programme/s:</b>	<b>AK1015 Postgraduate Diploma in Disaster Risk Management and Development</b> <b>AK1025 Postgraduate Certificate in Disaster Risk Management and Development</b> <b>AK3930 Master of Disaster Risk Management and Development</b>

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