

Master of Disaster & Emergency Management

Student Handbook



MASTER OF DISASTER AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2023/2024

The **Master of Disaster and Emergency Management (MDEM)** is the only graduate program of its kind in Ontario and one of only two in Canada. It is designed to meet the critical need for professionals with advanced level knowledge and skills in this exciting and important field. The program will appeal to those currently working in the field looking to advance knowledge to assume positions of increasing responsibility as well as those aspiring to become Disaster & Emergency Management professionals. Studying on either a full-time or part-time basis, you will develop the knowledge and skills to prevent, mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from local, national and international disasters and emergencies. The program is interdisciplinary drawing on the strengths of York faculty and professionals in the field to offer a wide range of expertise in areas like natural hazards risks and management, disaster resilience and adaptation, business continuity, public health, public safety and security, terrorism, ethics, and crisis management in complex emergencies by cutting edge simulation techniques.



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GRADUATE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

York has been part of my life since what feels like a lifetime. I studied at York University and completed an undergraduate degree in Sociology and shortly thereafter, in 2006 started working at the School of Administrative Studies as a receptionist, then as an Undergraduate Program Secretary and then quickly worked my way into a role as a Graduate Program Assistant (GPA) in 2007 when the Master of Disaster and Emergency Management program first started. A second graduate program Master in Financial Accountability, was added to my portfolio in 2009. During this entire time at York, my life has also evolved in many ways, from getting married to having two beautiful girls, Ava and Ella. York has always been part of my life since as long as I can remember. I've very much enjoyed working with the wonderful faculty, students and co-workers I've had the pleasure of getting to know over the years. **Contact:** 272 Atkinson Building; **Phone:** (416) 736-5744; **Email:** mdemgpa@yorku.ca



Sabina Passarelli (Lackner)

Master of Disaster and Emergency Management (MDEM) Options:

To complete the program there are two options available:

Major Research Paper (MRP): 24-course credits, equivalent to eight 3-credit courses + MRP, worth 6 credits

Course work: 30-course credits, equivalent to ten 3-credit courses

You don't have to know exactly which option to choose right away; this will be something you want to determine in your second term after taking some courses and getting a feel for the program etc. These two options can be completed on a part-time basis or a full-time basis. The recommended course load for a full-time student is three 3-credit courses per semester and for a part-time student is one to two 3-credit courses per semester. The recommended time to completion is 4 terms for full-time students and 8 terms for part-time students

Two Degree Options at a Glance

	DEGREE BY MAJOR RESEARCH PAPER (MRP)	DEGREE BY COURSE WORK
Total number of courses	8 courses (24 credits)	10 courses (30 credits)
Other requirements	MRP (80-100 pages) (6 credits)	-----
Required courses	DEMS 5020 – Disasters: Concepts & Causes DEMS 5030 – Social & Behavioural Dimensions of Disasters DEMS 5051 – Research Design & Qualitative Methods DEMS 5052 – Quantitative Research Methods	DEMS 5020– Disasters: Concepts & Causes DEMS 5030 – Social & Behavioural Dimensions of Disasters EITHER DEMS 5051 – Research Design & Qualitative Methods OR DEMS 5052 – Quantitative Research Methods
Additional Guidance	In consultation with the student's supervisor, alternative 6 credits research methods course(s) from other graduate programs in the university may be acceptable. Twelve additional credits selected in consultation with student's supervisor, six of which must be from courses within the MDEM program, and the rest may be from the MDEM program and/ or from appropriate graduate courses offered across the university based on student's field of specialization.	An alternative 3 credits Research Methods course from any other graduate programs at the university may be acceptable in consultation with MDEM program director. Twenty one additional credits: 12 (minimum) of which must be from courses within the MDEM. Other courses may be selected in consultation with the Program Director from appropriate graduate courses from other graduate programs at the university.

Major Research Paper (MRP): students in the MRP option are required to write a major research paper on an approved topic by mutual agreement with a faculty member (supervisor) from the program. Topics can either be a critical evaluation and synthesis of the current state of knowledge and research within a defined area of study or may focus on a specific research topic in depth. Papers must comprise original material of scholarly nature, demonstrate that the student is capable of independent research and critical analysis and be of publishable quality. The MRP should be between 80-100 pages. A sample template for the MRP proposal structure is available after course descriptions' page. The paper is graded on a pass/fail basis by a committee composed of the student's supervisor and one other faculty member (a second reader) who has not been involved in the major research paper process.

Other Required Program Element For Both Degree Options: participation in the annual **TABLETOP SIMULATION EXERCISE**. It will be organized towards the end of winter term. This will allow students to apply the knowledge they have gained in classroom to an exercise based on a disaster scenario. The date will be announced every year through the student association, DEMSA.

Optional/Elective Courses

GS/DEMS 5000 3.0 Directed reading
GS/DEMS 5010 3.0 Advanced Disaster and Emergency Management
GS/DEMS 5040 3.0 Natural Disasters
GS/DEMS 5053 3.0 Topics in Business Continuity
GS/DEMS 5060 3.0 Terrorism Studies I
GS/DEMS 5080 6.0 Emergency Management Practicum
GS/DEMS 5081 3.0 Topics in Applied Disaster Management
GS/DEMS 5082 3.0 Medical and Public Health Issues in Disasters - An introduction
GS/DEMS 5710 3.0 Critical Infrastructure Protection
GS/DEMS 6070 3.0 Disaster Ethics
GS/ DEMS 6999 3.0 Major Research Paper

For more potential elective courses from other Faculties and graduate programs, please, visit their website

Examples

The Faculty of Environmental & Urban Change (EUC)

www.yorku.ca/gradstudies/environmental-studies/current-students/courses/

Earth and Space Science and Engineering

lassonde.yorku.ca/esse/academics/graduate/graduate-courses/

You will need permission to take graduate level courses from outside of the MDEM program at York or from another university in Ontario. The forms for these purposes can be found here:

For courses outside MDEM at York:

www.yorku.ca/gradstudies/students/current-students/registration-enrolment/fgs-forms/

For courses in another Ontario University:

www.yorku.ca/gradstudies/wp-content/uploads/sites/184/2021/03/ovgs-application.pdf

A **computer lab** in DB 2004 (Victor Phillip Dahdaleh Building), is dedicated to MDEM students. DB 2004 lab can be used by MDEM students when there are no classes in there. In addition, ArcGIS software has been installed on DB labs—2027, 2032, 2114, 2116, 2118 - so students are free to use computers in any of those spaces when there are no classes being held. Classes and drop in for MDEM students will be held in DB 2027, 2032, 2114, 2116, and 2118 starting in the summer term going forward. The access cards can be picked up from the Graduate Program Administrator (GPA), Sabina Passarelli's office (272 Atkinson Building).

York University Libraries: library.yorku.ca/

Librarian liaisons and other useful links can be found here:

www.library.yorku.ca/web/about-us/contact-us/liaison-librarians/

library.yorku.ca/web/ask-services/graduate-student-support/

Institute for Social Research (ISR): The ISR offers short courses on research methods and much more. They are not for academic credit but very useful. Check them out here: www.yorku.ca/isr/

Finances

The MDEM program fees are paid per term; therefore the number of courses students take will not be a factor in the fees per term. The fees do vary, however, based on domestic or international students, and between full-time and part-time students. Table 1 (Below) summarizes the fees for September 2022, although please note that these amounts are the fees listed for Fall/Winter 2022. Fees may vary from term-to-term/year-to-year.

This information can be viewed in more detail at the following website: sfs.yorku.ca/fees

Table 1

Status/Program	1 Term Domestic	2 Terms Domestic	1 Term International Masters
Part-time	\$857.46	\$1,714.92	\$3,277.21
Full-time	\$1,714.97	\$3,429.94	\$6,554.46

Scholarships are usually given out to students with outstanding academic achievements; bursaries, awards and loans focus more on financial assistance on the basis of students' need. There are different criteria for eligibility in terms of awards, loans, bursaries and scholarships. Students are encouraged to look through these criteria and apply for these accordingly. For more information on awards, scholarships and bursaries, visit yorku.ca/grads/money_matters/money_matters.html

To apply for scholarships and bursaries within graduate studies, students must complete their **Student Financial Profile (SFP)**. Once enrolled, students can access this information online through their Passport York account. More information on this can be viewed at: sfs.yorku.ca/aid/sfp/. Please note that there are deadlines associated with these financial scholarships or assistance. Students must carefully review eligibility criteria and deadlines early on through the term to best prepare themselves for their submissions. Furthermore, York University offers financial advising for students simply seeking advice on how to handle their finances in terms of fees. There is online help as well as a number of informational brochures available under the "Financial Advising" section at the above link.

New Students

Online student financial account can be accessed here:

sfs.yorku.ca/fees/your-student-account

Fee details per term can be found here:

sfs.yorku.ca/fees/courses/2022-2023/fall-winter/graduate-studies/masters

How to make payments is listed here:

sfs.yorku.ca/fees/your-student-account/how-and-when-to-pay#how-to-make-payments

Passport York account: registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/guide/ppy/

Additional useful information to familiarize yourself with:

YU card: This card can be used to access the library/printing and other areas at York: <http://yucard.info.yorku.ca/>

Printing: www.yorku.ca/uit/student-services/printing/

Map of Keele Campus: maps.info.yorku.ca/keele-campus/

Housing at campus: www.yorku.ca/housing

Faculty of Graduate Studies: important dates and external scholarship deadlines as well as academic requirements/regulations to maintain or graduate programs: gradstudies.yorku.ca

Adding/Dropping courses is conducted using this link: registrar.yorku.ca/

Disaster & Emergency Management (DEM) Dashboard

DEM Dashboard is a platform (eClass-based) to share information related to the program's various aspects, including announcements, forms and documents, and much more for students from DEM faculty. Make sure to visit it regularly. You can enrol yourself by going to: eclass.yorku.ca/course/view.php?id=95601#section-2

Disaster and Emergency Management Students Association (DEMSEA)

DEMSEA is your own DEM graduate student association at York. The association allows students connect through various platforms and activities. DEMSEA is governed by elected executives who work with members to organize social and academic events. New students in the MDEM program are encouraged to join DEMSEA. Facebook: facebook.com/groups/133163330079052/, yorku.ca/club/demsa

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

CUPE 3903 is the York chapter of CUPE, a national union representing workers in areas including health care, education, social services, transportation and more. For more information about the specific benefits please visit: www.3903.cupe.ca or contact someone from the CUPE office, listed on the website.

Graduate students must maintain continuous registration to remain active in the program if you need to take a term off you need to apply officially through the petition office here:

www.yorku.ca/gradstudies/students/current-students/regulations/graduate-academic-petitions/

Career Opportunities

MDEM graduates have a wide spectrum of areas where they could seek employment including, but not limited to:

- Disaster Risk Management
- Business Continuity Professional at Public and Private Sectors
- Emergency Manager/ Coordinator at all levels of government
- Non-profit Organizations (NGOs), including Humanitarian Assistance and Relief Organizations
- Emergency Preparedness Planning and Decision Making
- Canadian Military
- Fire Safety and First Responders
- Federal, Provincial, Municipal Police
- Health Sector and Paramedic
- Insurance Industry and Disaster Recovery
- Financial Institutions
- Disaster and Emergency Management Technologies and Services
- Dam Safety and Power Generation
- Conservation Authorities and Stormwater Management
- Water Treatment and Management

ASSOCIATIONS

Ontario Association of Emergency Managers (OAEM)

OAEM is a non-profit, professional association representing the interests of Ontario's emergency management community since 2001. Its mission is to advance the modernization of emergency management in Ontario while promoting information exchange, collaboration, networking and professional development opportunities for member communities - diverse, multi-sector and multi-disciplinary public, private, indigenous and non-government emergency management professionals and students. Website: www.oeam.ca/

International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting the Principles of Emergency Management and representing those professionals whose goals are saving lives and protecting property and the environment during emergencies and disasters. Website: www.iaem.com/home.cfm

Disaster Recovery Institute (DRI)

DRI Canada is a non-profit organization that provides internationally recognized education and certification to business continuity, disaster recovery and emergency management professionals in Canada. These professionals empower Canadian organizations, communities and businesses to be resilient and better prepared for any emergency or disaster.

Website: www.dri.ca/

Disaster Recovery Information Exchange (DRIE)

The Disaster Recovery Information Exchange (DRIE), along with its affiliates the Business Continuity Management Information Exchange (BCMIE) and le Réseau d'Échange en Continuité des Opérations (RÉCO-QUÉBEC), is a non-profit association of professionals dedicated all aspects of business continuity management, from emergency response to the resumption of business as normal. Website: www.drie.org/

Canadian Risk and Hazards Network (CRHNet)

The CRHNet is a non-profit organization that brings together the disaster management community to increase resiliency through the transfer of knowledge, the building of relationships, and the exchange of best practices. The annual symposium of CRHNet encourages students and young professionals to participate in various activities and contribute to HazNet, the online magazine. Website: www.crhnet.ca/

CERTIFICATIONS (most but IMS 200 are recommended but not offered by the MDEM)

Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) is offered online by IAEM certification program for emergency managers to maintain professional standards; it is a program to certify achievements within the profession, but not offered by the MDEM.

Website: www.iaem.org/certification/intro

Associate Business Continuity Professional (ABCP) certification supports entry-level proficiency with some knowledge in business continuity planning, but who have not yet acquired a great deal of experience in the field. The ABCP certification will provide opportunities in this area and demonstrate your professional commitment in the industry. It is not offered by the MDEM. Website: www.drie.org/

Incident Management System (IMS) certifications are offered in a series of courses including introductory (IMS-100), basic (IMS-200)*, intermediate (IMS-300) and advanced (IMS-400) levels. These are recommended for emergency managers and are offered through the Emergency Management Ontario.

* Starting 2023, MDEM, in association with DEMSA, will sponsor the annual delivery of IMS 200 held over a weekend in winter term. Website: <https://training.emergencymanagementontario.ca/>

Basic Emergency Management (BEM) is a provincial training course, which provides an overview of emergency management in Ontario and helps students gain understanding in tactical and strategic components of mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. You can complete the course yourself online.

Website: training.emergencymanagementontario.ca/

USEFUL DISASTER DATABASES

International Database (EM-DAT): The international database is created and managed by the Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED). It contains rich core data on the occurrence and effects of mass disasters in the world from 1900 to present with regular updates and trends by the geographical regions, hazard types, and impact. The database is compiled from various sources, including UN agencies, non-governmental organisations, insurance companies, research institutes and press agencies. Website: emdat.be/

The Canadian Disaster Database (CDD): The CDD contains detailed disaster information on natural, technological and other hazards and disasters from 1900 to 2017. The database is pretty rich and provides details of each event up to the local scale. Website: publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/cndn-dsstr-dtbs/index-eng.aspx

UNIQUE FACILITIES, TRAININGS, AND OPPORTUNITIES ONLY AT YORK

Advanced Disaster, Emergency and Rapid Response Simulation (ADERSIM): ADERSIM was launched in 2018 as a platform for modern Emergency Operations Centre with the aim of evaluating and enhancing disaster planning and rapid emergency response strategies by stakeholders using cutting edge tools and simulation technologies. Details can be found here: adersim.info.yorku.ca/about/startup-companies

CIFAL York: Under the umbrella of the United Nations Institute of Training and Research (UNITAR)—the first CIFAL Centre in Canada was opened at York University in 2021 to enhance innovative, participatory and co-creative knowledge exchange opportunities to support Sustainable Development Goals. Details can be found here: www.yorku.ca/cifal/

York Emergency Mitigation, Engagement, Response, and Governance Institute (Y-EMERGE): Y-EMERGE is a cross-sector platform for networking and cooperation, where experts, scholars, practitioners, students and citizens from all over the world come together to collaborate on innovative ideas that contribute to community and organizational resilience. For details and how to get involved, visit: yorku.ca/research/yemerge/about



IMS 200 Training at York, Feb 11-12. Sponsored by MDEM, supported by DEMSA. Participants: Left to Right, Instructor Keith (Melo) Melo, Students, Gabrielle, Sofija, Nur, Kirit, Yuanhao, Shelly, Ola, Anisha, Caroline, Anastassia, Layannah and Domini. Karolina and Andrew (seated in the front).

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS (MDEM)

GS/DEMS 5000 3.00 Directed Reading

May be taken with permission of the Graduate Program Director if the student can find a faculty member, who is willing to supervise the topic. It is recommended for students who are short one course for graduation.

GS/DEMS 5010 3.00 Advanced Disaster and Emergency Management

This course explores the applications of advanced theory, methods and technologies in disaster and emergency management. Disaster and emergency management decision and planning methods and models, decision support systems, information systems and disaster databases, geographic information systems, remote sensing, various disasters and emergency management software and their applications are discussed.

GS/DEMS 5020 3.00 Disasters: Concepts and Causes

This course will focus on the risk to society from hazards and disasters, and how society adapts to those risks. Course content will not tend to focus on the hazards themselves, but rather on disaster theory and the processes within society and the environment that creates vulnerability. An interdisciplinary and mainly social science approach with a global perspective will be taken, but with some emphasis on Canadian content. General topics will include (1) disaster data and theory, (2) patterns of risk, (3) processes that create vulnerability & resilience, (4) human response and coping mechanisms, (5) impacts of disasters, and (6) case studies of disasters.

GS/DEMS 5030 3.00 Social and Behavioural Dimensions of Disasters

This course examines social and behavioural dimensions of human interactions before, during and after emergencies and disasters, including behavioural myths and realities; linkages between individuals, families, groups, organizations, community social systems, and various levels of government; social vulnerability and the disproportionate impact of disasters upon various societal groups.

GS/DEMS 5040 3.00 Natural Disasters

This course focuses on natural processes including geological, hydrological, meteorological, and biophysical and how they impact people, property, and the environment around the world. Students will learn the causes and physical dynamics of various natural hazards such as earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, extreme weather, climate change, and pandemics to name a few. Course credit exclusion: LE/ESSE 1410 6.00: Natural, Technological and Human-induced Disasters.

GS/DEMS 5051 3.00 Research Design and Qualitative Research Methods

This course provides students with an introduction to philosophical bases of research design as well as a practical introduction to qualitative methods. Students will gain an understanding of the paradigmatic foundations of research, how to design and evaluate qualitative research and experiment with a range of qualitative methods (i.e., interview, focus groups, observation, archival analysis).

GS/DEMS 5052 3.00 Research Design and Quantitative Methods

Students are provided with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of various quantitative research methods and their applications in disaster and emergency management. Using statistical methods, students will learn to analyze data and formulate hypotheses and conceptual relationships.

GS/DEMS 5053 3.00 Topics in Business Continuity

This course reviews and discusses the knowledge, methods, skills and procedures needed to understand the impacts of disasters on businesses and how to develop risk management and business continuity programs and plans. The course will provide students with the key concepts, theories, methods, and implementation techniques of business risk management and business continuity planning. The course is based on the past and recent scholarly research, business crisis cases, existing standards such as ISO 31000 and ISO 22399, CSA Z1600 and BSI 25999.

GS/DEMS 5060 3.00 Terrorism Studies I

The purpose of this course is to give the student, a background to, and, overview of: terrorism in the 21st Century. It will serve to give students, in the program, an understanding of this element of the threat spectrum. It will further sensitize them to the potential dangers and probabilities that grow out of this area of critical concern.

GS/DEMS 5081 3.00 Topics in Applied Disaster Management

The course explores selected topics in applied disaster and emergency management, as they relate to the theoretical aspects of this subject area.

GS/DEMS 5082 3.00 Medical and Public Health Issues for Non-Medical Personnel

This course addresses the common and important health issues that arise during both sudden and chronic emergencies, for victims and responders.

GS/DEMS 5710 3.00 Critical Infrastructure Protection

Students of the Critical Infrastructure Protection course will research threats, vulnerabilities and risks to critical infrastructure from the perspective of managing risks to ensure for reliability through appropriate protection and resiliency measures, regulations/laws strategies and practices as well as the importance, ways and means, of conducting periodic risk and resiliency assessments. Students who have taken DEMS 4707 3.0 Managing Risks to Critical Infrastructure at York will need permission to take this class.

GS/DEMS 6070 3.00 Disasters and Ethics

This course examines ethical theory as it applies to issues and uncertainties associated with disasters and emergencies. Students will develop an understanding of the ethical decision-making process and moral reasoning. They will explore the moral imperatives associated with emergency management in a variety of contexts, both locally and globally. The emphasis is on applied ethics and the development of moral competence in response to issues, and implications for socially responsive environmental and disaster management.

GSDEMS 5080 6.00 Emergency Management Practicum

The course provides opportunities for practical experience in the field. Students must enroll in the course in the first Winter term, upon joining the program, and carry out the placement in the following summer term. Even if students are not sure about taking this course, they are advised to enroll in the course in the winter term, as the enrollment window is not available in summer. Please note, the two prerequisites DEMS 5020, DEMS 5030. The practicum can be paid or unpaid and entails 220 hours of work at the hiring organization. Placement opportunities will be announced as they become available throughout the fall/winter/summer terms through course eClass. Most opportunities come along in mid-winter and spring. A noteworthy advantage of this course includes the potential for a regular job offer by the hiring organization. **Course Director:** Dr. Nirupama Agrawal; **Email:** nirupama@yorku.ca

York International: Students can explore York International for placement/ internship opportunities. The MDEM program will support their effort and interest by advising and working along with them. Website: <http://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/intern-abroad/>

GS/DEMS 6999A Major Research Paper (MRP): The purpose of the MRP develops the student's ability to do research beyond a normal course paper. In its style and quality, the MRP should be a publishable academic work. The MRP is supervised by a faculty member of the Disaster & Emergency Management program. Students, in consultation with their supervisor, submit the MRP proposal to program office for approval before starting the work.

Sample Template MRP Proposal for Approval

(Note: Running head (header) may contain: Title, Your Full Name, Date)

MAJOR RESEARCH PAPER PROPOSAL

Your name

Master in Disaster & Emergency Management

York University

Date

Supervisor's name

Title of MRP

Research Focus/ broad area: Example: Disaster and emergency management and planning in the First Nations communities in Ontario.

Specific Research Topic/Question: Example: Are there emergency plans and procedures in place for the First Nation communities and if so, are they culturally appropriate?

Theoretical framework: Describe which theoretical disaster models and concepts you will apply in the study, and how and why.

Justification: Speak to why the research topic and focus are necessary and how the study will contribute to the field.

Methodology: Describe the process, including the kind of literature (scholarly, policy, industry, sector-based, etc.), qualitative and/or quantitative research tools to be employed, data and information, and other details pertaining to the process of conducting the research.

Bibliography: supervisor-preferred referencing system with consistency of application.

Work Plan Timeline Sample: varies according to the method and topic or focus chosen for research






Description	Date (mm/ yyyy)
Literature review	
Interview questionnaire submission for ethics approval (if applicable)	
Selection of participants and conducting interviews (if applicable)	
Transcribing of interviews and analyzing the data	
Final paper	

Research Ethics Process: students interested in pursuing research involving human participants are encouraged to speak to their supervisor for guidance. The MDEM Ethics Review Committee will review and approve ethics applications. Details and Forms can be found here: www.yorku.ca/gradstudies/students/current-students/thesis-and-dissertation/research-ethics/

Course Schedule

Fall 2022					
Course #	Course Name	Instructor	Contact Information	Day	Time
DEMS 5000	Directed Reading	Contact program			
DEMS 5010	Advanced DEM	Ali Asgary	asgary@yorku.ca	M	2:30-5:30
DEMS 5020	Disaster Concepts and Causes	Harris Ali	hali@yorku.ca	M	11:30-2:30
DEMS 5030	Social and Behavioral Dimensions of Disasters	Jennifer Spinney	jspinney@yorku.ca	T	2:30-5:30
DEMS 5051	Qualitative Methods	Kelly Thomson	thomsonk@yorku.ca	R	11:30-2:30
DEMS 5060	Terrorism Studies 1	Walter Perchal	wperchal@yorku.ca	W	9:30-1:30
DEMS 5710	Critical Infrastructure Protection	David Baumken	dbaumken@yorku.ca	T	9:30-1:30
DEMS 6070	Disasters and Ethics	David Etkin	Etkin@yorku.ca	R	2:30-5:30
DEMS 6999	Major Research Paper				
Winter 2023					
Course #	Course Name	Instructor	Contact Information	Day	Time
DEMS 5000	Directed Reading	Contact program			
DEMS 5020	Disaster Concepts and Causes	Harris Ali	hali@yorku.ca	M	11:30-2:30
DEMS 5030	Social and Behavioral Dimensions of Disasters	Jennifer Spinney	jspinney@yorku.ca	W	2:30-5:30
DEMS 5052	Quantitative Methods	Kaz Higuchi	kazh@yorku.ca	R	4-7
DEMS 5053	Topics in Business Continuity	TBA		F	4-7
DEMS 5080	DEM Practicum—winter enrollment is recommended, while the work is designed to be completed in the summer	Nirupama Agrawal	nirupama@yorku.ca		
DEMS 5081	Topics in Applied Disaster Management	Walter Perchal	wperchal@yorku.ca	M	4-7
DEMS 5082	Medical and Public Health Issues for Non-Medical Personnel	Andrew Moull and Ian Attard	andrew19moull@gmail.com iattard1@yorku.ca	T	4-7
DEMS 6999	Major Research Paper				
Summer 2023 S1					
Course #	Course Name	Instructor	Contact Information	Day	Time
DEMS 5040	Natural Disasters	Nirupama Agrawal	nirupama@yorku.ca	T/F	1-4
DEMS 5080	DEM Practicum—winter enrollment is recommended, while the work is designed to be completed in the summer.	Nirupama Agrawal	nirupama@yorku.ca		
DEMS 6999	Major Research Paper				


FULL-TIME FACULTY—PRIMARY MEMBERS OF DEM

 <p>Nirupama Agrawal—GPD</p>	<p>Dr. Agrawal is a Professor, one of the three founding members of the program since 2005. She is the current Director of the MDEM program. She teaches Natural Disasters and DEM Practicum. Her current research projects include, Canadian Defence and Security Network Mobilization of Insights, and Extreme weather warning communication. Her notable contributions include, Tsunami Travel Time Atlas for the Atlantic Ocean and textbook, “Natural Disasters and Risk Management in Canada: An Introduction” by Springer. Expertise: Natural Hazards, Disaster Risk Perception and Management, Community resilience and adaption strategies, Optimization of response to large-scale nature-triggered emergencies, Business Continuity Planning, Multi-criteria Decision Support System, GIS/Remote Sensing. Education: PhD, Water Resources Engineering, Kyoto University; Master of Hydrology, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee; MSc, IITK, India. Email: nirupama@yorku.ca, Profile: profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/nirupama/</p>
 <p>Ali Asgary</p>	<p>Dr. Asgary is a Professor and a founding faculty of the program since 2005. He has served as the IAEM Canada president and as the board member of IAEM. Since 2015 Dr. Asgary has been the executive director of York University's Advanced Disaster, Emergency and Rapid-response Simulation (ADERSIM). Since 2021, Dr. Asgary has been Director of CIFAL York, a UNITAR affiliated executive, leadership and civil society training centre. He is also the associate director of Y-EMERGE at York. He teaches Advanced DEM and Field Experience. Expertise: disaster recovery and reconstruction, business continuity and risk assessment, disaster simulations and modeling, AI, VR, AR and MR, and geomatics, cost-benefit analysis and decision making under uncertainty. Education: PhD, Newcastle, UK; MA, University of Tehran; BA University of Tehran. Email: asgary@yorku.ca, Profile: profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/asgary/</p>
 <p>David Etkin</p>	<p>Prof. Etkin is a Professor and a founding faculty of the program since 2005. His previous work experiences include, Environment Canada, Arctic and Industrial Climatology Divisions of the Canadian Climate Centre, Adaptation and Impacts Research Group of the Meteorological Service of Canada, and the Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Toronto. His notable national assessment of natural hazards, the IPCC, was Principal Investigator of the Canadian National Assessment of Natural Hazards and is Past President of the Canadian Risk and Hazards Network (CRHNet). He teaches disaster ethics, has over 90 publications, two textbooks and 6 edited volumes. Expertise: disaster risk assessment and disaster ethics. Education: MSc, York University. Email: Etkin@yorku.ca, Profile: profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/etkin/</p>
 <p>Aaida Mamuji</p>	<p>Dr. Aaida A. Mamuji is an Associate Professor of Disaster and Emergency Management at York University. Her areas of interest include social vulnerability and capability in the disaster context, hosting and resettlement, and risk assessment. Dr. Mamuji was recently awarded three major COVID-19 research grants as principal investigator, including one from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to research stigma during the pandemic. Prior to joining York University, Dr. Mamuji was a policy advisor and researcher in the former Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (now Global Affairs Canada) in their Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response group. Expertise: social vulnerability, international disaster response, Canadian disaster management, public policy, social issues, interdepartmental collaboration, humanitarian assistance, case study research. Education: Ph.D. Public Administration, University of Ottawa; M.A. Globalization Studies, McMaster University; B.Sc. Human Biology and Bioethics, University of Toronto. Email: amamuji@yorku.ca Profile: https://profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/amamuji/</p>
 <p>Jack Rozdilsky</p>	<p>Dr. Rozdilsky is an Associate Professor since 2016. His notable contributions include, the 2018 Toronto van attack, published in the <i>Canadian J Emergency Management</i>, Co-PI on a pandemic-related rapid research on Covid-19 related stigma, CIHR and PI on a Seed Grant in Critical Perspectives in Global Health by the Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research. Prior to joining York University, Dr. Rozdilsky was a university professor of emergency management in both Illinois and Texas. He teaches Terrorism and Business Continuity. Expertise: Disaster response and recovery, mitigation, preparedness, Natural disasters, Homeland security, Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Ike, Tornadoes, Civil disturbance in Ferguson, Missouri, 9/11 memorialization, 70th anniversary of the first use of the atomic bomb. Education: PhD, Resource Development & Urban Studies, Michigan State University; MA, Environmental Studies, University of Illinois. Email: rozdilsk@yorku.ca, Profile: profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/rozdilsky/</p>



FULL-TIME FACULTY—PRIMARY MEMBERS OF DEM

	<p>Dr. Kennedy is an Associate Professor, who joined the program in 2018. His research focuses on decision-making in emergency contexts, especially around the question of how we leverage expertise & evidence to manage disasters more effectively. He is passionate about teaching qualitative methods. He is Head, Vanier College and Associate Director of Y-EMERGE (York Emergency Mitigation, Engagement, Response, and Governance Institute), York University. His notable professional activities include being the director of a Canadian Not-For-Profit organization called the "Forum on Science Policy, and Society," and "Science Outside the Lab." Expertise: Emergency Management , Forestry, Wildfire Management, Science Policy, Science & Technology Studies, COVID. Education: PhD, Arizona State University; MSc, Arizona State University; BKI, University of Waterloo. Email: ebk@yorku.ca, Profile: profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/kennedy/</p>
	<p>Dr. Spinney is an Assistant Professor since 2020. She studies connections between groups of people living and working at the intersections of environment and society, particularly extreme weather hazards and disasters, such as tornadoes, floods, hurricanes and heat, in Canada and the U.S. Her notable works include, the Northern Tornadoes Project; tornado safety in Ontario public schools, SSHRC; and Extreme weather alerting program in collaboration with Meteorologic Service of Canada, SSHRC. She teaches Social and Behavioural Dimensions of Disasters and Disaster Risk Management. Expertise: linguistic and sociocultural anthropology, and anthropology of disaster, risk and policy literatures. Education: MA & PhD, Sociocultural Anthropology, Western University. Email: jspinney@yorku.ca, Profile: profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/spinney/</p>
	<p>Dr. Bogdan is an Assistant Professor since 2022. She is an environmental and disaster sociologist. She studies the intersection of society and environment, focusing on topics such as floods, fuels, food, and farming, around the world in the Netherlands, Namibia, New Zealand, and Canada. She teaches Fundamentals of DEM, Disasters and Humans, and Disaster case studies. Her notable contribution include, the We're Ready! Community Disaster Preparedness workshop and the Flood Resilience Challenge Serious Role-Playing Game. Expertise: complex socio-environmental problems, interdisciplinary lens with expertise in economic development, local government administration, community-based research and engagement, and adult education. Education: PhD, focus flood risk governance, University of Alberta. Email: ebogdan@yorku.ca, Profile: profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/bogdan/</p>




FULL-TIME FACULTY FROM OTHER PROGRAMS, MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

	<p>School of Administrative Studies</p> <p>Dr. Thomson is an Associate Professor. She uses social constructivist frameworks and qualitative methods to analyze organizing processes in a variety of domains. She studies how entrepreneurs engage with other actors (e.g. regulators, financiers, associations) to contest existing structures. She teaches Qualitative Methods. Expertise: Sustainability Management, Organizational Theory, Social Movement Theory. Education: Health Care Coordination, Ph.D., Schulich/York University, MA, University of Manitoba, BA, McGill. Email: thomsonk@yorku.ca, Profile: profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/thomson/</p>
	<p>Sociology, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies</p> <p>Dr. Ali is a Professor of Sociology at York. He teaches Disaster Concepts and Causes in the MDEM program. His research interests are in the following: Global/Climate Change , Environment, Environment and health; Sociology of risk, Disasters; Infectious diseases, Environmental management; Environmental justice. Education: PhD (Sociology), McMaster University; BEng (Materials), McMaster University. Email: hali@yorku.ca, Profile: profiles.laps.yorku.ca/profiles/hali/</p>

PART-TIME CONTRACT FACULTY—ACADEMIC, MILITARY

 <p>Kaz Higuchi</p>	<p>Dr. Higuchi is a part-time faculty with MDEM since 2007. His past work experiences include, the Atmospheric Environment Service, the Arctic Weather Centre, University of Toronto, and Environment Canada at various capacities. He was the head of the carbon cycle modeling group in 2012 before joining York as an adjunct professor. He teaches Quantitative Methods. Expertise: Climate Change, Complex Systems Research, Weather events and DR Strategies, Systems Thinking. Education: PhD, University of Toronto, MSc, University of Toronto, BSc, Carleton University. Email: kzh@yorku.ca</p>
 <p>Walter Perchal</p>	<p>Lt Col (Ret) Dr. Perchal was a full-time faculty with the MDEM program, and since recently teaches as a part-time faculty. At York, he established the Centre of Excellence in Security, Resilience and Intelligence at the Schulich Executive Education Centre. He has served as Commanding Officer of The Royal Regiment and Special Advisor to the Canadian Army Commander. He teaches Terrorism and Applied Topics in DEM. Expertise: CBRNE, DEM Exercise, National/International Security, Counter Terrorism. Education: PhD, Sociology, York University. Email: wperchal@yorku.ca</p>

PART-TIME CONTRACT FACULTY—PRACTITIONERS WITH RICH FIELD EXPERIENCES

 <p>David Baumken</p>	<p>Mr. Baumken is a professional consultant specializing in critical infrastructure protection, business continuity planning, government relations and emergency management. His past experiences include, Hydro One Networks Inc., where he developed an all hazard emergency preparedness program, business continuity planning and line of business risk assessment. He has extensive national and international experience in developing regulations, standards and guidelines for North America's electricity system. He teaches Critical Infrastructure Protection. Expertise: Critical Infrastructure Resilience, Emergency and Risk Management, Business Continuity, Emergency Response Simulations, Government Statutes and Regulations. Education: MA in Disaster and Emergency Management, BA in Business Administration, York University. Email: David.baumken@gmail.com</p>
 <p>James Kilgour</p>	<p>Mr. Kilgour is Director, Emergency Management Office at Durham Region (The Regional Municipality of Durham). He teaches the summer prerequisite course (AP/ADMB4799 0.0 M: Essentials of Emergency Management) for master's students who do not have background in DEM; and occasionally, other courses. Expertise: strategic leader in the areas of Emergency Management, organizational learning and Public Policy with more than several years of experience building and leading high performing teams. Education: MSc, Disaster Management, Coventry University, BA, Geography, University of British Columbia. Email: jameskilgour@gmail.com, Profile: ca.linkedin.com/in/jameskilgour/</p>
 <p>Andrew Moull</p>	<p>Mr. Moull is a an Emergency and Disaster Management specialist at Hamilton Health Sciences. His prior experiences include, emergency preparedness specialist and program development subject matter expert. He co-teaches DEMS 5082 Medical and Public Health Issues for Non-Medical Personnel. Expertise: Exercise design, policy, education and training, crisis communication, risk analysis, and application of theories of emergency management into practice. Education: MDEM, York University; BA, History, University of Waterloo. Profile: www.linkedin.com/in/ andrew-moull Email: Andrew19moull@gmail.com</p>
	<p>Mr. Attard is a District Superintendent, Special Operations at Toronto Paramedic Services (Formerly Toronto EMS). His experiences include, Canada Task Force 3 (Toronto) Heavy Urban Search and Rescue Planning Section; Planned (Mass Gatherings) and Unplanned Incidents-Medical Preparedness and Response; Exercise Design; 2019 Port Hope Full Scale Provincial Urban Search and Rescue Exercise; and 2022 Guelph Full Scale Provincial Urban Search and Rescue Exercise. He co-teaches DEMS 5082 Medical and Public Health Issues for Non-Medical Personnel. He is a graduate of York's MDEM (formerly MADEM). Expertise: emergency planning, incident response, exercise design Education: MADEM, York University; Bachelor of Health Administration, Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU), Certificate, Occupations Health and Safety (in progress), TMU. Email: idratta@icloud.com</p>

Confident in the face of Disaster



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