

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**The Master of Science in Emergency Management (MSEM) degree is designed to educate individuals to plan and coordinate emergency management efforts. Graduates are prepared to serve in a variety of positions in the emergency management field, both in public- and private-sector roles, and will have gained the required knowledge to attain associate emergency manager status.**

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The 30-credit MSEM program is designed to be completed in two calendar years; however, the program is also flexible for those who need less or additional time to complete the requirements. The online courses, traditionally taught in the evenings, include faculty and student interaction, discussions, group work and individual projects. Courses are offered year-round, with flexibility for the student's busy life. This program is designed to enhance student skills in leading efforts in planning, mitigation and response to disastrous events. The MSEM program is dynamic, the courses are continually redeveloped and new courses are added as necessary to meet the growing needs of the field.

The final requirement is a practicum course, in which students will use what they have learned to improve existing emergency-response policies, plans and practices in an emergency-response organization. Using these skills to upgrade the organization's procedures to reflect best practices and research, the student's practicum may take place at a current job site, volunteer position or at a field location. The student also has the option to develop and defend a thesis, allowing for both a hands-on project or a research-based project.

Our students come from varying disciplines, some with little to no experience or training in emergency management. Other enrolled students are employed in emergency management positions. The mixture of disciplines and emergency management experience of our students makes for a diverse learning environment. The program is designed to not only benefit those currently working in emergency management, but also those seeking to enter emergency management careers.

## PROGRAM BENEFITS

### Flexible – 100% online courses

- Classes starting every fall, winter, spring and summer.
- Courses are offered year-round to allow you to complete your degree faster.

## FACULTY

Millersville University's MSEM program is unique, as our instructors have real-life experience in their respective fields of study. Faculty, emergency management experts and disaster studies researchers come together to provide a comprehensive program through the interdisciplinary Center for Disaster Research and Education.

*"The MSEM program allowed me to literally hit the ground running as I made a transition from broadcasting to emergency management. Having a faculty well-versed in both academics and real-world applications made the difference in setting me up for success in my new career. I would encourage anyone from recent graduates to seasoned emergency managers to consider this program as a way to enhance their career potential. The networking alone is well worth the time."*

– Jeff Jumper '16

*State meteorologist for the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency  
Part-time adjunct professor for the CDRE*



## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The curriculum consists of 30 credit hours of study: 24 credit hours of required courses and an additional 6 credit hours of electives. Each course will incorporate knowledge and skills from or relevant to academic research, best practices, human behavior and key organizations, as well as legal issues, policies, rules and regulations.

### Required Courses:

EMGT 601 (3)	Principles & Practices of Emergency Management
EMGT 603 (3)	Technical & Professional Writing for Emergency Management
EMGT 605 (3)	Social Dimensions of Disaster
EMGT 607 (3)	Emergency Mental Health and Trauma
EMGT 614 (3)	Natural Hazards Primer
EMGT 615 (3)	Emergency Preparedness for Industry
EMGT 619 (3)	Emergency Management Planning
EMGT 693 (3)	Field Experience Practicum

### Elective Courses (at least 6 credits)

EDTE 605 (3)	Critical Thinking and Decision Making
EMGT 609 (3)	Disaster Response and Recovery
EMGT 616 (3)	Terrorism, Weapons of Mass Destruction and Homeland Security
EMGT 617 (3)	Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication
EMGT 618 (3)	Humanitarian Responses to International Disasters
EMGT 629-632 (3)	Special Topics Course
EMGT 633 (3)	GIS Applications for Emergency Management
EMGT 634 (3)	Comparative Emergency Management Systems
EMGT 653 (3)	Theoretical Perspectives and Methods Applied to Emergency Management
EMGT 691 (1-3)	Independent Study

*"This program is suitable for both seasoned emergency managers as well as newcomers like myself, and provides the opportunity for training credentials through coursework. It's delivered by subject-matter experts who are well-versed in both the academic and practical experience. I also loved the accessibility of the online format. Through classes, coursework and conversations with my classmates and instructors, I had the opportunity to network with some of the best emergency managers in the field (and I even get to work with many MSEM graduates on a daily basis!). I cannot recommend this program enough."*

– Tina Laboy '13

*Acting Planning Division Chief at the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security; part-time adjunct professor at Frederick Community College*

*Named one of IAEM-USA Region 3's Top 40 Under 40 Emergency Management Professionals in 2021 and was named the Maryland Rookie Emergency Manager of the Year in 2017*

## PROGRAM AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS



• OnlineMasters.com ranked Millersville as #8 in the U.S. and #2 in Pennsylvania for the best online master's degree programs in emergency management.

• Intelligent.com has ranked Millersville as having one of the best Master's in Emergency Management programs in 2022.



• Millersville University topped the 2019 national rankings of Best Online Master's in Emergency Management programs.



• OnlineU ranked Millersville as one of the most affordable Master's in Emergency Management programs in 2022.



• Millersville's online Master's in Emergency Management program was ranked as one of the 25 best in the country, according to BestMastersPrograms.org.



## DUAL DEGREES AND CONCENTRATIONS

**MSW-MSEM Dual Degree** – This dual program allows students in the MSW and MSEM programs to pursue a dual graduate degree. Students will need to apply and be admitted to both programs in order to pursue this dual degree. The dual degree is flexible and allows students to begin and/or finish one of the programs before enrolling in the other. Students may also choose to enroll in both the MSW and MSEM programs and complete them simultaneously.

**Communication Track** – The curriculum for the Communication Track within the MSEM program consists of 15 credit hours of communication courses and 15 credit hours of MSEM courses. The Communication Track requires students to take five graduate courses from the Department of Communication and Theatre, including three required courses and two electives. Since the MSEM is an online program, all communication courses will be offered completely online, with a synchronous component in each course for faculty and student interaction, discussions, group work and individual projects.