

*Disaster and Emergency Management Programs – Undergraduate*

---

Academic Year 2019-2020  
Course Outline Dated September 4, 2019 (First Day of Fall Term)

**AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impact**

Term F, Section A – Cat #J45R01 (AP DEMS) & Cat #R14W01 (AP ADMS) – 3 Credit Hours

**Tuesdays Afternoons 14:30 for a duration of 180 minutes (2:30pm to 5:30pm)  
ACE 009 (Accolade Building East Basement)**

---

**I. Course director information**

Jack L. Rozdilsky, Ph.D.,  
Associate Professor, Disaster and Emergency Management Program

Office: 203 Atkinson  
Email: rozdilsk@yorku.ca  
Telephone: 416-736-2100 x 22864  
Consultation hours: By appointment (to make appointment email rozdilsk@yorku.ca)

**II. Calendar description / prerequisite / co-requisite**

**AP/DEMS 1701: Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts**

This course is an introductory one for students interested in emergencies and disasters. It overviews the history of disasters, examines their causes, and analyzes their impacts. A series of case studies will be used to illustrate how nature, the built environment, and society interact to create them. The course is lecture based but will use media where possible to illustrate the concepts discussed in class. Course credit exclusions: ADMS 1701 3.00

**III. Enhanced course description and objectives**

***Enhanced course description:***

AP/DEMS 1701 is intended to be an introductory-level undergraduate course focusing on theoretical and practical aspects of disaster and emergency management. As referenced in the title of the course, the pedagogical tool of case studies will be applied to illustrate concepts in disaster and emergency management. Disaster and emergency management is a field which balances scholarship and practice, and the aims of emergency management higher education include producing and transmitting practical knowledge of how to practice the profession. Study of cases of disasters can illustrate basic principles, epitomize problems, and create an environment to consider new solutions to re-occurring problems. Therefore, examples of disasters originating from natural, technological, and social environments will be explored during this term.

This course takes guidance from those scholars and practitioners who have developed the use of case studies in emergency management higher education. Specifically, the works of the FEMA Higher Education Program (2018) and Dr. J.M. Slick (2016) are applied to the development of this course.

See Section **XI-7** at end of the course outline (Specific Term Information) for the

- ❖ Fall 2019 AP/DEMS 1701 Table of Cases Selected in Class

See Section **XI-7** at end of the course outline (Specific Term Information) for the

- ❖ Fall 2019 AP/DEMS 1701 Miscellaneous Information – Works Cited in Course Outline

Seven disaster case studies will be used for this term. These disaster case studies were selected based on two factors:

1. The intrinsic or instrumental values of the case
2. The classification of the attributes of the case

The syllabus addendum titled “Case study selection for AP/DEMS 1701” provides more detail on the pedagogy used to develop this course and the cases to be used for this term.

This course is primary designed for undergraduate students (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>) who are planning to enter into the Disaster and Emergency Management at York University. The course will cover the “emergency” portion of emergency management.

For more advanced disaster and emergency management students enrolling, new knowledge may be gained on detail of specific disaster events, however portions of the course may be duplicative with respect to other more advanced emergency management courses.

This course is open for enrollment to all undergraduate majors, but please note this course is disaster and emergency management focused. For those students, this course can provide a general introduction to the disaster and emergency profession and prepare students to consider the wider implications of threats posed by disasters to society.

#### **IV. Teaching methods**

The course will involve formal lectures by the course director. Lectures will be delivered using three modes:

1. Spoken;
2. Spoken with written notes on the chalkboard;
3. Spoken with projected computer-generated slides.

Audio and video will be utilized on occasion to better illustrate lecture topics. It will behoove students to take notes on the lectures on the lectures as slides and/or specific lecture information will not be distributed. The required readings are central to the course as the entire scope of the course extends beyond material provided during the lecture to include readings.

## V. Readings

This course has one required textbook:

**Valcik, Nicolas A. and Tracy, Paul E. (2017). Case studies in disaster response and emergency management. (2<sup>nd</sup> edition.) New York, NY: Routledge.**

International standard book numbers

978-1-4987-8851-9 (hbk)

978-1-315-45937-0 (ebk)

Other topic focused readings will also be assigned; announcements will be made in class. Such readings may be provided via the York University Moodle site.

A textbook reading schedule will be provided at the start of the term, with additional readings made available as the term progresses.

See Section **XI-3** at end of the course outline (Specific Term Information) for the

- ❖ Fall 2019 AP/DEMS 1701 Course Textbook Reading Schedule

## VI. Schedule

See Section **XI-1** at end of the course outline (Specific Term Information) for the

- ❖ Fall 2019 AP/DEMS 1701 Course Overall Schedule

## VII. Evaluation

See Section **XI-2** and **XI-4** at end of the course outline (Specific Term Information) for the

- ❖ Fall 2019 AP/DEMS 1701 Course Grading Schedule and Tables

## VIII. Assignments Explanation, late work, missed exams, absences

See Section **XI-5** at end of the course outline (Specific Term Information) for the

- ❖ Fall 2019 AP/DEMS 1701 Course Evaluation Narrative

## IX. Additional information for students provided by Professor

### Grade Distribution Requirement

*Final Grading and Grade Distribution Note:* The accumulation of raw scores is a numerical summation that can be used as an indicator for a student's progress. Please note that the raw scores will not necessarily translate directly to a student's final score. This circumstance is due to specified grade distribution profiles that have been established for AP/ADMS and DEMS courses by the School for Administrative Studies and by the Faculty for Liberal Arts and Professional Studies. Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to school and faculty grade distribution profiles. For a 1000-level course the range for expected mean and median grades is C (low at 60%) to B (high at 74%)

Accommodations Requests

York's disabilities offices and the Registrar's Office work in partnership to support alternate exam and test accommodation services for students with disabilities at the Keele campus.

Please notify the Professor during the first two weeks of the term if you require such services.

Accommodations are made through established university procedure only.

Add Drop Deadlines for Fall Term 2019

See Section XI-6 at end of the course outline (Specific Term Information) for the

- ❖ Fall 2019 AP/DEMS 1701 Miscellaneous Information – Add Drop Deadlines

Internet-Based Communication and Email Use:

Internet-based communication by university email and information distribution methods such as the York University Moodle system will be used in this course. Students without email or computer access may find it difficult to complete the course.

The professor can be contacted at email:

- rozdilsk@yorku.ca

The professor considers the classroom to be the primary site of interaction. The professor will generally make the best effort to read and respond to email as available (within one to three days). Email is not considered as a real-time communication method.

Class Cancellation Policy:

Class may be cancelled for reasons such as inclement weather or the professor being unable to attend class. York University's class cancellation schedule will be followed (for example, if the university closes due to inclement weather).

In the rare event the professor determines on his own accord that it is necessary to cancel class, a mass email will be sent from Moodle to all students. Also, at the top of the Moodle Page, a course status announcement of "cancellation" will be clearly posted.

See Section **XI-6** at end of the course outline (Specific Term Information) for the

- ❖ Fall 2019 AP/DEMS 1701 Miscellaneous Information – Cancellations

Class Content Fair Warning:

Please be aware that when studying topics related to disaster and emergency management depictions of human suffering, anti-social behaviors, and the consequences extreme events are within the realm of the subject matter covered in class. Such depictions may contain course language, graphic images, and material considered controversial, offensive, and/or disturbing to some persons. Please consider this statement as 'fair warning' concerning the possibility of such content. Contact the course director if you have any concerns or requests for accommodation.

Photography, Video, and Audio Recording Prohibited:

Due to privacy reasons of the professor and students, video and audio recording of class activities and photography of people in the classroom is prohibited.

Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection:

**Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection**

This document was created for non-commercial educational purposes related to the operation of York University course AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts. This document was created by Dr. Jack L. Rozdilsky in care of York University, Toronto, Canada. This document has been posted electronically on the York University Learning Management System for exclusive use by enrolled students only. It is posted under fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act. Any person or entity who infringes copyright, redistributes this work physically or electronically and/or acts to sell copyrighted protected materials to third parties without authorization can and will be held liable to the full extent of applicable law.

© 2019, All Rights Reserved

This notice applies to *all material* created by the Professor for this class. Students are hereby notified that the act of selling materials provided by the Professor to third party content providers is prohibited.

Outside of classroom activities:

There are no outside events related to the operations of this course scheduled for times outside of normal class meeting hours. If any relevant outside events become available, the terms of those activities will be clearly outlined prior to such events.

Disruption of classroom activities – Zero tolerance:

This professor has zero tolerance for any form of disruption threatening classroom safety.

If the safety of the classroom is threatened in any way, the Professor reserves the rights to:

1. Take actions to secure the classroom environment
2. Ask the offender to leave the classroom
3. Make immediate reports to security/law enforcement
4. Make secondary reports to relevant campus units
5. Provide a score of zero points to any course grading activities the offender is engaged in at the time of the offense

Further possible actions and sanctions are defined under provisions established by the York University Student Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

**X. Relevant university regulations**

**Deferred Exams:**

Deferred standing may be granted to students who are unable to write their final examination at the scheduled time or to submit their outstanding course work on the last day of classes. Details can be found at

- <http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/deferred-standing>

Any request for deferred standing on medical grounds must include an Attending Physician's Statement form; a "Doctor's Note" will not be accepted.

DSA Form:

- [http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/deferred standing agreement.pdf](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/deferred%20standing%20agreement.pdf)

Attending Physician's Statement form:

- <http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf>

In order to apply for deferred standing, students must register at:

- <http://apps.eso.yorku.ca/apps/adms/deferredexams.nsf>

Followed by handing in a completed DSA form and supporting documentation directly to the main office of the School of Administrative Studies (282 Atkinson) and add your ticket number to the DSA form. The DSA and supporting documentation must be submitted no later than five (5) business days from the date of the exam. These requests will be considered on their merit and decisions will be made available by logging into the above-mentioned link. No individualized communication will be sent by the School to the students (no letter or e-mails).

Students with approved DSA will be able to write their deferred examination during the School's deferred examination period. No further extensions of deferred exams shall be granted. The format and covered content of the deferred examination may be different from that of the originally scheduled examination. The deferred exam may be closed book, cumulative and comprehensive and may include all subjects/topics of the textbook whether they have been covered in class or not. Any request for deferred standing on medical grounds must include an Attending Physician's Statement form; a "Doctor's Note" will not be accepted.

### **Academic Honesty:**

The Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies considers breaches of the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty to be serious matters. The Senate Policy on Academic Honesty is an affirmation and clarification for members of the University of the general obligation to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. As a clear sense of academic honesty and responsibility is fundamental to good scholarship, the policy recognizes the general responsibility of all faculty members to foster acceptable standards of academic conduct and of the student to be mindful of and abide by such standards. Suspected breaches of academic honesty will be investigated, and charges shall be laid if reasonable and probable grounds exist. Students should review the York Academic Honesty policy for themselves at:

- <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>

Students might also wish to review the interactive on-line Tutorial for students on academic integrity, at:

- <https://spark.library.yorku.ca/academic-integrity-what-is-academic-integrity/>

### **Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy:**

The grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) shall be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and, under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for 'full year' courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final

withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade, with the following exceptions:

Note: Under unusual and/or unforeseeable circumstances which disrupt the academic norm, instructors are expected to provide grading schemes and academic feedback in the spirit of these regulations, as soon as possible. For more information on the Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy, please visit:

- <http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=86>

**In-Class Tests and Exams - the 20% Rule:**

For all Undergraduate courses, except those which regularly meet on Friday evening or on a weekend, tests or exams worth more than 20% will not be held in the two weeks prior to the beginning of the official examination period. For further information on the 20% Rule, please visit:

- <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/limits-on-the-worth-of-examinations-in-the-final-classes-of-a-term-policy/>

**Reappraisals:**

Students may, with sufficient academic grounds, request that a final grade in a course be reappraised (which may mean the review of specific pieces of tangible work). Non-academic grounds are not relevant for grade reappraisals; in such cases, students are advised to petition to their home Faculty. Students are normally expected to first contact the course director to discuss the grade received and to request that their tangible work be reviewed. Tangible work may include written, graphic, digitized, modeled, video recording or audio recording formats, but not oral work. Students need to be aware that a request for a grade reappraisal may result in the original grade being raised, lowered or confirmed. For reappraisal procedures and information, please visit the Office of the Registrar site at:

- <http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/grade-reappraisal-policy>

**Accommodation Procedures:**

LA&PS students who have experienced a misfortune or who are too ill to attend the final examination in an ADMS course should not attempt to do so; they must pursue deferred standing. Other students should contact their home Faculty for information. For further information, please visit:

- <http://ds.info.yorku.ca/academic-support-accomodations/>

**Religious Accommodation:**

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. For more information on religious accommodation, please visit:

- <https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/wa/regobs>

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities (Senate Policy):**

The nature and extent of accommodations shall be consistent with and supportive of the integrity of the curriculum and of the academic standards of programs or courses. Provided that students have given sufficient notice about their accommodation needs, instructors shall take reasonable steps to accommodate these needs in a manner consistent with the guidelines established hereunder. For more information, please visit the Counselling and Disability Services website at

- <http://www.yorku.ca/dshub/>

York's disabilities offices and the Registrar's Office work in partnership to support alternate exam and test accommodation services for students with disabilities at the Keele campus. For more information on alternate exams and tests please visit:

- <http://www.yorku.ca/altexams/>

Please alert the Course Director as soon as possible should you require special accommodations.

## **XI. Specific Term Information**

This section of the syllabus closes the course outline narrative. See the following pages for specific course information for this term.

In the following pages, the components of the final grade and the associated due dates are hereby announced at the start of the term. Please notify the professor in advance if any date conflicts exist that would interfere with your in-class completion of these items.

### ❖ Note: The schedule provided is tentative

The course schedule depicts what the professor intends to cover during this term. In the event there are inclement weather cancellations, time variations in topic coverage, unexpected absences of the professor, etc. the schedule may change. If any schedule changes become necessary during the term, announcements will be made in class.



**Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection**

This document was created for non-commercial educational purposes related to the operation of York University course AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts. This document was created by Dr. Jack L. Rozdilsky in care of York University, Toronto, Canada. This document has been posted electronically on the York University Learning Management System for exclusive use by enrolled students only. It is posted under fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act. Any person or entity who infringes copyright, redistributes this work physically or electronically and/or acts to sell copyrighted protected materials to third parties without authorization can and will be held liable to the full extent of applicable law.

© 2019, All Rights Reserved

---

**AP/DEM 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts**

Course Outline Section XI Specific Term Information  
Fall Term 2019

DEMS 1701 Course Outline  
Specific Term Info Section

**XI-0**

**Index of Section XI – Specific Course Information**

1. Overall Schedule
2. Course Grading Schedule
3. Course Textbook Reading Schedule
4. Course Grading Tables
5. Course Grading Narrative
6. Course Miscellaneous Information
7. Table of Cases Selected for Class

**Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection**

This document was created for non-commercial educational purposes related to the operation of York University course AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts. This document was created by Dr. Jack L. Rozdilsky in care of York University, Toronto, Canada. This document has been posted electronically on the York University Learning Management System for exclusive use by enrolled students only. It is posted under fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act. Any person or entity who infringes copyright, redistributes this work physically or electronically and/or acts to sell copyrighted protected materials to third parties without authorization can and will be held liable to the full extent of applicable law.

© 2019, All Rights Reserved

**AP/DEM 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts**

Course Outline Section XI Specific Term Information  
Fall Term 2019

DEMS 1701 Course Outline  
Specific Term Info Section

**XI-1**

**Overall Schedule**

Class #	Month	Date	Planned Topic
1	September	9	Opening for Class & The Study of Disaster Cases
2	September	16	Case #1 – Toronto Van Attack (Criminality – Murder)
3	September	23	Case #2 – Hurricane Katrina (Natural Disaster)
4	September	30	Exam #1
5	October	7	Case #3 – Las Vegas Mass Shooting (Social Disaster)
n/a	October	14	No Class – Fall Reading Week
6	October	21	Case #4 – Hiroshima / Nuclear Weapons (Black Swan Event)
7	October	28	Case #5 – Halifax Explosion (Technological Disaster)
8	November	4	Exam #2
9	November	11	Case #6 – Flint Water Crisis (Non-Routine Emergency)
10	November	18	Case #7 – September 11 Attacks (Terrorism)
11	November	25	Closing for Class & Introduction to Emergency Management
12	December	2	Exam #3

Notes: (1) This is a planned schedule created with the intention to keep these dates intact. However, if circumstances warrant a change in timing, this schedule is subject to change. If so, announcements will be made in class. (2) This class ends on Monday December 2, with the final activity of class being exam #3. (3) There is no final exam scheduled for this class.

Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection

This document was created for non-commercial educational purposes related to the operation of York University course AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts. This document was created by Dr. Jack L. Rozdilsky in care of York University, Toronto, Canada. This document has been posted electronically on the York University Learning Management System for exclusive use by enrolled students only. It is posted under fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act. Any person or entity who infringes copyright, redistributes this work physically or electronically and/or acts to sell copyrighted protected materials to third parties without authorization can and will be held liable to the full extent of applicable law.

© 2019, All Rights Reserved

**AP/DEM 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts**  
 Course Outline Section XI Specific Term Information  
 Fall Term 2019

DEMS 1701 Course Outline  
 Specific Term Info Section

**XI-2**

**Course Grading Schedule**

Class #	Month	Date	Planned Topic <b>Grade Item</b>
1	September	9	Opening for Class & The Study of Disaster Cases <b>Attendance Score #1</b>
2	September	16	Case #1 – Toronto Van Attack (Criminality – Murder) <b>Attendance Score #2</b>
3	September	23	Case #2 – Hurricane Katrina (Natural Disaster) <b>Attendance Score #3</b> <i>Issue Assignment</i>
4	September	30	<b><u>Exam #1</u></b>
5	October	7	Case #3 – Las Vegas Mass Shooting (Social Disaster) <b>Attendance Score #4</b>
n/a	October	14	No Class – Fall Reading Week <b>Attendance Score #5 – Bonus</b>
6	October	21	Case #4 – Hiroshima / Nuclear Weapons (Black Swan Event) <b>Attendance Score #6</b> <b><u>Assignment Due</u></b>
7	October	28	Case #5 – Halifax Explosion (Technological Disaster) <b>Attendance Score #7</b>
8	November	4	<b><u>Exam #2</u></b>
9	November	11	Case #6 – Flint Water Crisis (Non-Routine Emergency) <b>Attendance Score #8</b>
10	November	18	Case #7 – September 11 Attacks (Terrorism) <b>Attendance Score #9</b>
11	November	25	Closing for Class & Introduction to Emergency Management <b>Attendance Score #10</b>
12	December	2	<b><u>Exam #3</u></b>

Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection

This document was created for non-commercial educational purposes related to the operation of York University course AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts. This document was created by Dr. Jack L. Rozdilsky in care of York University, Toronto, Canada. This document has been posted electronically on the York University Learning Management System for exclusive use by enrolled students only. It is posted under fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act. Any person or entity who infringes copyright, redistributes this work physically or electronically and/or acts to sell copyrighted protected materials to third parties without authorization can and will be held liable to the full extent of applicable law.

© 2019, All Rights Reserved

**AP/DEM 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts**  
 Course Outline Section XI Specific Term Information  
 Fall Term 2019

DEMS 1701 Course Outline  
 Specific Term Info Section

**XI-3**

**Course Textbook Reading Schedule**

*Note: Additional Topic Specific Readings May be Assigned During Class*

Textbook: Valcik, Nicolas A. and Tracy, Paul E. (2017). *Case studies in disaster response and emergency management*. (2nd edition.) New York, NY: Routledge.

Class #	Month	Date	Planned Topic <b>Assigned Readings related to the Next Week's Topic</b>
1	September	9	Opening for Class & The Study of Disaster Cases <b>Oklahoma City Bombing pp. 224-226</b> <b>Norway Terrorist Attacks pp. 230-233</b> <b>Paris Terrorist Attacks pp. 233-237</b>
2	September	16	Case #1 – Toronto Van Attack (Criminality – Murder) <b>Hurricane Katrina pp. 73-77</b> <b>Hurricane Rita pp. 78-80</b> <b>Hurricane Sandy pp. 81-83</b>
3	September	23	Case #2 – Hurricane Katrina (Natural Disaster) <b>No reading assigned – study for exam</b>
4	September	30	<b>Exam #1</b> <b>Univ. of Texas-Austin Whitman shooting pp. 239-243</b> <b>Columbine High School Massacre pp. 246-248</b> <b>Beltway Sniper Attack pp. 248-250</b> <b>Virginia Tech Massacre pp. 250-252</b> <b>Dallas Sniper Attack pp. 256-257</b>
5	October	7	Case #3 – Las Vegas Mass Shooting (Social Disaster) <b>Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster pp. 133-138</b> <b>Three Mile Island Pennsylvania pp. 280-282</b> <b>Chernobyl Ukraine pp. 282-284</b>
n/a	October	14	No Class – Fall Reading Week
6	October	21	Case #4 – Hiroshima / Nuclear Weapons (Black Swan Event) <b>Brazzaville Arms Dump Blasts pp. 185-188</b> <b>West Fertilizer Company Explosion pp. 188-193</b> <b>Tianjin Explosion pp. 193-196</b>
7	October	28	Case #5 – Halifax Explosion (Technological Disaster) <b>No reading assigned – study for exam</b>
8	November	4	<b>Exam #2</b> <b>Donora Air Pollution pp. 275-276</b> <b>Love Canal pp. 276-280</b>
9	November	11	Case #6 – Flint Water Crisis (Non-Routine Emergency) <b>World Trade Center Bombing pp. 222-224</b> <b>September 11, 2001 pp. 268-271</b>
10	November	18	Case #7 – September 11 Attacks (Terrorism) <b>Guidelines and General Information pp. 1-27</b> <b>Final Thoughts pp. 309-312</b>
11	November	25	Closing for Class & Introduction to Emergency Management <b>No reading assigned – study for exam</b>
12	December	2	<b>Exam #3</b>

Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection

This document was created for non-commercial educational purposes related to the operation of York University course AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts. This document was created by Dr. Jack L. Rozdilsky in care of York University, Toronto, Canada. This document has been posted electronically on the York University Learning Management System for exclusive use by enrolled students only. It is posted under fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act. Any person or entity who infringes copyright, redistributes this work physically or electronically and/or acts to sell copyrighted protected materials to third parties without authorization can and will be held liable to the full extent of applicable law.

© 2019, All Rights Reserved

**AP/DEM 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts**

Course Outline Section XI Specific Term Information  
Fall Term 2019

DEMS 1701 Course Outline  
Specific Term Info Section

**XI-4**

**Course Grading Tables**

AP/DEMS 1701 Fall Term 2019 Raw Score Table			
Grade Item #	Grade Item	Points	Percentage of Total
1	Attendance & Participation	200	20%
2	Case Study Paper	200	20%
3	Exam #1	200	20%
4	Exam #2	250	25%
5	Exam #3	150	15%
<i>Total for Raw Score</i>		<i>1000</i>	<i>100%</i>

AP/DEMS 1701 Fall Term 2019 Running Scores Table				
Grade Item #	Week of Class	Grade Item	Points	Running Total Score
3	4 <sup>th</sup> week of class September 30	Exam #1	200	@ 200
2	6 <sup>th</sup> week of class October 21	Case Study Paper	200	@ 400
1	First ½ of term	Attendance	100 (20 x 5 classes)	@ 500
Mid-Point of class is week 6 on October 21				
4	8 <sup>th</sup> Week of class November 4	Exam #2	250	@ 750
5	12 <sup>th</sup> week of class December 2	Exam #3	150	@ 900
1	Second ½ of term	Attendance	100 (20 x 5 classes)	@ 1000
Last Day of Class is Monday December 2				
			Raw Score Total	1000
n/a	* ADMS Mandated Grade Distribution <small>For a 1000-level course, the range for the expected mean / median grades is C to B; (If end of term calculated raw scores deviate from this range and an equal +/- adjustment will be applied to all scores in order to meet this school requirement )</small>		+ / - Adjustment*	+ / - ?
Final Course Score				1000 + / -

For a 1000-level course, the range for the expected mean/median grades will be C (60 min ) to B (74 max.)

AP / DEMS & AP / ADMS Undergraduate Letter Grading System	
Letter Grade	Percentage Range
A+	90-100
A	80-89
B+	75-79
B	70-74
C+	65-69
C	60-64
D+	55-59
E	40-49
F	00-39

### Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection

This document was created for non-commercial educational purposes related to the operation of York University course AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts. This document was created by Dr. Jack L. Rozdilsky in care of York University, Toronto, Canada. This document has been posted electronically on the York University Learning Management System for exclusive use by enrolled students only. It is posted under fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act. Any person or entity who infringes copyright, redistributes this work physically or electronically and/or acts to sell copyrighted protected materials to third parties without authorization can and will be held liable to the full extent of applicable law.

© 2019, All Rights Reserved

## **AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts**

Course Outline Section XI Specific Term Information  
Fall Term 2019

DEMS 1701 Course Outline  
Specific Term Info Section

**XI-5**

### **Course Grading Narrative**

The evaluation for this course is based on five grading items:

1. Attendance and Participation
2. Case Study Paper
3. Exam #1
4. Exam #2
5. Exam #3

These items are described as follows:

#### **Attendance and Participation.**

For this 1000-level class undergraduate course, the expectation is that students will attend all classes, period.

Attendance and participation is defined as the student being an active learner who is physically present in the classroom (i.e., paying attention to the lecture, taking notes, answering questions when called upon, and participating in discussions and/or any group activity, etc.).

A sign-in sheet will be passed around during class to record attendance by signature. Attendance is defined as being in class for both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> half of class. The Professor reserves the right to take attendance at any time and also take attendance more than once (in order to penalize student who choose to leave class early).

One (1) absence is granted without penalty (that is, with no penalty of losing attendance points, students are still responsible for what was missed). Excused absences are possible to obtain for cases of university sanctioned reasons for missing coursework (sickness, bereavement, compassionate, duty, etc.) Please email the professor regarding excused absence situations.

#### **Case Study Paper.**

This paper will be a written assignment designed to evaluate writing, knowledge, synthesis, analysis, and creative skills. Students will be asked to write a paper of approximately 8 to 12 pages, double-spaced. A case study will be constructed from analysis of an actual disaster event. Specifications for that analysis and the grading rubric will be provided in class.

This assignment will be due by electronic upload to the Moodle site by the deadline of October 21. Instructions will be provided in class.

Regarding late papers, they are accepted at the Professor's discretion as follows:

- Due date is Oct 21                      accepted with no late-deduction; scored out of 200 points
- 1 week late is Oct 28                    accepted with a 10% reduction
- 2 weeks late is Nov 4                    accepted with a 25% reduction
- 3 weeks late is Nov 11                   accepted with a 35% reduction
- 4 weeks late is Nov 18                   accepted with a 50% reduction
- After 4 weeks late                        Not accepted, score of zero, 100% reduction

### Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection

This document was created for non-commercial educational purposes related to the operation of York University course AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts. This document was created by Dr. Jack L. Rozdilsky in care of York University, Toronto, Canada. This document has been posted electronically on the York University Learning Management System for exclusive use by enrolled students only. It is posted under fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act. Any person or entity who infringes copyright, redistributes this work physically or electronically and/or acts to sell copyrighted protected materials to third parties without authorization can and will be held liable to the full extent of applicable law.

© 2019, All Rights Reserved

---

## Course Grading Narrative Continued

### Exams.

This course has three exams. Published exams dates are:

1. September 30
2. November 4
3. December 2

The expectation is that all students will be in class to take the exams at the designated times.

Exams will be based on content covered in previous classes. An in-class review time and question period will be allotted in the class period prior to the exam. The format and length for the exams will be specified in class. A general high-level review of areas from which exam questions will be drawn will be discussed and, in some cases, provided. Do not have an expectation of note or slide distribution for exam preparation purposes.

Exam question types can be multiple choice, diagram questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, matching questions, short hand-written responses, short-handwritten essays, medium-handwritten essays, and long-handwritten essays.

There is a zero-tolerance policy for exam cheating. Any cases of cheating will be handled by dismissal from the room, a score of zero being entered for the exam in question, school and university academic dishonesty policies being applied.

Scores will be posted on Moodle, and in some cases distributed in class. Class size prevents distribution and inspection of exams in class. Exams will not be returned. If a student wishes to inspect his or her exam, exam inspection times are pre-scheduled as follows:

- Exam #1 Inspection: Wednesday October 30, 2019 @ 10am to 12noon in room 222 Atkinson Hall
- Exam #2 Inspection: Tuesday November 26, 2019 @ 10am to 12noon in room 222 Atkinson Hall
- Exam #3 Inspection: End of Term, See final reported grade. Inspection per ADMS protocols.

### *Missed Exams:*

The expectation is that students will be able to take the exams in class at the scheduled time. If a student cannot make it to the exam, please notify the professor on email prior to or during the exam period. In situations where students are absent during an exam day, an exam make-up can be requested, but it may not necessarily be granted. Make-up exams are reserved for rare circumstances such as students with a documented reason for missing class like illness, compassionate grounds, duty, etc. Supporting documentation will be requested (e.g., doctor's letter).

It is possible that an exam may be scored at zero for a student who is absent during the exam and period and does not contact the professor regarding the absence, and/or fails to provide a legitimate reason for missing the exam. It is not the responsibility of the Professor to track down students who fail to take exams.

Regarding make-up exams, there three make-up times as follows. If students are granted a make-up exam, Make-Up exams will take place only according to the following schedule: *(Note: This list is not of alternative exam times open to all students. These dates/times are restricted to students with approved reasons for taking a make-up exam, under specific circumstances granted by the Professor.)*

- Exam #1 Make-up: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 @ 10am to 1pm in room 222 Atkinson Hall
- Exam #2 Make-up: Tuesday November 12, 2019 @ 10am to 1pm in room 222 Atkinson Hall
- Exam #3 Make-up: Thursday December 5, 2019 @ 10am to 1pm in room 222 Atkinson Hall

### Posted Legal Notice of Copyright Protection

This document was created for non-commercial educational purposes related to the operation of York University course AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts. This document was created by Dr. Jack L. Rozdilsky in care of York University, Toronto, Canada. This document has been posted electronically on the York University Learning Management System for exclusive use by enrolled students only. It is posted under fair dealing provisions of the Copyright Act. Any person or entity who infringes copyright, redistributes this work physically or electronically and/or acts to sell copyrighted protected materials to third parties without authorization can and will be held liable to the full extent of applicable law.

© 2019, All Rights Reserved

## **AP/DEMS 1701 Disasters: Case Studies of Causes and Impacts**

Course Outline Section XI Specific Term Information  
Fall Term 2019

DEMS 1701 Course Outline  
Specific Term Info Section

**XI-6**

### **Miscellaneous Course Information**

#### **Course Cancellation Standard Operating Procedure.**

On rare occasions, the course can be cancelled due to:

1. Official university closures
2. Planned cancellation by Professor under the following conditions
  - a. Announcement of future class cancellation made well in well in advance
  - b. Short-notice cancellation
    - i. A group email will be sent out about the closure 4-hours prior to class starting
      1. For Fall 2019 DEMS 1701, that time is Monday 10:30am
  - c. Sudden-onset cancellation
    - i. If the Professor is not in the classroom at the scheduled time students can leave
      1. For Fall 2019 DEMS 1701, that time is Monday 3:00pm

#### **Add / Drop Deadlines.**

- Last date to add a course without permission of instructor is Sept. 17
- Last date to add a course with permission of instructor is Oct. 1
- Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade is Nov. 8
- Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W”) is Nov. 9 - Dec. 3

See <https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw19> for complete university policy guidance

#### **Works Cited in Course Outline.**

1. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), United States, (2018). *A Proposed FEMA Case Study Development Process. A Report Prepared for the FEMA Higher Education Program*. Emmitsburg, Maryland: National Emergency Training Center. Retrieved from [https://training.fema.gov/hiedu/docs/latest/fema\\_casestudy\\_development\\_process\\_finalreport.pdf](https://training.fema.gov/hiedu/docs/latest/fema_casestudy_development_process_finalreport.pdf)
2. Slick, J.M. (2016). *An exploration of the characteristics of case-based learning activities in disaster and emergency management post-secondary programs: What is and what might be*. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). University of British Columbia – Okanagan Campus. Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada. Retrieved from <https://open.library.ubc.ca/cIRcle/collections/ubctheses/24/items/1.0305799>



## Table of Cases Selected for Class

Selection table concepts based on the work of J.M Slick (2016)  
 and FEMA Higher Ed Case Study Focus Group (2018)

		Intrinsic or Instrumental Value of Case		
		Intrinsic (about case itself)	Instrumental (About concept from case)	Instrumental (how to do something)
Classification of seven case attributes	<b>Degree of Realism</b> Learning based on real life experiences		<i>Criminality - Murder</i> <b>Toronto Van Attack</b> Concept of close to home soft targets	
	<b>Hazard Type</b> Learning based on natural, tech, or social hazard types	<i>Natural Disaster</i> <b>Hurricane Katrina</b> Significant hurricane impacts		
	<b>Event Type</b> Learned based on human experiences with disaster			<i>Social Disaster</i> <b>Las Vegas Mass Shooting</b> Individual prep with Run Hide Fight
	<b>Context</b> Learning based on case situated international or domestic	<i>Black Swan Event</i> <b>Hiroshima / Nuclear Weapons</b> Significant International Event		
	<b>Temporality</b> Learning based on different dimensions of time	<i>Technological Disaster</i> <b>Halifax Explosion</b> Significant Canada Disaster retrospect		
	<b>Social Unit</b> Learning based on a focus on primary social unit		<i>Non-Routine Emergency</i> <b>Flint Water Crisis</b> Concept of novel community emerg.	
	<b>Dimen. of Prof. Activity</b> Learning based on dimensions of the disaster life cycle	<i>Terrorism</i> <b>Sept. 11 Attacks</b> Significant Disaster Lessons Learned		