

DISASTER SCIENCE, MASTER OF SCIENCE (0507)

Program Coordinator

Joshua D. Durkee, joshua.durkee@wku.edu, (270) 745-8777

The Master of Science in Disaster Science builds upon traditional emergency management practices to include a better understanding of the complex causal relationships that yield the destructive outcomes trending in modern catastrophic events. This program integrates science-based principles from emergency management; earth, environmental, and atmospheric sciences; public health; engineering; and social sciences to prepare graduates for leadership roles in disaster preparedness, response, recovery, mitigation, and research.

Graduate Studies Admission

Please refer to the admission section (<http://catalog.wku.edu/graduate/admission/>) of this catalog for Graduate Studies admission requirements.

Program Requirements (30 hours)

The M.S. in Disaster Science offers thesis and non-thesis tracks. Thesis students enroll in three hours of DISC 598 and six hours of DISC 599 as part of their degree program. Non-thesis students enroll in six hours of DISC 595 as part of their degree program.

Thesis Track

Code	Title	Hours
REQUIRED COURSES		
EMDS 500	Emergency Management Policy and Practices	3
EMDS 501	Understanding Natural and Technological Disaster Risks	3
EMDS 502	Terrorism, Violence, Resiliency, and Response	3
DISC 598	Research Methods for Disaster Science	3
DISC 599	Thesis Research and Writing	1-6
ELECTIVES		
Any 12 hours from the following: EMDS 503, EMDS 504, EMDS 505, EMDS 506, EMDS 510, GEOS 510, GEOS 522, GEOS 526, GEOS 543, GEOS 577, EOHS 550, EOHS 572, EOHS 577, EOHS 595, PH 581, PH 582, PH 584, PH 586, LEAD 500, LEAD 505, LEAD 525, LEAD 530, RSA 515, RSA 534, RSA 536, RSA 538		12
Total Hours		30

Non-Thesis Track

Code	Title	Hours
REQUIRED COURSES		
EMDS 500	Emergency Management Policy and Practices	3
EMDS 501	Understanding Natural and Technological Disaster Risks	3
EMDS 502	Terrorism, Violence, Resiliency, and Response	3

DISC 595	Disaster Science Capstone	6
ELECTIVES		
Any 15 hours from the following: EMDS 503, EMDS 504, EMDS 505, EMDS 506, EMDS 510, GEOS 510, GEOS 522, GEOS 526, GEOS 543, GEOS 577, EOHS 550, EOHS 572, EOHS 577, EOHS 595, PH 581, PH 582, PH 584, PH 586, LEAD 500, LEAD 505, LEAD 525, LEAD 530, RSA 515, RSA 534, RSA 536, RSA 538		15
Total Hours		30