PICX2013

Crisis Management and Disaster Relief

Session 2, Online-flexible 2024

Department of Security Studies and Criminology

Contents

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
50cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit explores the concept of national resilience. It identifies the role of government in preparing for, managing and recovering from a broad range of crises. The unit begins with an overview of risk reduction strategies and introduces the concept of contingency planning. It then examines the various kinds of crisis response capabilities that government develop, including interagency and state-federal coordination procedures, interoperability of equipment and ADF domestic counterterrorism capabilities. The unit then discusses emergency coordination and management in a variety of contexts, including natural disasters, a large-scale mass transit accident, a nuclear, chemical or biological incident, a viral epidemic, a terrorist attack and critical infrastructure failure. Finally, the unit examines planning for national resilience capacity, the ability to recover from unexpected and debilitating crises. These potent threats to national security are outside the threat-centric concept of homeland security and require a more risk-based approach to planning and preparation.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Explain the concept of resilience as it applies to national security, preparedness planning, crisis response and emergency management

ULO2: Identify key threats to and vulnerabilities of critical national infrastructure

ULO3: Apply risk analysis models to a range of crisis response options available to government or business organisations

ULO4: Prioritise resilience planning tasks in accordance with business continuity principles appropriate to private and public sector organisations

ULO5: Critically evaluate coordination mechanisms between levels of government, across public and private organisations and among private sector organisations

ULO6: Employ emergency management principles to assess the applicability of coordination methods for different crisis scenarios.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Risk Assessment Exercise	20%	No	2024-08-18
Summarise the causes and findings on 4 disasters	20%	No	2024-09-01
Pick 1 globally significant human induced industrial accident/disaster and complete an AB on it	25%	No	2024-09-22
Essay on 1 globally significant human induced industrial accident/disaster	25%	No	2024-10-21
Reflective analysis in different reliability approaches to researching	10%	No	2024-10-20

Risk Assessment Exercise

Assessment Type [1]: Project
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 11 hours
Due: **2024-08-18**
Weighting: **20%**

This assessment task is a written exercise that draws upon research to examine the process of risk assessment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the concept of resilience as it applies to national security, preparedness planning, crisis response and emergency management
- Identify key threats to and vulnerabilities of critical national infrastructure
- Apply risk analysis models to a range of crisis response options available to government or business organisations

Summarise the causes and findings on 4 disasters

Assessment Type [1]: Summary
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 20 hours
Due: **2024-09-01**
Weighting: **20%**

Students will be asked to read media and government reports and summarise the cause of 4 globally significant human induced industrial accidents/disasters

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify key threats to and vulnerabilities of critical national infrastructure
- Apply risk analysis models to a range of crisis response options available to government or business organisations
- Critically evaluate coordination mechanisms between levels of government, across public and private organisations and among private sector organisations
- Employ emergency management principles to assess the applicability of coordination methods for different crisis scenarios.

Pick 1 globally significant human induced industrial accident/ disaster and complete an AB on it

Assessment Type [1]: Annotated bibliography
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 20 hours
Due: **2024-09-22**
Weighting: **25%**

Having previously examined government and media reports on the causes of 4 globally significant human induced industrial accidents/disasters from 'non-academic' sources, the students now turn their mind to the scholarly material on theories of disasters and crisis management via a AB on their specific event. The AB will assist them in their essay assessment in which they can use the same annotations.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the concept of resilience as it applies to national security, preparedness planning, crisis response and emergency management
- Identify key threats to and vulnerabilities of critical national infrastructure
- Critically evaluate coordination mechanisms between levels of government, across public and private organisations and among private sector organisations
- Employ emergency management principles to assess the applicability of coordination methods for different crisis scenarios.

Essay on 1 globally significant human induced industrial accident/disaster

Assessment Type [1]: Essay
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 20 hours
Due: **2024-10-21**
Weighting: **25%**

How having completed research on a variety of examples, students can select an incident that they most identify with and critically explore and evaluate the different theories and reasoning as to how and why that event occurred

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the concept of resilience as it applies to national security, preparedness planning, crisis response and emergency management
- Identify key threats to and vulnerabilities of critical national infrastructure
- Prioritise resilience planning tasks in accordance with business continuity principles appropriate to private and public sector organisations
- Critically evaluate coordination mechanisms between levels of government, across public and private organisations and among private sector organisations
- Employ emergency management principles to assess the applicability of coordination methods for different crisis scenarios.

Reflective analysis in different reliability approaches to researching

Assessment Type [1]: Reflective Writing
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 5 hours
Due: **2024-10-20**
Weighting: **10%**

The students will be asked to now reflect upon the strengths and weaknesses of sourcing information from government reports and wider IT/media (in assessment 2) in contrast to scholarly material (assessment 3). This RWA will help hone students research skills, learning to be more discerning in thier studies.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply risk analysis models to a range of crisis response options available to government or business organisations
- Critically evaluate coordination mechanisms between levels of government, across public and private organisations and among private sector organisations

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[1] If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

[2] Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

You should spend an average of 12 hours per week on this unit. This includes listening to lectures prior to seminar or tutorial, reading weekly required materials as detailed in iLearn, participating in Ilearn discussion forums and preparing assessments.

Internal students are expected to attend all seminar or tutorial sessions, and external students are expected to make significant contributions to on-line activities.

In most cases students are required to attempt and submit all major assessment tasks in order to pass the unit.

REQUIRED READINGS

The citations for all the required readings for this unit are available to enrolled students through the unit iLearn site, and at Macquarie University's library site. Electronic copies of required readings may be accessed through the library or will be made available by other means.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

Computer and internet access are essential for this unit. Basic computer skills and skills in word processing are also a requirement.

This unit has an online presence. Login is via: https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/

Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.

Information about IT used at Macquarie University is available at http://students.mq.edu.au/it_services/

SUBMITTING ASSESSMENT TASKS

All text-based assessment tasks are to be submitted, marked and returned electronically. This will only happen through the unit iLearn site.

Assessment tasks must be submitted as a MS word document by the due date.

Most assessment tasks will be subject to a 'TurnitIn' review as an automatic part of the submission process.

The granting of extensions is subject to the university's Special Consideration Policy. Extensions will not be granted by unit conveners or tutors, but must be lodged through Special Consideration: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration

LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT TASKS

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of, 0 (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessment (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic

WORD LIMITS FOR ASSESSMENT TASKS

Stated word limits include footnotes and footnoted references, but not bibliography, or title page.

Word limits can generally deviate by 10% either over or under the stated figure.

If the number of words deviates from the limit by more than 10%, then penalties will apply. These penalties are 5% of the awarded mark for every 100 words deviation from the word limit. If a paper is 300 words over, for instance, it will lose 3 x 5% = 15% of the total mark awarded for the assignment. This percentage is taken off the total mark, i.e. if a paper was graded at a credit (65%) and was 300 words over, it would be reduced by 15 marks to a pass (50%).

The application of this penalty is at the discretion of the course convener.

REASSESSMENT OF ASSIGNMENTS DURING THE SEMESTER

acquarie University operates a Final Grade Appeal procedure as part of the Assessment policy in

cases where students feel their work was graded inappropriately: https://policies.mq.edu.au/document/view.php?id=277

In accordance with the Grade Appeal procedure, individual works are not subject to regrading.

STAFF AVAILABILITY

Department staff will endeavour to answer student enquiries in a timely manner. However, emails or iLearn messages will not usually be answered over the weekend or public holiday period.

Students are encouraged to read the Unit Guide and look at instructions posted on the iLearn site before sending email requests to staff.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Assessment Procedure
- Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy

Students seeking more policy resources can visit Student Policies (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the search tool.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe academic integrity – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing and maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

The Writing Centre

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- Workshops
- Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
- Access StudyWISE
- Upload an assignment to Studiosity
- Complete the Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of Student Support Services including:

- IT Support
- Accessibility and disability support with study
- Mental health support
- Safety support to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues
- Student Advocacy provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via AskMQ, or contact Service Connect.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Unit information based on version 2024.04 of the Handbook