

# DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AMONG VULNERABLE POPULATIONS ONLINE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

## Program Objectives and Mission

The post-baccalaureate certificate in Disaster Preparedness & Community Resilience Among Vulnerable Populations will serve as a multi-disciplinary program that will bring together a diverse group of disciplines that account for the Departments of Criminal Justice, Journalism and Media Studies, Psychology, and Civil & Environmental Engineering and Industrial Systems & Technology. This program will cover the basics of disaster preparedness and mitigation, effective risk communication, in addition to the behavioral and social science aspects to assess the mental and emotional impacts before, during, and after a disaster. The program will aim to provide students with the basic knowledge, skills, and motivation to take actions to reduce their vulnerability so that they remain safe. Students will be introduced to topics that include disaster preparedness, building community resilience among vulnerable populations, psychological trauma associated with disasters, risk communication, and be offered hands-on experiences through state-of-the-art simulation exercises. This certificate program is ideal for employees of emergency management agencies at the local, state, and federal levels, law enforcement officers, media/journalists, mental health professionals, health care professionals, community managers, community-based organizations, engineers, educators (k-12), university employees, administrators, and staff, etc. This program is 100% online.

*Designated certificate course credits may be transferable to the Technology Education, Journalism and Media Studies, and Criminal Justice (pending further approval by respective program designees).*

## OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this program students will be able to:

1. Identify all the essential components of disaster management preparedness for vulnerable populations and underserved communities;
2. Determine knowledge of the administrative role of the Emergency Manager and safety personnel;
3. Define resiliency and individual and community preparedness and recovery initiatives;
4. Understand the technology applications used in the functions of Emergency/Disaster Management;
5. Understand the psychological impacts of disasters and strategies to aid in resiliency;
6. Identify media sources and strategies for concise and correct communication for timely emergency notifications and alerts; and
7. Understand the public safety concepts of managing both man-made and natural disasters.

## Admission Requirements

### WHO CAN APPLY

- Educators (K-12 and higher ed)
- Emergency Managers
- First and Last Responders
- Local, State, and Federal Employees
- Public Health Employees
- Environmental Scientists
- Information Security Officers

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION

- Candidates who plan to enroll in this post-baccalaureate certificate program must apply for admission to the Jackson State University Graduate School. The program requires a
- G.P.A. of 2.0 for admission
- No GRE Requirements
- No internship or practicum

The following steps should be completed to apply:

1. Complete JSU Graduate Admissions for Certificate Program (under the Psychology Department)
2. Additional application requirements:
3. Three letters of recommendation.
4. An official transcript from an accredited institution(s)
5. Statement of purpose (500-1000 words): identifies your educational goals and expectations of the program; please be aware that the University's academic policy on plagiarism applies to your statement of purpose
6. Professional resume

Submit your online application to the Jackson State University Division of Graduate Studies at:  
<https://mygradschool.jsums.edu/>

Call 601-979-2455 or email [graduate@jsums.edu](mailto:graduate@jsums.edu) for additional information.

**For further information, you may contact Dr. Dawn McLin at [dawn.d.mcllin@jsums.edu](mailto:dawn.d.mcllin@jsums.edu) or Dr. Jessica Murphy and [jessica.l.murphy@jsums.edu](mailto:jessica.l.murphy@jsums.edu)**

## Certificate Requirements

Course Offerings (Courses may be updated upon which students will be notified of updated offerings):

This certificate program is comprised of existing courses currently offered at JSU.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>I. Core Courses (12 hours)</b>		
ITEM 403	DISASTER MANAGEMENT	3
PSY 418	SEMINAR	3
CJ 483	SEMINAR IN CRIMINAL JUST	3
JMS 550	SEMINAR:COMMUNCTNS MEDIA	3
<b>II. Elective Courses (6 hours)</b>		
PSY 720	CROSS CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY	
PSY 722	PSYCHLGY IN THE URBAN ENVIRNMT	

CJ 483	SEMINAR IN CRIMINAL JUST
CJ 520	LEG&ETH ISS IN CRIM JUST
CJ 580	SPECIAL TOPICS
JMS 520	MINRTS&WMN IN MASS MEDIA
JMS 529	LEGAL ASPECTS OF MASS CO
JMS 571	PUBLIC RELATIONS PRACTICE
JMS 506	SEMINAR-URBAN AFFRS REPT
TE 500	SEMINAR/WORKSHOP
TE 601	Selection and Organization of Subject Matter
PHS 535	BEHAVIORAL CHANGE PROG. STRATE
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>18</b>