



Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies

Brandon University Faculty of Science

This document is meant as a planning guide only. Students are advised to consult with the Chair of the Department if they have specific questions about the program.

Program Objectives. The purpose of the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies (ADES) B.A. and B.Sc. degrees is to provide students with an applied interdisciplinary understanding, through the natural and social sciences, of the impact and consequences of hazards and disasters upon current emergency management practice.

Emergency management is the development and implementation of policies and processes to help reduce risks, prepare communities, respond to hazard impacts and recover from the consequences. The ADES degree is designed to combine social, physical and management perspectives of hazards and disasters within a liberal arts education framework so students can become new emergency management professionals with a broad scope of practice and wide-ranging knowledge.

Program Outcomes. Students graduating with a B.Sc. or B.A. in Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies from Brandon University will be able to:

1. recognize the physical and social interactions that create hazards
2. recognize the physical, social and economic causes of vulnerability to disasters
3. interpret past, present, and emerging theories of the impact of various hazards, disasters, and emergencies on social, organizational, and political structures
4. select appropriate theoretical constructs to guide research and practice in the fields of hazard and disaster studies and apply theory and research in a practical emergency management setting (e.g. government agencies, NGO's, private industry).
5. generate ethical and evidence-based policy and practice alternatives for hazard and disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Career/Graduate School Opportunities. A university degree in disaster studies or emergency management is now a common qualification sought by employers when hiring emergency management professionals. ADES graduates can and do work for: Federal Government agencies (e.g. Public Health Agency of Canada); Provincial Emergency Measures Departments and as emergency managers in other government departments (e.g. Regional Health Authorities and Provincial Health Departments); Municipal Emergency Management (e.g. cities or municipalities); the private sector (e.g. telecommunications and energy sector companies and in consulting companies and government regulating bodies); Non-government organizations (e.g. Canadian Red Cross) and; the traditional Emergency Services (Fire and Police Departments, Office of the Fire Commissioner). Approximately 20% of ADES grads also pursue graduate degrees.

Program Schedule (Example*)

First year			
FALL SEMESTER		WINTER SEMESTER	
COURSE TITLE	CR	COURSE TITLE	CR
40.151 Intro to Disaster Studies	3	40.152 Intro to Emergency Management	3
38.170 Intro Physical Geography OR 42.160 Intro Earth Science	3	38.190 Intro Weather & Climate	3
Intro courses required for minor	3	Intro courses required for minor	3
Courses for Liberal Education requirements	3	Courses for Liberal Education requirements	3
Elective or other pre-requisite	3	Elective or other pre-requisite	3
Total Credits	15	Total Credits	15

Second year			
FALL SEMESTER		WINTER SEMESTER	
COURSE TITLE	CR	COURSE TITLE	CR
40.251 Hazards: Causes and Physical Dynamics	3	40.253 Hazard and Risk Assessment	3
40.2xx 200 level ADES Elective	3	Course required for minor AND/OR	3
Course required for minor AND/OR	3	Course for Liberal Education requirements	3
Elective or other pre-requisite	3	Elective or other pre-requisite	3
Course for Liberal Education requirements	3	Elective or other pre-requisite	3
Total Credits	15	Total Credits	15

Third year			
FALL SEMESTER		WINTER SEMESTER	
COURSE TITLE	CR	COURSE TITLE	CR
40.352 Emergency Management Law	3	40.355 Recovery and Mitigation	3
40.3xx 300 level ADES Elective	3	40.362 Disaster Response Management	3
200 level or higher tipping course	3	40.3xx 300 level ADES Elective	3
Course required for minor AND/OR	3	200 level or higher tipping course	3
Elective or other pre-requisite	3	Elective or other pre-requisite	3
Total Credits	15	Total Credits	15

Fourth year			
FALL SEMESTER		WINTER SEMESTER	
COURSE TITLE	CR	COURSE TITLE	CR
40.470 Practicum I: Proposal Prep	3	40.471 Practicum II: Field Placement	3
40.4xx 400 level ADES Elective	3	40.4xx 400 level ADES Elective	3
200 level or higher tipping course	3	200 level or higher tipping course	3
Course required for minor AND/OR	3	Course required for minor AND/OR	3
Elective or other pre-requisite	3	Elective or other pre-requisite	3
Total Credits	15	Total Credits	15

*Students should seek advice from the ADES chair regarding course selection. The choice of courses and their timing will vary depending on the student's situation and the annual offerings in the BU registration guide. Not all courses will be offered every year so planning ahead is important.