From 9/11 to Hurricane Katrina, recent disasters have exposed vulnerabilities in our ability to prepare and respond to unexpected adverse events. As populations grow in all hazardous areas and new threats arise, the ability to reduce the impact of disasters is becoming ever more critical and challenging. *Emergency Management* is the application of science, technology, and management to the protection of life and property. Emergency management provides a framework that can be applied at all scales to identify, analyze, consider, implement and monitor a wide range of measures to ameliorate the impact of disasters.

This course will review the geography of recent state, national and international disasters and introduce students to the rapidly evolving discipline of emergency management. Topics will include background on hazard processes, hazard assessment, and the role of emergency management in society. An emphasis will be placed on geospatial technology in managing disasters and the amazing pace at which it is changing (e.g. GPS, geographic information systems, remote sensing). A set of field trips and in-class exercises will also help reinforce concepts learned from lectures and the textbook.

**Grading:** Participation: 10%, Midterms: 30%, Final: 30%, Term paper/project: 30%

**Lectures:** Tu/Th 3:40pm – 5:00, OSH 107

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