

# Course Syllabus

## URBDP 549 Hazard Mitigation Planning

### Classroom Location

Gould, Room 440

### Course Overview

Disasters aren't natural. They are a function of how and where we build. This course is an introduction to the field of Emergency Management and Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning. We will survey the how, where, and why of natural hazards, and emphasize how to identify and mitigate social, structural, and environmental vulnerabilities to these hazards. Learning for this course occurs through applying hazard mitigation concepts through the lens of community stakeholders and the art of storytelling. At the end of this course, you will have gained practice in application of FEMA's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan requirements, an understanding of land use and regulation as hazard mitigation tools, and knowledge of funding resources to support resilience and climate change planning at the local government level.

### Course Objectives:

1. Identify hazard mitigation actions and tools that positively impact response, preparedness, and recovery,
2. Examine FEMA requirements for hazard mitigation plans.
3. Identify hazard mechanics, mitigation approaches, and tools to develop risk reduction strategies for specific hazards- wildland fire, earthquake, tsunami, flood, and climate change
4. Describe the community planning framework and opportunities for mitigation within each planning process.
5. Review community engagement best practices, strategies, and tools.
6. Recommend and advocate for accessible and equitable stakeholder-driven mitigation strategies.

### Required Readings:

1. Ward, A. (2019, August 20) Disasterology, (No. 101) in Ologies Podcast. <https://www.alieward.com/ologies/disasterology>.
2. McPhee, J. (1988, September 19). Los Angeles Against the Mountains I. The New Yorker. September 26, 1988 issue. [Canvas Link](#).
3. [Resilient Shores Screenplay Freitag 102924-2.pdf](#), a screenplay by Bob Freitag
4. [Mitigation Ideas](#)[Links to an external site.](#), FEMA
5. [Local Mitigation Planning Handbook](#)[Links to an external site.](#), FEMA
6. Schulz, Kathryn. The Really Big One. The New Yorker, 2015, Vol. 91, p52; New York; Conde Nast Publications, Inc. [Canvas Link](#).
7. Porter, Keith. Should we build Better? The case for resilient earthquake design in the United States. *Earthquake Spectra*. 2021; 37(1):523-544. [Link to article](#).

8. Schulz, Kathryn. Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea. The New Yorker, 2019. [Canvas Link.](#)
9. Optional Watch: [Earthstorm](#) Earthquake on Netflix (Optional)
10. [Review: Oregon Landslide Land Use Guide.](#)
11. WA State 2018 Hazard Inventory and Vulnerability Assessment [Canvas Link.](#)
12. [Inspiration Book: Arts and Experiential Learning.](#) FEMA, 2022.
13. [Summary of FEMA Mitigation Grant programs.](#)

#### Required Assignments:

1. [Assignment 1](#): Disaster News Article (10 points)
  - Due January 14
2. [Assignment 2](#): Troy Beach Character Bias and Profile (20 points)
  - Due January 21-23; Assignment 2a due January 30
3. [Assignment 3](#): Hazards in the Hazard Mitigation Plan (10 points)
  - Due February 11
4. [Assignment 4](#): Seattle URM Character Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Strategy (50 points)
  - Due February 25th; presentations February 25 & 27
5. [Assignment 5](#): Seattle URM Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (30 points)
  - Due March 11; presentations March 11 & 13

#### Course Schedule

Week	Subject	Readings and Assignments
Week 1	Emergency Management and Disasters	Listen: <a href="#">Ologies Podcast.</a> Read: <a href="#">McPhee</a>
Week 2	Media, Storytelling, and Disasters	<a href="#">Assignment 1</a> Due January 14th
Week 3	Troy Beach Play and Character Development	Read: <a href="#">Troy Beach</a> Read: <a href="#">Mitigation Ideas.</a>
Week 4	Mitigation Concepts	Assignment 2: Feb. 21; Assignment 2a: due Jan 30

		Read: <a href="#">Mitigation Planning Handbook</a>
Week 5	Hazard Mitigation Planning	<p><b><a href="#">Assignment 3:</a></b></p> <p><b>Due Feb.11</b></p> <p>Read Schultz: <a href="#">The Really Big One</a></p> <p>Read Porter: <a href="#">Should we build better?</a> (Due 2/8)</p>
Week 6	Vulnerability Assessments & Mitigation Strategies	<p>Read: <a href="#">Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea</a></p> <p>Optional: Watch Episode 3 “<a href="#">Earthquake</a>” in Netflix Series Earthstorm. (49 mins).</p> <p>Read: <a href="#">WA State HMP Risk and Vulnerability Assessment:</a></p> <p>Climate Change Profile 65-75</p> <p>Coastal Hazards Profile 77-92</p>
Week 7	Vulnerability Assessments & Mitigation Strategies	<p>Flood Hazard Profile: 240-283</p> <p>Review: <a href="#">Oregon Landslide Guide Links to an external site.</a></p> <p>(Due 2/15)</p> <p>Wildfire Hazard Profile 502-549 (Due 2/15)</p>
Week 8	Presentations: Stakeholder Mitigation Strategies	<p><b><a href="#">Assignment 4:</a> Feb. 25th</b></p> <p><b>Presentations Feb 25 &amp; 27</b></p>
Week 9	Stakeholder Engagement	<p>Read: <a href="#">Arts and Experiential Learning Guide</a></p> <p>Read: <a href="#">Summary of FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs.</a></p>

Week 10	From Plans to Projects	<a href="#"><u>Assignment 5</u></a> : Due March 11 presentations March 11 & 13
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Instructors:

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