



## Study Plan for Master's degree in: Disaster and Crisis Management Thesis Track

The Study Plan for the Master's Degree in Disaster and Crisis Management, the Thesis Track, consists of a total of (33 credit hours) distributed as follows:

- A. Compulsory Courses (18) credit hours.
- B. Elective Courses (6) credit hours.
- C. Thesis (9) credit hours.

### A. Compulsory Requirements: (18) credit hours:

Course Number	Course Name	Credit Hours	Weekly Hours		Prerequisite or concurrent
			Theoretical	Practical	
DCM 711	Disaster and Crisis Management: between Theory and Practice	3	3		
DCM 713	Risk Management	3	3		
DCM 712	Developing Disaster Recovery Plans	3	3		
DCM 714	Methodology of Scientific Research, in Disasters and Crises	3	3		
DCM 717	Emergency Medicine and Public Health Management	3	3		
DCM 715	Disasters and Crises in the Digital World	3	2	3	

**B. Elective Courses (6) credit hours**

The student is allowed to select (6 Cr. H.) from the following:

Course Number	Course Name	Credit Hours	Weekly Hours		Prerequisite or concurrent
			Theoretical	Practical	
DCM 719	Business Continuity Management	3	3		
DCM 720	Special Topics in Disaster and Crisis Management	3	3		
DCM 721	Environmental and Occupational Public Safety Systems	3	3		
DCM 722	Leadership in Emergency Situations	3	3		
DCM 723	The role of International and Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOS) in Disaster Management	3	3		
DCM 716	Communications and Public Relations in Disasters and Crises	3	3		

**C. Thesis (9) credit hours.**

Course Number	Course Name	Credit Hours	Weekly Hours		Prerequisite or concurrent
			Theoretical	Practical	
DCM 732	Thesis	3	3		

### **Program Description:**

The world is facing increasing threats from disasters and crises, both natural and man-made are likely to lead to catastrophic damage and negative impacts on organizations, communities and nations. To name a few, environmental disasters, epidemics, terrorist threats, global warming, climate change, technological threats, industrial accidents.... This has prompted all countries to find solutions to manage these threats, especially through the use of disaster and crisis management principles in preparedness, preparedness for disasters and crises, response to them and recovery planning.

The Master's program in Disaster and Crisis Management aims to create and develop leaders in the fields of disaster and crisis management by providing them with knowledge, skills and the ability to think analytically and critically and develop new approaches to solving problems.

To achieve the objectives of the program, it was characterized by a holistic methodology in the offering and the ability to understand the changing and dynamic nature of disasters and crises, which requires the integration of knowledge in different and diverse fields such as risk assessment and environmental surveying, geography, strategic planning, communication and public relations, sociology of disasters and sustainable development and others. Thus, the study plan took into account that the courses contain various fields of knowledge that ensure the completeness and comprehensiveness of students' knowledge. This program would be also unique in developing leadership and practical skills by focusing on practical learning and fieldwork in partnership with many organizations to study scenarios for disasters and crises simulated or actually, and work on risk assessment and formulation of disaster and crisis plans and response.

## **Description of the Courses:**

### **Disaster and Crisis Management between Theory and Practice**

This course aims to provide an in-depth study of concepts, models and theories related to disaster and crisis management. It also includes providing students with a holistic understanding of disaster and crisis management and how it relates to other relevant fields of knowledge such as risk management and assessment, business continuity management, emergency management and others, the course uses case study to illustrate how theoretical and applied knowledge complements each other.

### **Risk Management**

This course aims to introduce the student to the modern and comprehensive scientific methodology in risk management. The course includes providing the student with the necessary knowledge and skills necessary to identify and assess risks through the use of quantitative and qualitative methods to identify, analyze and detect future risks. The course also discusses how to deal with these dangers through strategies to avoid or mitigate their effects. The course includes practical applications and case studies with the aim of linking the theoretical material with practical reality.

### **Developing Disaster Recovery Plans**

This course aims to introduce students to the procedures and methods that are used in the post- disaster and crisis phase (recovery phase), which ensures the return to normal life through reconstruction and providing assistance in all its forms to those affected by disasters. The course includes disaster recovery planning and post-disaster recovery needs assessment. The course also discusses how recovery plans relate to emergency response plans, preparedness and mitigation, and long-term development planning.

### **Methodology of Scientific Research in Disasters and Crises**

The course aims to introduce students to the basic concepts of scientific research and its role in building knowledge and making decisions in case of disasters and crises. The course also includes providing the student with the skills and abilities necessary to conduct scientific research, starting from identifying and defining the problem, how to review previous studies, designing quantitative and qualitative research methodology, and knowing the methods of collecting and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data and presenting the results and report. The course also includes applications and case studies that enable the student to apply all steps of scientific research and thus the ability to conduct research.

### **Emergency Medicine and Public Health Management**

The course aims to introduce students to the importance of managing the health and medical aspects in disasters and crises to help the decision-maker deal with these matters, especially health disasters. The course also aims to provide students with how to deal with the health consequences resulting from disasters, and the methods and means to involve the medical and psychological factor in managing emergency cases.

### **Disasters and Crises in the Digital World**

This course aims to introduce students to the role of information technology in disaster and crisis management and how to deal with information to make decisions in disasters and

emergencies. This course also deals with modern theories and applications and how to use them in collecting information. The course also explains the relationship between information technology and decision support systems and their role in dealing with disasters and emergencies.

### **Communications and Public Relations in Disasters and Crises**

This course aims to introduce students to a comprehensive understanding of the process of public relations management in general and public relations and communication in case of crises and disasters in particular. The course also includes providing students with the necessary knowledge to formulate a communication and public relations plan in crises and disasters and strategies and action plans to be followed in crisis situations. It also sheds light on the role of the media in reporting the facts. The course gives specificity to technological developments in the media and their effects on public relations management in disasters and crises.

### **Business Continuity Management**

The course aims to introduce students to the concept of business continuity management and the methods that include business sustainability and effective recovery in emergency situations. This course is based on the requirements of ISO22301. The course also enables the student to analyze the risks and impacts on business processes that may be caused by threats and the ability to provide a framework for building organizational resilience to deliver an effective response to protect the interests of key stakeholders, reputation, branding, and value creation activities.

### **Special Topics in Disaster and Crisis Management**

The course aims to review local and global cases related to disaster and crisis management in all administrative, financial, technical and natural fields in a participatory manner among students through case studies, role-playing, analysis and field visits to local shelters and relevant local and international institutions, which ensures the continuous updating of students' knowledge in the study program.

### **Environmental and Occupational Public Safety Systems**

This course aims to introduce the student to many national and international standards in the field of occupational safety and health such as (OSHA, NEBOSH, IOSH). It also aims to identify occupational safety management systems, and the principles of global health and safety systems.

**Leadership in Emergency Situations**

The aim of this course is to provide students with knowledge of leadership-theory and practices at the operational and strategic levels applied in emergency and crisis situations, including organizational psychology, politics, law, ethics, team leadership, communication and crisis decision-making.

**The Role of International and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO'S) in Disaster Management**

This course aims to familiarize students with the role of international and non-governmental organizations in disaster management in terms of legislation and methods of coordination and response in emergency situations. The course includes a review of real local and global situations.

**Thesis:**

A master's thesis in which the student presents a topic related to the field of specialization and provides new knowledge.

# Master's degree in: Disaster and Crisis Management

## The Advisory Plan for the Thesis Track

First Year					
First Semester			Second Semester		
Course Number	Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Number	Course Name	Credit Hours
DCM 711	Disaster and Crisis Management: Between Theory and Practice	3	DCM 712	Developing Disaster Recovery Plans	3
DCM 713	Risk Management	3	DCM 714	Methodology of Scientific Research, in Disasters and Crises	3
	Elective Requirement	3		Elective Requirement	3
Total		9	Total		9

Second Year					
First Semester			Second Semester		
Course Number	Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Number	Course Name	Credit Hours
DCM 715	Emergency Medicine and Public Health Management	3	DCM 732	Thesis	9
DCM 717	Disasters and Crises in the Digital World	3			
Total		6	Total		9