

## Illinois Idea HS Course Outline

**College/Division:** Southern Illinois University/Department of Workforce  
Education and Development/College of Education and Human Services

**Course Title:** Disaster Preparation and Emergency Management for Families

**Course Designator/Number:** WED 498

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Instructor Name/Originator:** Terre Eversden Ph.D., CFCS

**Catalog Description:** In the event of a disaster or catastrophic event local authorities, organizations, and public health departments will try to assist but each family must take responsibility with protective measures to protect themselves. This course will provide students with knowledge required to survive a catastrophic event as well as what to do to protect their family during a disaster including best practices in antiterrorism tactics. The primary purpose is to provide students with a “how-to” guide that will serve as a reference tool and inspire action for handling today’s worst-case scenario.

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Restrictions/Suggestions:**

- Basic computer skills
- Access to personal computer
- Internet Access
- Macromedia Flash Player

**Rationale:** Americans live in an uncertain world seeing disaster and tragedy everyday in the media while becoming desensitized to the possibility that the same could happen to them. Complacency and denial will prevent the urgency of preparation needed to save lives. It takes significant awareness and knowledge to survive natural, technological, and terrorism catastrophes that are real threats in today’s world. Preparation can save your life, that of your family and others.

**Intended Audience:** American families, as well as college students, business travelers, management personnel, emergency first responders, school administrators, and local government officials responsible for safety and emergency management.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. Recognize “why” it is important to have a family emergency plan.
2. Analyze possible types of natural and technological disasters, terrorism attacks, and other catastrophes that threaten family safety.
3. Create procedures and processes for protecting your family in the event of natural and technological disasters, terrorism attacks, and other catastrophes.
4. Investigate and organize resources, agencies, and organizations that provide support and assistance in the event of emergencies and disasters.
5. Assemble a survival preparedness kit.
6. Develop a family response plan.
7. Plan recovery processes.

**Text(s):**

Schaefer-Jones, J. (2007). *Preparing for the worst: A comprehensive guide to protecting your family from terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and other catastrophes*. Greenwood Publishers Group.

**Topical/subject matter outline/Course Content:**

Need for Preparedness

    Get Informed

        Types of Disasters, Emergencies and Catastrophes

Natural Disasters

Man-made Disasters

    Technological Hazards

    Terrorism Threats

Support services, agencies and organizations

Responding to Incidents of Disasters and Other Catastrophes

Protecting Valuables and Important papers

Food and Water Safety and Security

Family Communication Plan

    Practice and Update Information

Home Safety and Emergency Procedures

    Checklists

Disaster Supply Kit

Disaster Plan

Practice and Maintenance of Plan

Recovery Process

    Basic needs

Coping with trauma

**Course Activities:**

Course objectives will be met with

    Reading assignments

    Viewing video and webcasts

    Research investigations

    Assessment of personal needs

    Assemble of Family Survival Preparedness Kit

Development of Family Response Plan  
Designing and organizing a Personal Resource and Survival Guide

**Evaluation/Assessment:**

Pre-assessments to measure current content knowledge.

Quizzes	20%
Final Exam	30%
Family Survival Preparedness Kit.	15%
Family Response Plan	15%
Personal Resource and Survival Guide	20%
	100%

**Bibliography/References:**

Flynn, S. (2007). The edge of disaster. New York: Random House

Hooke, W. & Rogers, P. G. (2005). Public health risks of disasters. Communication, infrastructure, and preparedness. National Academic Press.

American Red Cross Web site, <http://www.redcross.org>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention Web site, [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

Department of Homeland Security Web site, <http://www.dhs.gov/index.shtm>

EDEN Extension Disaster Education Network Web site, <http://www.eden.lsu.edu/>

Federal Emergency Management Agency Web site, <http://www.fema.gov>

Ready.gov- Prepare, Plan, Stay Informed Web site, <http://www.ready.gov/>

United States Department of Agriculture Web site, <http://www.usda.gov>

**Any students who need accommodation for a physical or learning disability should contact campus Disability Support Services at 618-453-5738 (TDD: 618-453-2293).**