

University of South Florida, College of Public Health
Department of Global Health

MPH: Global Disaster Management, Humanitarian Relief and Homeland Security

The concentration of disaster management, humanitarian relief, and homeland security, plays an important role in global health, especially in areas of armed conflict and natural disasters. With the increase in weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear and biological threats from terrorist groups and radical states, the need for formal training and education has increased. Local and international organizations, governments and United Nation agencies are in need of highly trained professionals to manage and direct programs to reduce both the homeland and global public health threats that continue to plague us. Where and when the next tsunami or earthquake will strike, or how the next terrorist group will respond is unknown. But the logic behind professionally mitigating and preparing for one of these incidences places us in a stronger position to respond domestically and internationally. This concentration builds on the existing framework of the College of Public Health core courses, field experience and special project. Combining this framework with existing disaster management and humanitarian courses will provide graduates with the ability to recognize, assess, implement and evaluate a global or local disaster.

Competencies: In addition to the overall Master of Public Health degree competencies, graduates with a concentration in *Global Disaster Management, Humanitarian Relief and Homeland Security* will:

1. Describe the disaster cycle.
2. Understand the role of the local, state and federal government in the recovery process.
3. Understand the eight key fundamentals of the strategy underlying critical infrastructure protection
4. Utilize the six analytical tools used for critical infrastructure analysis
5. Understand the USA Patriot Act (2001), Homeland Security Act (2002) and other Homeland Security statutes and policy documents.
6. Discuss the shift from disaster management practices towards an integrated disaster risk reduction approach in the context of sustainable development.
7. Understand at least two methods of assessment for specific emergency situations in the field.
8. Develop, implement, and monitor adequacy of services provided to affected populations.
9. Articulate the historic and evolving role of humanitarian assistance.
10. Conduct a critical analysis of early warning systems.
11. Apply environmental health principles to establish a safe water supply and to implement sanitary measures.
12. Prepare and implement a plan to integrate displaced persons into the local community.
13. Know basic leadership skills to overcome challenges in humanitarian assistance;
14. Analyze and interpret the pervasive threat created by terrorism and WMD within the context of public health to include bioterrorism, agro-terrorism, disease surveillance, and pandemic fears.
15. Analyze current public health vulnerability analyses and risk assessment systems to include the medical surge impact on communities, public health's role in the National Response Framework, and general public health preparedness capabilities.
16. Evaluate the legal aspects of Homeland Security as it relates to the 4th Amendment and civil liberties.
17. Analyze the role of the public health professional in fighting infectious diseases.
18. Analyze the role of immunization in halting the spread of diseases and as a tool in quarantine strategy.

