Emergency management focuses on improving community resilience to alleviate short- and long-term effects of natural, man-made and technological disasters. Responding to major incidents such as Superstorm Sandy, the Haiti earthquake, the Flint, Michigan water crisis, the San Bernardino attack, pandemics and civil unrest require educated and competent emergency and homeland security managers. The demand for these professionals continues to rise.

The Bachelor of Science in emergency management gives undergraduate students the skills they need to help communities prevent, prepare, respond and recover from crisis situations during high-stress situations. This major focuses on multiple emergency support sectors including public health, government, human services, infrastructure and emergency services.

Additional degree options include:
+ Pre-Med Track: Students interested in going to medical school can combine traditional pre-med requirements with emergency management coursework.
+ Honors Courses: Students in the SLU Honors Program can take honors sections of several courses in the major.
+ Minor: A minor in emergency management gives students pursuing other fields of study an understanding of the profession and the core values of the field.

The curriculum includes 33 credit hours of emergency management and public health courses and prepares students to:
+ Understand the spectrum of emergency management and its relationship to public health.
+ Describe the interconnectedness of agencies and organizations involved in emergency management.
+ Recognize and discuss the effects of actual and potential emergencies on populations.
+ Apply the fundamental principles of emergency management across its core phases.
+ Identify and use appropriate communication strategies.

A part of the major, students complete many of the requirements to obtain the International Association of Emergency Manager’s (IAEM’s) professional Associate Emergency Manager (AEM) certification.

Contact
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Graduate Programs
+ Online Master of Science (M.S.) in biosecurity and disaster preparedness
For a full listing of graduate programs, visit graduate.slu.edu.

ABOUT THE FACULTY
Classes for the emergency management major are taught by faculty members from a variety of disciplines, many of whom are seasoned professionals with decades of experience in emergency management and homeland security agencies.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly reviewed with the highest degree of individual care and consideration to all credentials that are submitted. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary concern in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University and are used as qualifiers for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be graduating from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant’s file, the office of admission holistically examines the student’s academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:
+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For more information, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAM?

+ Housed in SLU's College for Public Health and Social Justice, the emergency management program provides a unique opportunity for students to explore the management, coordination and collaboration of communities during emergency situations, supported by public health and Jesuit ideals.
+ Students at SLU engage in hands-on activities and case studies, actively working in teams with the support of the emergency management community in the St. Louis region to address emergency situations in diverse environments.
+ The median salary for an emergency management director is $64,360 (2014 US Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Although degree credit is not given for internships, students are encouraged and assisted by faculty to participate in internships to further enhance their learning experiences at Saint Louis University. Many St. Louis and national organizations are eager to involve SLU emergency management students in their work. Students have completed internships with organizations such as NASA, regional fire departments, Salvation Army, American Red Cross and Express Scripts.

Job opportunities for those with a degree in emergency management include:
+ Working with humanitarian organizations like American Red Cross, Salvation Army or United Way.
+ Working in government agencies at the local, state or national level as emergency managers and homeland security professionals.
+ Maintaining and improving national critical infrastructure such as power grids and transportation assets.
+ Providing risk management, preparedness and response for public health and health care systems.
+ Working with organizations that provide situational awareness such as intelligence, mapping, mass notifications and weather.
+ Coordinating disaster exercises to increase a community’s preparedness and resiliency.
+ Coordinating responses to regional and large-scale incidents such as civil unrest and flooding.
+ Being an emergency response coordinator in business continuity for private businesses.
+ Managing media relations during a crisis situation.

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