ABOUT THE COURSE

The course is designed for participants who want to develop theoretical and practical disaster risk management and humanitarian action in prevention, preparedness, response and recovery from disasters of natural and human origins. Underpinned by multi-disciplinary approaches, the programme enables graduates to carry out theoretical and practical analysis to support disaster risk management, and humanitarian actions within local and global contexts. Thus, this programme is suitable to support continuing personal development for disaster risk management and humanitarian professionals, or those who would like to pursue further postgraduate studies.

Study options
Available as 1 year full time or 2 years part time study
(part time study only available to UK/EU students)

Fees
See: www.hcri.ac.uk

About HCRI

HCRI at The University of Manchester is inspired by the need to conduct rigorous research and to support postgraduate training on the impact and outcomes of contemporary and historical crises. Directed by Dr Rony Brauman (former President of MSF France, Associate Professor at L’Institut d’Études Politiques, Paris, and Director of Research at the MSF Foundation, Paris), HCRI is widely recognised as being a leading international research institute focusing on the study of humanitarianism, conflict response and peacebuilding.

Our work is driven by a desire to inform and support policy and decision makers, to optimise joint working between partner organisations, and to foster increased understanding and debate within the field. Bringing together the disciplines of medicine and the humanities (including international relations and political science) to achieve these goals, HCRI aims to facilitate improvements in crisis response on a global scale whilst providing a centre of excellence for all concerned with emergencies, conflicts and peace. In offering a range of postgraduate courses we embrace this opportunity to develop a scholarly and professional agenda for humanitarians and peacebuilders around the world.
Intended learning outcomes

On completion of the programme, you should be able to show critical understanding and knowledge of:

1. Current theory and best practices in disaster risk management and humanitarian action and the ability to apply these in local and international settings.

2. Practical skills in disaster risk management and humanitarian action including risk, vulnerability and capacity analyses, contingency planning, business continuity planning, disaster and humanitarian policy development and analysis, and humanitarian principles and standards.

3. Ethical issues related to humanitarianism, including international actions taken by governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations in response to disasters of natural and human origins.

4. The cross-cutting thematic issues in disaster management and humanitarian action, including the implications of gender, climate change and terrorism.

5. Research approaches and techniques, including data gathering, collation, analysis and dissemination of results in disaster risk management and humanitarian action contexts.

6. Good presentation skills, including use of ICT, to communicate findings to diverse audiences.
Course units
You will undertake 180 credits of course units, with the dissertation providing a contribution of 60 credits.

Course units may include:
- Introduction to Disaster Risk Management
- Risk, Vulnerability and Resilience
- Disaster Policy
- Contingency Planning and Business Continuity Planning
- Research and Evaluation Methods
- Introduction to Humanitarian Action
- Emergency Humanitarian Assistance
- Humanitarian and Conflict Response: Enquiries
- Climate Change, Poverty and Disasters
- Linking Humanitarian Action to Development
- Global Health
- Fundamentals of Epidemiology

MSc Bursary
Applicants should state their interest in the award within the funding section of the online application form and also provide a personal statement (max 500 words) outlining why they have chosen to study this particular MSc and what they will bring to the course. The HCRI MSc bursary is awarded based on a number of criteria including previous academic performance, relevant professional experience, reference letters, and the quality of the reflections in the applicant’s personal statement. The bursary is tenable for one year only.

To apply
Find out more about the course and how to apply at www.hcri.ac.uk or contact hcri@manchester.ac.uk

The Placements module offers the opportunity to carry out a short placement within an organisation. Most importantly, the placement provides students with the chance to engage with local employers in order to develop career choices, as well as developing organisational awareness. In the past students have undertaken placements with Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit and In Place Of War, an innovative research project and arts organisation based at The University of Manchester.