



Credit: Vladimir Rodas, IFRC

About the course

This one-year MSc in International Disaster Management is designed for students who want to develop the critical capabilities and skills crucial to expertise and leadership in the governance of disasters and crises.

Underpinned and informed by disciplinary approaches ranging from geography, economics and politics to global health and anthropology, the programme enables graduates to carry out critical analysis that both addresses and supports disaster governance and humanitarian action practices across the globe.

The programme is suitable for those wishing to pursue postgraduate study in order to enter into or enhance their existing career in government, NGOs, security contractors, consultancy, research or academia.

Study options:

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

To apply and for bursary information: www.hcri.ac.uk

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hcrinstitute

Front cover:
Credit: Red Cross Society of China



Credit: Pacific Disaster Centre

MSc INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Why study at HCRI?

As a leading global centre for the study of humanitarianism, conflict response, global health, international disaster management and peacebuilding, HCRI offers an unrivalled learning environment for students interested in pursuing careers in humanitarian aid or research.

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. Our postgraduate courses work to develop a scholarly and professional agenda for humanitarians and peacebuilding around the world.

You will have the opportunity to engage first-hand with the people, projects and organisations that shape humanitarian, global health, disaster management, conflict response and intervention strategy around the world.

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester



Intended learning outcomes

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

- Current theory and best practices in disaster risk management and humanitarian action and the ability to apply these in local and international settings
- Practical skills in disaster risk management and humanitarian action including risk analysis, disaster recovery, contingency planning, emergency preparedness and response, prevention, disaster and humanitarian policy development and analysis, and humanitarian principles and standards
- Ethical issues related to humanitarianism, including international actions taken by governments, inter-governmental and nongovernmental organisations in response to a range of disasters and crises
- The cross-cutting thematic issues in disaster management and humanitarian action, including the implications of gender, climate change, artificial intelligence and terrorism
- Research approaches and techniques, including data gathering, collation, analysis and dissemination of results in disaster risk management and humanitarian action contexts
- Communicating findings with diverse audiences



Credit: JC McIlwaine visit to south sudan

Course units

You will undertake 180 credits of course units, with the dissertation contributing 60 credits.

Course units may include:

- A Critical Introduction to GIS and Disasters
- Anthropology of Violence and Reconstruction
- Disaster Governance
- Disaster Management - Theory and Application
- Environment, Climate Change and Development
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Humanitarian Crises
- Research and Evaluation Methods
- Rethinking Recovery
- Security, Emergencies and Technologies of Control

Dissertation

This module is an opportunity for you to plan, manage and conduct a programme of research on a topic related to your programme of studies. This provides vital experience of developing and managing a specific programme of work through to submission, which provide transferable skills for your future career.

Work placement

The module will see you carry out a short placement within a relevant organisation. It provides you with the chance to engage with local employers in order to develop career choices, as well as developing organisational awareness.

Student voice

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I chose to attend the University of Manchester because of the HCRI's reputation as a leading and forward-thinking place to study disasters, the course's diverse offering of modules, and the exciting opportunity to undertake a work placement.

The course helped me to develop and deepen my written communication skills, which have been essential to my progression as a fundraiser. Through learning to analyse and summarise complex ideas to argue a thesis, I am now better equipped to create compelling communications that engage funders.”

Alexandra Mateer

MSc International Disaster Management graduate



Career options

Students come from a broad range of backgrounds, with varying levels of experience. This means there are a wide range of career choices to consider, including:

- Civil Service
- International Institutions (such as the UN Peacebuilding Commission, Department of Peacekeeping Operations and regional bodies such as the European Union, African Union, Organization of American States)
- NGOs working on peacebuilding initiatives
- Academia/research institutes/think-tanks