



## Program of Study: Master of Science in Leadership with an Emphasis in Disaster Preparedness and Crisis Management

---

### Program Description

The Master of Science in Leadership with an Emphasis in Disaster Preparedness and Crisis Management will provide courses in the areas of occupational health and safety, disaster preparation and crisis management, and environmental issues directly related to leadership skills development and content required of leaders in the area of emergency public safety and response.

Course Number	Course Title	Course Description	Credits
MLE 601	Introduction to Organizational Leadership	Designed to be an introduction to the cross-functional complexities inherent in organizational life. Students will develop an advanced skill-set enabling effective leadership of each of the major organizational functions (namely marketing, finance, human resource management, information systems, and operations management). Students will understand the difference between transformational and transactional leadership and how both are critical to effective leadership, with the primary emphasis in this class being placed on transactional leadership.	3
MGT 625	Leadership Styles and Development	An exploration of the nature of business leadership models and theories, examining these models through a broad variety of insights and viewpoints. Provides a description and analysis of these approaches to leadership, giving special attention to how the models can improve leadership in the real-world organization.	3
BUS 604	Organizational Ethics	The role of ethics in the organization. Emphasis is placed on the way ethics affect policy formation and professional conduct in business and society. Coursework includes case studies of ethical situations, internet research, a team project, oral reports, and class discussion.	3
MLE 619	Power, Politics, and Influence	The essence of this course teaches the student sources and types of power, specific tactics for becoming an empowering leader and deals with issues around organizational politics, influence tactics, and succession planning. Students will learn how transactional leaders can become transformational leaders.	3
MLE 605	Leading High Performance Teams	This course is an experiential introduction to models of team dynamics and group process. Issues discussed will include such topics as meeting management, team building, assessment, roles and responsibilities of the team leader, characteristics of successful teams, strategies for designing and supporting teams in the workplace. Students will also be instructed in methods used to motivate others in helping an organization succeed.	3
MGT 626	Organizational Systems and Cultures	This course will equip students to fully understand the complexities of organizational systems and cultures, the ways in which these forces manifest themselves, and the means by which leaders intentionally impact the shape that these forces take in their organizations. Students will explore the application of various organizational systems and cultures theories to case studies, as well as to their current professional settings. Additionally, students will research and critically analyze the comparative cultures of two organizations from the same industry. The findings related to this research will be presented in the form of an Executive Presentation and related written analysis report.	3
MLE 613	Strategic Planning and Decision-Making	This course is designed to prepare leaders to guide their organization in the future through the use of effective strategic and contingency planning. A critical component will include learning to evaluate alternatives and make effective decisions and use appropriate decision-making processes.	3

MGT 623	Organizational Development and Change	An exploration of the behavioral forces and relationships that influence organizational effectiveness and change. Topics include the study of intervention strategy and application skills.	3
MLE 617	Leadership and Innovation	Students will understanding and apply various models of problems solving. They will learn various techniques, strategies and skills appropriate for creative and innovative thinking.	3
EFL 627	Disaster Preparation and Crisis Management	Students will receive the preparation necessary to uniquely manage and make critical decisions regarding a major incident or disaster. The course focuses on specialized decision-making processes involving analytical methods and information management; interaction with other agencies and effective coordination of roles and efforts within a structured command system offer the crisis manager decisions in an unstructured environment; major events that have happened to the fire service; and how to prepare for the unexpected, including how to be a strong leader dealing with instant life and death decision making on the emergency scene.	3
EFL 670	Contemporary Issues in Disaster Preparedness & Crisis Management	Provides students with the opportunity to explore several major contemporary issues in crisis management and disaster preparedness. Students will conduct independent research and present their findings on community preparedness, and the leadership and management of contemporary community emergencies and crises. Additionally, students will develop an informed position on a controversial issue and engage in debate with students who have taken the opposing position.	3
EFL 628	Environmental Issues and Hazard Management	Students will learn about Fire Service's role in protecting the environment from damage; the potential environmental impact of various types of emergency incidents; the roles of various agencies in mitigating incidents that may be hazardous to the environment, including federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances; and planning, resource management, and other related issues.	3

*Total Master of Science in Leadership with an Emphasis in Disaster Preparedness and Crisis Management Credits: 36*