



# Risk and Emergency Management for the public and private sectors

In spite of proactive and preventative efforts to prevent crises and disasters, emergencies still occur. In this semester, we will discuss the core principles of emergency management in the public and private sectors.

Exchange semester for students  
of partner universities  
(Short Course for other participants)  
Start: February 2018  
Location: Deventer

Crisis and emergency management not only comprises all activities carried out to combat a crisis, including saving lives and minimising damage to property, it also encompasses activities and measures taken in advance to ensure an effective response, such as improving emergency capabilities by developing a contingency plan or through response training. This course focuses on activities related to preparing for and providing assistance or intervention immediately before, during or after a crisis or an emergency situation.

The course also focuses on both the public and private sector as public and private actors will need to work together to undertake effective action. If, for example, there is a fire at a hazardous plant that releases a toxic cloud, the area may need to be evacuated. In the Netherlands, the police will then be responsible for traffic management, while the mayor of the town where the incident occurs will have overall responsibility. The company owning the hazardous plant, however, is responsible for the safety of its employees on the site and for mitigating any potential risks created by the plant. Emergency management inherently involves multiple agencies and requires horizontal as well as vertical coordination, with public and private actors making sure that they have their preparation and response plans in apple-pie order.



## Course content

During the course, you will learn all about emergency management. We will use the Dutch method of managing emergencies as a starting point, but also reflect on these practices from an international perspective. The course is divided into two parts (terms). The first term deals with emergency management in the public sector. The second term looks at emergency management in the private sector. During the course, specific attention will be paid to:

- Crisis and emergency management in the Netherlands - how have preparation and response plans and activities been organised;
- (Pre-incident) risk and crisis communication;
- Human factors, basic principles of human error, complexity, and human actions;
- Business continuity management - what are the critical processes within a company and how can the continuity of its activities be ensured?
- Ethics - the ethical dilemmas that may result from the choices made during the preparation and response phase;
- Change management - how can we learn from emergencies and use the lessons learned to handle other incidents?
- Crisis management - how to coordinate crisis and emergency management.

You will also be working on an individual assignment on an emergency management topic of your choice. You may conduct research based on your own ideas or interests, or use assignments prepared by our partners in the safety and security industry. The assignment will be supervised by teachers at Saxion University.

The course (30 ECs) is part of the Bachelor's degree in Applied Safety and Security Studies and will be taught in English. The aim of the course is to provide an insight into crisis and emergency management on a strategic and tactical level. The course is therefore less suitable for students who would like to know more about operational emergency management, such as firefighting.

## Information

Check our website for the entry requirements and updates at [saxion.edu](http://saxion.edu)

## How to apply?

Make sure that your home university nominates you for the Saxion semester. After acceptance by Saxion, we will inform you about the practicalities.

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