

**Auburn University
Center for Governmental Services**

***UNMET NEEDS AND CHALLENGES: Some Key Challenges Facing Homeland Security
and Emergency Management Post 9/11 and Post Katrina***
October 5 – November 1, 2009

Course Description: The online course is one of several courses being offered as part of an emergency management certificate program through Auburn University's Center for Governmental Services. It is being offered in asynchronous time. The course is being taught by Dr. Paula D. Gordon and is designed to help develop a deeper understanding of some continuing challenges relating to homeland security and emergency management since 9/11 and since Hurricane Katrina. The course is designed to help expand the knowledge and capabilities of those currently in roles of public responsibility in homeland security and emergency, as well as those aspiring to such roles. The course will also be of interest to those teaching courses relating to these concerns.

The course has been designed to increase overall awareness and understanding concerning the implications of 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina. The course is designed to introduce those taking the course to a wide array of accompanying issues and concerns relevant to homeland security and emergency management in a post 9/11, post Katrina world.

After 9/11 and before Hurricane Katrina, the Department of Homeland Security appeared to be focusing primary attention on preventing and responding to possible attacks involving weapons of mass destruction. Since Hurricane Katrina, greatly increased attention has been placed on an all-hazards approach to prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, and continuity of operations. DHS is now emphasizing an all-hazards approach that incorporates a concern for catastrophic events. Some specific areas that will be addressed during the course include the following:

- the cultural divide between homeland security and emergency management that has evolved since 9/11 and that has become even more apparent in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and the role this cultural divide has played before and after Hurricane Katrina;
- the post-Katrina efforts on the part of DHS to embrace an all-hazards approach to homeland security and emergency management; an approach that includes attention to potentially catastrophic events;
- recent natural disasters including Hurricane Ike and its aftermath;
- the need to refocus efforts on prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, and continuity of operations in a way that will help ensure the reliability, resilience, stability, and continuity of critical infrastructure;
- in light of the wide range of challenges and threats facing the nation, the need to include an emphasis on the development of disaster resistant communities and regions, including disaster resistant infrastructure within those communities and regions and within the nation as a whole ; and
- organizational culture and intergovernmental challenges involving public sector efforts to address homeland security and emergency management challenges.

For information concerning enrollment in this course, contact the Center for Governmental Services at (334) 844-1918 or access the website link: www.auburn.edu/outreach/cgs .