

Minnesota State University Moorhead

HON 372: Natural Disasters

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites:

This course requires the following prerequisite

HON 200 - Honors Colloquium in the Humanities

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 10 - People/Environment

This class is a research-seminar style course that surveys the history of natural disasters (earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, etc.), throughout history, focusing on the political, economic, and social causes and effects of disasters. The class will engage in an in-depth case study of one disaster, requiring students to do extensive primary and secondary source research and present their findings in class to their peers. MnTC Goal 5 and 10.

Honors Program Goals: This class seeks to focus on developing your critical thinking across disciplines, communication skills, and personal growth through intellectual independence. By choosing a research topic of interest to you, preparing a proposal, presenting your findings, and writing a substantial research paper, you have the opportunity to integrate the knowledge provided by the class into the fabric of your honors education.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 02/01/2018 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. History of natural disasters (earthquakes, floods, tornadoes) since 1755
2. History of Fargo-Moorhead

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Conduct research or apply scholarly methods.
2. Critically think about the political, social, and economic impact of natural disasters in human history.
3. Demonstrate ownership of educational process.
4. Develop skills as an environmental historian by analyzing environmental change and formulating arguments about the power relations in humanity's interactions with nature.
5. Develop their ability to find, analyze, and synthesize a broad range of material about a natural disaster.
6. Express constructive engagement with different worldviews.
7. Expresses ideas effectively in multiple formats.
8. Solve problems with creative/divergent thinking.
9. Synthesize connections between disciplines; Integrate knowledge, perspectives, skills.
10. Understand the role of humans and disasters in producing new ecosystems throughout the world, the motivations behind humans' decisions to interact with nature and each other, and the effects that environmental change has had on the peoples and ecosystems of the world.
11. Work on oral and written communication skills by writing and rewriting a significant research paper.
12. Write in format appropriate to the discipline.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.

Goal 10 - People/Environment

1. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
2. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
3. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.
4. Articulate and defend the actions they would take on various environmental issues.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted