



HAGA 5030

Community Participation in Emergency Response

4 April – 8 April, 2011

Barcelona, Spain

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The humanitarian aid community must cooperate with the national authorities to build or rehabilitate the basic infrastructure needed for access, shelter and the provision of life sustaining services. This work often has to be carried out on an emergency basis in far from ideal circumstances. This course will provide advanced knowledge on community structures, resources and skills, as well as participatory models of intervention; and the technical requirements for the infrastructure needed in humanitarian emergencies. Students will be exposed to vital managerial decisions they must consider as they supervise teams of technical experts. Following the implementation of immediate infrastructure needs there remains the responsibility of humanitarian agencies to provide a range of basic services until such time as either the service is no longer required, the population has returned to its place of origin or the governmental agencies have the means and manpower to provide the services. This phase is often known as “care and maintenance”. Students will have a clear understanding of the implications of these “open ended commitments” to a population and potential exit strategies. Community-based project development models will be presented and discussed, to prepare humanitarian workers to support the transition from basic emergency relief/interventions, to community building and sustainable development.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon participation in this course, it is expected to achieve the following learning objectives:

- (1) Understand the concept of emergency action – from preparedness to relief
- (2) Develop critical thinking in using theoretical frameworks to analyze specific emergency situations, depending on the socioeconomic, political and cultural context, as well as the infrastructure/resources available
- (3) Obtain a good understanding of community participation in terms of its meaning, its complexity, its challenges and dilemmas and its applicability in the field.
- (4) Identify the multitude of responses to disasters – and the emotional implications for communities, as well as humanitarian aid workers; discuss the concepts of help and self-help, as they apply to humanitarian aid workers, and are essential in sustaining them in their work.

ASSIGNMENTS

PRE-SESSION ASSIGNMENT: All students will be required to read the three articles posted online on disasters and community intervention, in preparation for this course. The readings will be discussed in groups, at the beginning of the first class.

CLASS ACTIVITIES: Class will be divided in groups, each group preparing one 45-minute presentation or debate on the complexities of disaster intervention, based on a topic of their choice. Group presentations/debates will occur as specified in the daily schedule.

Proposed topics:

- (1). Humanitarian interventions in natural disasters: debate on the feasibility and effectiveness of community participation
- (2). Humanitarian work and development – a discussion of current views and challenges.
- (3). Post-conflict intervention and community participation
- (4). Humanitarian workers – friends or foes? Community participation in war-affected areas
- (5). Humanitarian intervention – politics and power dynamics, and their implication on community participation
- (6). Is the refugee camp a functional community? Participatory approaches among refugees and IDPs

IN-CLASS EVALUATION – Case-based presentation/discussion

Students will be divided in two groups – each group will discuss a particular case scenario, and address main issues involved in a participatory response to an emergency situation. Each group will prepare and present their work in class, in the last day of the course.

POST-SESSION ASSIGNMENT: FOR STUDENTS TAKING THIS CLASS FOR CREDIT ONLY!

Students will prepare a 4-6 page paper on community participation, based on a specific case example they choose, either from literature or from their own work experience. The paper should be submitted to Prof. Popescu via email, at popescu@fordham.edu, by or before August 15, 2011, for full credit. Students interested in completing this assignment should inform the instructors on their intention prior to the end of the course. A detailed guideline for the final paper will be provided to all students, by the end of the course.

COURSE OUTLINE AND DAILY SCHEDULE

DAY 1: Monday, April 4

Course overview

Introduction of main concepts

Basic framework on Community Participation

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE	Learning Tools
7:00-8:15	BREAKFAST (Hotel Catalonia Barcelona Plaza)		
8:30	Shuttle bus to Castle Montjuïc (Meet in lobby at 8:15 a.m., bus departs from front of hotel at 8:30 a.m. SHARP)		
9:00-9:15	Introduction	MarcianaPopescu/ Kasia	
9:15-10:00	Discussion of pre-session readings	CarlosMejia	Group Activity
10:00-11:00	Main concepts: Brief Overview	MarcianaPopescu, PhD	
11:00-11:15	COFFEE BREAK		
11:15-12:30	Different approaches to communities - Needs-based versus Assets-based versus Rights-based approach Community assessment and capacity mapping	Marciana	
12:30-1:30	LUNCH		
1:30-2:45	Stakeholder analysis – identifying resourceful individuals/agencies in the community Power analysis – understanding power dynamics in the community.	Marciana	Case Application
2:45-3:00	COFFEE BREAK		
3:00-4:30	Community participation – core concepts; theoretical framework; factors contributing to community participation	Carlos	
4:30-5:00	Students presentations/debates - guidelines and grouping	Carlos & Marciana	
Reception to follow in courtyard, Castle Montjuïc			

DAY 2: Tuesday, April 5
Disasters – main concepts
The impact of disasters on communities

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE	Learning Tools
7:00-8:15	BREAKFAST (Hotel Catalonia Barcelona Plaza)		
8:30	Shuttle bus to Castle Montjuïc (Meet in lobby at 8:15 a.m., bus departs from front of hotel at 8:30 a.m. SHARP)		
9:00-10:30	NATURAL DISASTERS: types and causes; impact (theoretical frameworks); populations affected; and current responses.	Marciana	Case study: HAITI
10:30-10:45	COFFEE BREAK		
10:45-12:30	MAN-MADE DISASTER – WAR – types of war; modern/postmodern wars; causes; impact of war; populations affected and current responses.	Marciana	
12:30-1:30	LUNCH		
1:30-2:15	Student Presentation (1)		
2:15-3:15	Humanitarian aid - Standards during emergencies, post-conflict and recovery times & Ethical dilemmas and challenges for humanitarian aid.	Carlos	
3:15-3:30	COFFEE BREAK		
3:30-5:00	Humanitarian aid - Standards during emergencies, post-conflict and recovery times & Ethical dilemmas and challenges for humanitarian aid.	Carlos	

DAY 3: Wednesday, April 6
The role of community in disaster response.

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE	Learning Tools
7:00-8:15	BREAKFAST (Hotel Catalonia Barcelona Plaza)		
8:30	Shuttle bus to Castle Montjuïc (departs from front of hotel at 8:30 a.m. SHARP)		
9:00-10:45	Social capital – support systems, community cohesiveness; and community conflict - psychosocial aspects that bring communities together and apart.	Marciana	

DAY 3: Wednesday, April 6 (continued)

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE	Learning Tools
10:45-11:00	COFFEE BREAK		
11:00-12:30	Participatory community strategies Community needs assessment and capacity mapping Community evaluation	Marciana	
12:30-1:30	LUNCH		
1:30-2:15	Student presentation (2)		
2:15-3:00	The politics of war and the response at the community level	Carlos	
3:00-3:15	COFFEE BREAK		
3:15-5:00	Humanitarian Intervention	Carlos	Film/discussion
5:30-8:00	Barcelona Guided Tour		

DAY 4: Thursday, April 7

Psychosocial challenges and costs of participatory intervention

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE	Learning Tools
7:00-8:15	BREAKFAST (Hotel Catalonia Barcelona Plaza)		
8:30	Shuttle bus to Castle Montjuïc (Meet in lobby at 8:15 a.m., bus departs from front of hotel at 8:30 a.m. SHARP)		
9:00-10:30	Psychosocial guidelines for emergency response	Marciana	
10:30-10:45	COFFEE		
11:00-12:30	CASE	Carlos	
12:30-1:30	LUNCH		
1:30-2:00	GROUPS CONCLUSION TO CASE	Carlos	
2:00-2:45	Student presentation (3)		
2:45-3:00	COFFEE BREAK		
3:00-5:00	Participatory Action Research & Help to helpers: personal and professional costs of participatory intervention.	Marciana	

DAY 5: Friday, April 8
Methods of Intervention
Closing Ceremony, Reception

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE	Learning Tools
7:00-8:15	BREAKFAST (Hotel Catalonia Barcelona Plaza)		
8:30	Shuttle bus to Castle Montjuic (Meet in lobby at 8:15 a.m., bus departs from front of hotel at 8:30 a.m. SHARP)		
9:00-10:45	Should humanitarian intervention change?	Larry Hollingworth	
10:45-11:00	COFFEE		
11:00-12:30	The impact of domestic and foreign policy on effective disaster response	Larry	Case Application
12:30-1:30	LUNCH		
1:30-2:30	Student work on case study		Student-lead
2:30-3:30	STUDENT DEBATE		
3:30-3:45	COFFEE BREAK		
3:45-4:00	Reaction to students' debate	Marciana, Carlos, & Larry	
4:00-4:30	Closing plenary	Larry	
4:30-5:00	Closing Ceremony		
5:00	Reception		