Public Safety Management

The Bachelor of Science in Public Safety Management is an ideal program of study for public safety professionals seeking career advancement in the public safety industry. Admission to the program requires completion of a public safety-related associate degree, prior formal training equivalent to a fire service-related degree, prior public safety-related licensure or certification, or prior employment in a public safety-related field.

The program is offered at off-campus locations and is designed to provide practical course work in areas of management and supervision for public safety professionals. Public Safety Management offers a general degree option or a choice of three specializations: Fire Service Management, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management Administration. Public Safety Management students complete a set of required courses in the major and then select from one of four sets of directed courses to complete their selected specialization. Successful graduates are marketable for career enhancing opportunities that include public safety-related management and supervisory positions and other related fields.

The Public Safety Management program has signed articulation agreements with numerous colleges. Check with the Public Safety Management program for a current list.

The Capstone Option is available for eligible students who meet the Capstone criteria outlined in the Capstone Option section. Those seeking the Capstone Option must meet all eligibility criteria no later than the end of their first semester in the bachelor's degree program.

For additional information about this major, contact the Public Safety Management office at 618-453-5701 or visit publicsafetymgmt.siu.edu.

Bachelor of Science (B.S) in Public Safety Management Degree Requirements

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<td>Required PSM courses: PSM 302, PSM 305, PSM 316, PSM 332, PSM 350, PSM 383, PSM 387, PSM 388, PSM 421, and PSM 450</td>
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<td>Choose one of the four options below:</td>
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<td>General Public Safety Management Program</td>
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<td>Upper-division PSM or other courses approved by program</td>
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<td>Fire Service Management Specialization</td>
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Degree Requirements  | Credit Hours
---|---
PSM 360, PSM 390, PSM 398, PSM 406, PSM 410, and 3 hours of upper-division PSM or other courses approved by program |  
Emergency Medical Services Specialization | 18
PSM 360, PSM 365, PSM 403, PSM 406, PSM 407, and 3 hours of upper-division PSM or other courses approved by program |  
Emergency Management Administration Specialization | 18
PSM 365, PSM 407, PSM 410, PSM 412, PSM 416, and 3 hours of upper-division PSM or other courses approved by program |  
Approved Career Electives (Formal course work or its equivalent that is public service-related and technical, managerial, or supervisory in nature) | 30
General Electives | 3-12
Total | 120

1 The Capstone Option reduces University Core Curriculum requirement to 30 hours for eligible students.

Public Safety Management Courses

**PSM258 - Public Safety Work Experience** 258-1 to 30 Public Safety Work Experience. Credit will be granted via school evaluation of prior public safety management related job skills, management-worker relations and supervisory experience. Unless otherwise determined by the school director, this credit may be applied only to the approved career electives requirement of the public safety management degree. Restricted to Public Safety Management major.

**PSM259 - Public Safety Occupational Ed** 259-1 to 60 Public Safety Occupational Education. Credit granted via school evaluation of past public safety management-related occupational education experience. Unless otherwise determined by the school director, this credit may be applied only to the approved career electives requirement of the public safety management degree. Restricted to Public Safety Management major.

**PSM260 - Fire Apparatus Engineer** 260-3 Fire Apparatus Engineer. The Fire Apparatus Engineer course is designed to meet a specialty need within the fire service/public safety. The program equals or exceeds the requirements of NFPA 1002, Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications, current edition.

**PSM301 - Public Safety Mgmt Research** 301-3 Public Safety Management Research. An introduction to library resources, electronic media resources and formal academic writing styles common to public safety management research. Introduction to basic theories, concepts and practices pertinent to public safety management. May be independent study. Restricted to Public Safety Management major.
PSM302 - Ethics in Public Safety 302-3 Ethics in Public Safety. This course examines the basic principles of ethics as related to public safety operations and management with special attention given to current issues in public safety.

PSM305 - Philosophy of Leadership 305-3 Personal Philosophy of Leadership. This course will introduce and provide the student with a deeper understanding of self as it relates to leadership philosophies, knowledge, skills, and abilities. Each student will study and explore their core values, ethics, decision making, and begin to develop a personal philosophy of leadership. Through course presentations, dialogue, and learning activities, the participant will identify leadership roles in the community to include self, family, professional, and social. In addition, they will learn to define the difference between leadership and management. Students will complete self assessments to gain insights into their personal leadership style and characteristics and participate in video and written case studies to further explore their understanding of leadership.

PSM316 - Apps of Technical Writing 316-3 Applications of Technical Writing. (Same as TRM 316) The course will increase the student's ability in communicating various workplace documents common to technical disciplines. Prerequisite: ENGL 101 with a grade of C or better. Restricted to PSM major or consent of program coordinator.

PSM332 - Labor Relations 332-3 Labor Relations for Fire and Emergency Services. The student will gain a general understanding of the economic situation for fire and emergency services, of which labor management problems represent a subset. Students will develop a perspective of the evolution of labor relations in the United States and fire and emergency services economy and how the interaction of labor and management differs throughout the world. The collective bargaining section introduces the student to the techniques of collective bargaining in fire and emergency services.

PSM350 - Readings in Public Safety Mgmt 350-3 Readings in Public Safety Management. The use of written and electronic media resources relevant to Public Safety management and the development of a Public Safety management research bibliography. The use of bibliographic resources to produce written comparative or persuasive research reports. May be independent study. Prerequisite: None. Restricted to Public Safety Management major.

PSM360 - Personnel Systems 360-3 Personnel Systems for Fire and Emergency Services. This course examines relationships and issues in personnel administration and human resource development within the context of fire and emergency service organizations, including personnel management, organizational development, productivity, recruitment and selection, performance management systems, discipline, and collective bargaining.

PSM365 - Grant Writing 365-3 Grant and Proposal Writing for Public Safety. Comprehensive presentation of public safety grants from governmental, public and private funding sources. Course covers the funding application, approval process, and grant administration. Students will prepare a grant proposal with objective statement, study methodology, work programs/schedules and budget.

PSM383 - Data Interpretation 383-3 Data Interpretation. A course designed for students beginning their major program of study to examine data use in their respective professions. Emphasis will be placed upon an understanding of the basic principles and techniques involved with analysis, synthesis and utilization of data.


PSM388 - Legal Aspects 388-3 Political and Legal Foundations of Fire and Emergency Services. The student will learn basic law principles, identify sources of American laws, and recognize the structural framework of American law. Additionally, the student will learn to identify the principles of law which relate to management of fire protection and public safety services and areas of law which impact the operations of fire service and public safety management. This includes identifying applicable laws and ordinances (Fire Fighter Bill of Rights, etc.), collective bargaining, and state/local civil service Fire/Police Commission provisions hearing protocols. Further, the student will participate in a mock hearing, following applicable protocols for such, in accordance with due process and legal requirements and effectively document and enforce such findings.
PSM390 - Govt Aspects of Public Safety 390-3 Governmental Aspects of Public Safety. The role of subnational governments in the management of the fire and public safety services. The demographic and political environment in which the fire services operate. The duties, powers and obligations of governmental agencies relative to the operation of fire departments and other public safety agencies. Restricted to Public Safety Management major.

PSM398 - Risk Reduction 398-3 Risk Reduction for Fire and Emergency Services. This course, designed for the middle-level fire service or public safety manager, introduces the concept of risk management and examines its applicability in the fire and public safety services. Particular emphasis is placed on developing and implementing a fire and public safety service risk management program in both career and paid on-call departments.

PSM401 - Apps of Fire Research 401-3 Applications of Fire Research in Fire and Emergency Services. This course examines the rationale for conducting fire research, various fire protection research activities, and research applications, including the test standards and codes, structural fire safety, automatic detection and suppression, life safety, and firefighter health and safety. May be independent study. Prerequisite: PSM 350.


PSM403 - EMS Education 403-3 Emergency Medical Services Education. This course is for students interested in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) education. This course introduces the EMS professional to the education system as it relates to EMS education. Students explore issues in curriculum development, teaching, program direction, and development. Restricted to PSM major or consent of program coordinator.

PSM406 - Mgmt of Emergency Services 406-3 Management of Emergency Services. This course is for students interested in the practice and principles of Emergency Services management and the processes that contribute to the effectiveness of day-to-day operations within an emergency service organization. This course introduces the public safety professional to topics that include government structure, strategic planning, injury prevention, risk management and safety, customer service, human resources management, financial management, fleet management, career development, quality management, data collection and research, labor relations, and special operations. Restricted to PSM major or consent of program coordinator.

PSM407 - Public Information 407-3 Emergency Services Public Information. This course is for students interested in public information and community relations in Emergency Services. This course introduces the public safety professional to benefits of community information and community relations. Students explore issues in marketing, crafting the message, identifying the audience, developing programs, and creating press releases. Restricted to PSM major or consent of program coordinator.

PSM410 - Response to Natural/Tech Event 410-3 Organizational Response to Natural and Technological Events. This course examines responses to natural and man-made disasters. It also looks at the unique role of the local first responder with other governmental agencies. Students will identify the common elements of a disaster response and the roles of each emergency responder and agency. Course emphasis is on the actions and procedures "at the scene" where decisions are made rather than concepts and policies applied by officials physically removed from the scene. Restricted to PSM major or consent of program coordinator.

PSM412 - Exercise and Evaluation 412-3 Fire Service Exercise and Evaluation. Students will be trained in determining public need during an emergency event through exercise. Students will learn the impact that effective project and operational planning and management can have on the overall effectiveness of public safety organizational performance. Restricted to PSM major or consent of program coordinator.

PSM416 - Domestic Terrorism 416-3 Domestic Terrorism and Extremist Groups. This course traces the history, emergence, and growth of domestic terrorist and extremist groups within the United States. Students will assess various groups’ intentions, capabilities, and activities within contexts of and ramifications on political, national security, and legal paradigms. "Domestic Terrorism and Extremist Groups" traces the roots of domestic political violence and terrorism in the United States, and will expose
the student to academic works concerning contemporary domestic extremists and the terrorist threat they may pose. The course will explore how a radical nature has continued to persist in isolated pockets throughout our nation's history. Restricted to PSM major or consent of program coordinator.

**PSM421 - Professional Development** 421-3 Professional Development. Introduces students to the various elements involved in obtaining a position in their chosen fields. Topics included are: personal inventories, placement services, employment agencies, interviewing techniques, resumes, letters of application, references and employment tests. Each student will develop a portfolio, including personal and professional information related to career goals.

**PSM450 - Analytical Approches Fire Protct** 450-3 Analytical Approaches to Public Fire Protection. This course examines tools and techniques of rational decision making in fire departments, including databases, statistics, probability, decision analysis, utility modeling, resource allocation, cost benefit analysis, and linear programming. May be independent study. Prerequisite: PSM 350 with a grade of C or better.

**Public Safety Management Faculty**

Laycoax, Lindsay M., Lead Site Coordinator and Lecturer, Public Administration, M.S., Governors State University, 2007; 2010.

Renz, Peter L., Lecturer, Non-Profit Administration, M.N.A., University of Notre Dame, 2001; 2014.


Last updated: 03/10/2021

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**Catalog Year Statement:**

Students starting their collegiate training during the period of time covered by this catalog (see bottom of this page) are subject to the curricular requirements as specified herein. The requirements herein will extend for a seven calendar-year period from the date of entry for baccalaureate programs and three years for associate programs. Should the University change the course requirements contained herein subsequently, students are assured that necessary adjustments will be made so that no additional time is required of them.