

Table of Contents

Public Safety Management..... 1

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 online 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.

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

Degree Requirements	Credit Hours
University Core Curriculum Requirements ¹	39
PSM major courses	48
Required PSM courses: PSM 302, PSM 305, PSM 316, PSM 332, PSM 350, PSM 383, PSM 387, PSM 388, PSM 421, and PSM 450	30
Choose one of the four options below:	
General Public Safety Management Program	18
Upper-division PSM or other courses approved by program	
Fire Service Management Specialization	18

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.*

Capstone Option for Transfer Students

The SIU Capstone Option may be available to eligible students who have earned an associates degree or the equivalent. The Capstone Option reduces the University Core Curriculum requirements from 39 to 30 hours, therefore reducing the time to degree completion. 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. See the Capstone Option section for more information on this option.

Public Safety Management Courses

PSM259 - Public Safety Occupational Training Credit granted for documented and relevant occupational licensure, certifications, continuing professional education, and similar demonstrable training. Students may not receive both academic credit from an educational institution and training credit for occupational training, certification, or licensure for the same activity. Work will be evaluated and credit determined by the Program Coordinator and/or the School Director. Maximum of 30 credit hours toward degree. Graded on a credit/no credit basis. Credit Hours: 1-30

PSM301 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM302 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM305 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM316 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM332 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM350 - 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. Restricted to Public Safety Management major. Credit Hours: 3

PSM360 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM365 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM383 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM387 - Fiscal Aspects of Public Safety An introduction to the fiscal problems encountered in the administration of public safety facilities. Credit Hours: 3

PSM388 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM390 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM398 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM401 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM402 - Current Issues in Public Safety Management A review of the current problems affecting public safety with particular emphasis on resource allocation, planning, and constraints. Credit Hours: 3

PSM403 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM406 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM407 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM410 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM412 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM416 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM421 - 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. Credit Hours: 3

PSM450 - 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 taken as an independent study. Credit Hours: 3

Public Safety Management Faculty

Laycoax, Lindsay M., Lecturer and Lead Site Coordinator, 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.

Rivero, Mark, Lecturer, Educational Administration/Leadership, Ed.D., University of Nevada-Las Vegas, 2004; 2006.

Last updated: 01/22/2023