

Continuing Professional Development Modules, Autumn 2020, University of Stirling

CPD Module One (consistent with BASW's CPD Guidelines)

The *Social Dimensions of Disasters* (SWKPG88) is a continuing professional development (CDP) 20 credit module that focuses on understanding how social forces and activities shape hazards and turn them into disasters affecting people, plants, animals and the physical environment, and the responses to these. The module is open to any practitioner wanting to accumulate credits in continuing professional development, or anyone who has an honours degree in a relevant subject. Students are treated as adult learners responsible for contributing to their own education and that of others. The module has a poster presentation formative assignment and a 3000 word case study. Tutorial and group support is given. The module has two parts which cover the following areas:

Part One: Theories and Concepts

- Exploring the role of sociology in disaster research and responses including the ethical issues raised.
- The sociology of disasters: theories and concepts.
- Understanding the roles of key players in disaster responses, from the United Nations to local emergency professionals.
- The disaster cycle and the interdependencies between socio-economic formations, social stratification and status, cultural traditions and governance structures and how these impact differentially on different groups of people, depending on vulnerabilities.
- Understanding complex and cascading disasters such as the Covid-19 pandemic and the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami and Nuclear Disaster in Japan (Fukushima Disaster).
- Global interdependencies between disasters and their impact on victim-survivors during disasters and need for external assistance and support.
- Global governance in disasters and humanitarian aid.
- Local disaster policy, legislation and disaster action plans: The social inclusion and exclusion of diverse social actors at local authority level in the UK.

Part Two: Case examples of disasters covering the social impacts on victim-survivors, communities inhabit(ed), issues arising from the onset of a disaster to reconstructing sustainable communities.

- Case examples of disasters and their impacts upon society, covering disasters such as health pandemics like Covid-19, climate change, air pollution, nuclear explosions, extreme weather events such as flooding, drought, cold snaps and heat waves, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis and hurricanes, wildfires, and terrorism.
- Climate change migration and refugees – policies and responses to a global crisis.
- The internationalisation of humanitarian responses: social issues and dilemmas raised.
- Rebuilding communities after disasters: Evaluating social actors' roles and performances to include state officials, civil society organisations, private enterprises, and local residents.

A student who successfully completes the assignment for the SWKPG88 module can ask to be exempted from SWKPG80, (Humanitarian Aid: Ethics, Values, and Human Rights) also worth 20 credits if they subsequently decide to register for the MSc in Disaster Interventions and Humanitarian Aid. A student who does not complete the assignment will be given a certificate of attendance which may be used towards fulfilling their CDP requirements.

Fees for CPD Modules:

Home Student £667 per 20 credit module, Overseas Student £1884 per 20 credit module

Note:

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the module will be delivered online.

CPD Module Two (consistent with CPD modules)

The *Disaster Interventions from Green Social Work Perspectives* (SWKPG89, 20 credits) is a postgraduate, continuing professional development (CPD) module that explores themes, debates, dilemmas and practices encountered in disaster social work as a global profession. Case studies will explore the: stages of a disaster; complexities that social workers and humanitarian aid workers encounter in doing their work in difficult circumstances; and impact of disasters on the emotions of the victim-survivors dealing with grief and loss, and the impact of these reactions on the practitioner him/herself, and thus, the need for self-care and supervision. The case examples will also consider the importance of the physical environment on the well-being of the victim-survivors, practitioners.

The module is open to any practitioner wanting to accumulate credits in continuing professional development, or anyone who has an honours degree in a relevant subject. Students will be treated as adult learners and contribute to their own and other students' learning. Students are expected to read and present material for discussion in each session, regardless of whether in lecture or seminar format, participate in small group exercises and undertake project work where appropriate. The reading list is not exhaustive, and students are expected to add to these, using their research and study skills, and tailor their reading to their interests including those they wish to use for assessment purposes. The module has one formative and one summative assignment. The formative assignment is a peer and tutor evaluation of a group presentation (title and topic to be agreed with the Module Convenor) and a summative case-study assignment of 3000 words (title and topic to be agreed with Module Convenor). Students will be given advice individually and in groups on their presentations and assignments. Each student will normally receive two individual thirty minute tutorials to discuss their formative and summative assignments and any other issues pertaining to or affecting their studies.

A student who successfully completes the assignment for the SWKPG89 module can ask to be exempted from SWKPG83 ('Natural' and '(Hu)man-made' Disasters: Definitions, Skills, Stages and Strategies of Intervention (Prevention, Preparation, Mitigation and Adaptation), also worth 20 credits if they subsequently decide to register for the MSc in Disaster Interventions and Humanitarian Aid. A student who does not complete the assignment will be given a certificate of attendance which may be used towards fulfilling their CDP requirements.

Fees for CPD Modules:

Home Student £667 per 20 credit module, Overseas Student £1884 per 20 credit module

Note:

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the module will be delivered online.

Registration:

Register online at <https://www.stir.ac.uk/courses/pg-taught/social-sciences/disaster-interventions-humanitarian-aid/>

If you have any questions, mail: Lena Dominelli at [lena.dominelli@stir.ac.uk](mailto:lana.dominelli@stir.ac.uk)