

Preparedness and Emergency Management

[See study programme](#)

Autumn 2023 (1. semester)

Change and Crisis Management	LED5000 7.5 sp
Emergency Preparedness Organizations and Crisis Response	ORG5001 7.5 sp

Spring 2024 (2. semester)

Preparedness and Emergency Management	LED5001 7.5 sp
Strategic Media Management	ORG5002 7.5 sp

Autumn 2024 (3. semester)

Elective courses - recommended

Human Factors and Safety Management	ORG5004 7.5 sp
Strategic Management of Norwegian Security and Preparedness	LED5022 7.5 sp

Spring 2025 (4. semester)

Research Methods	MET5003 7.5 sp
Digital Preparedness	ORG5005 7.5 sp

Autumn 2025 (5. semester)

Master's Thesis (1/2)	LED5009 0 sp
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Programme description

This programme in Preparedness and Emergency Management is an experienced-based master's degree programme comprising 90 ECTS and lasting for three years.

It aims to provide the candidates with substantial theoretical knowledge in preparedness and emergency management at both tactical, operational and strategic level and to develop the leadership and critical thinking skills required to choose the most effective strategies, tools and methods in emergency response operations. The programme provides knowledge about different types of threats and crises, the organizations and the operational tools established to meet these threats. Different types of management support and decision-making tools are presented. Knowledge on how to facilitate competence development within preparedness organizations is highlighted, with a special focus on training and exercises. The programme provides knowledge on media and communication strategies, and on how digital technologies can support preparedness management. The programme also cover themes related to the crisis staff management and the human and technological factors that affect the organizations' ability to handle crises, including safety and preparedness in the cyber domain.

Some of the sessions will take place in the emergency and preparedness management laboratory at Nord University NORDLAB. The laboratory has simulators that provide opportunity for exercises and skills training through playing out various emergency scenarios. The students will also take part in a large-scale exercise Nord together with both civilian and military resources.

Learning outcomes

A candidate who has completed the education should have the following learning outcomes, defined in knowledge, skills and general competence:

Knowledge

The candidate has:

- thorough knowledge of how public and private preparedness systems are organized and advanced knowledge of critical factors influencing preparedness and crisis response in private and public organizations
- thorough knowledge of and may apply theories of preparedness and emergency management
- thorough knowledge about organizational learning and strategic competence development, and how emergency preparedness exercises can enhance organizations' crisis management competences
- knowledge of strategic communication and media management
- knowledge about digital threats and preparedness

Skills

The candidate is able to:

- analyze existing theories, methods and principles of preparedness and emergency management and convert this knowledge into practical work with preparedness efforts development in his or her own organization
- critically reflect upon the preparedness strategies of an organization
- work with strategies for competence development in preparedness management
- analyze research problems in the field of preparedness and emergency management and can conduct an independent R&D project under supervision and in accordance with applicable norms for research ethics
- understand how IT-based management support tools are used in preparedness organizations

General Competence

The candidate is able to:

analyze relevant research-based knowledge of management at strategic, operational and tactical level in emergency preparedness organizations
discuss relevant academic issues based on his or her own experience
acquire competence development knowledge within the field of emergency preparedness management and communicate this within his or her own organization
contribute with new creative solutions and to a more innovative preparedness and emergency response system

Admission requirements

Higher Education Entrance Qualification English language proficiency [View general admission and documentation requirements](#) This programme is mainly taught in Norwegian. The programme requires applicants to hold a bachelor's degree or an equivalent education of 180 credits, as well as two years of relevant work experience following graduation.

Progression requirements

The students must have complete all courses before starting the master's thesis. In addition progression requirement according to [Regulations relating to studies and examinations at Nord University](#) apply.

Career possibilities

The programme provides knowledge, skills and competences required for management positions related to preparedness and emergency management both in civilian and government companies and institutions, as well as in the emergency response agencies. The master program has a management perspective and is relevant for students who have management experience or other relevant professional experience in the field, and who wish to strengthen their academic skills.

Further education

Experience-based master's degree is not eligible for direct entry to a PhD program. Candidates will normally have to take additional specialized courses within the field of the study in order to be considered for an admission to a PhD program.

Teaching sessions

The study program is session-based.

Study abroad

Students may take exchange studies during the third semester. Nord University has a bilateral agreement with Laurea University of Applied Sciences in Finland at the experience-based master programme Global Health and Crisis Management
https://www.laurea.fi/en/degree_programmes/socialservices-and-nursing/global-health-and-crisis-management/

The study program is a part of [CONRIS](#) – Cooperation Network for Risk & Security Studies

Costs

No tuition fees. Costs for semester registration and course literature apply.

Assessment methods

Home exams, written assignments and task assessments.

Graduation requirements

Final graduation examinations for the study programme is a master's thesis.

Programme evaluation

The programme is evaluated via student questionnaire, as well as by the Programme Coordinator. The evaluations

form a part of the university's quality assurance system.

Qualifications requirements and regulations

Please refer to the applicable legislation, regulations and related guidelines at the university [webpage](#).