Communication is essential to the effective preparation for, response to, and recovery from natural disasters, infectious disease outbreaks, toxic spills, and other such crises and emergencies. The online certificate program provides professionals and students with graduate-level training in research-based knowledge and best practices of risk and crisis communication especially within the context of public health emergency events.

Admission
Admission to the program is contingent upon acceptance to the Graduate School and the Department of Communication. The application requires a:

(a) transcript of undergraduate degree, and if available graduate degree, coursework showing a minimum GPA of 3.0 ('B' average); and
(b) 500-word statement of purpose presenting the academic and professional preparation for the program, academic/ professional goals, and how the program helps achieve these goals.

International applicants whose native language is not English may also be required to submit Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score or equivalent.

Preference will be given to applicants who have worked for at least two years in government institutions, non-government organizations, or private firms that focus on emergency preparation and response, health communication, or risk assessment and management.

To apply: https://gradschool.wayne.edu/admissions/.

Application deadlines:
Fall (September start) August 1; Winter (January start) November 1.

Program
The program requires 12 credits of coursework as noted below. One course substitution may be allowed with a strong rationale for the change and approval of a faculty adviser. All classes are 3 credits.

COM 7160: Crisis Communication
COM 7162: Risk Communication: Theoretical and Practical Approaches
COM 7170: Health and Risk Communication
COM 7172: Risk Communication: Disasters, Hazards, and Mass Media

All program courses are offered online.

For more information:
http://comm.wayne.edu/graduate/
riskcom@wayne.edu