



Syllabus
Mitigation Best Practices (MBP)
Fall 2020

August 3 - September 18
Google Classroom

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Course Description

Mitigation Best Practices, is not an overview of mitigation tools, but rather, a collection of strategies to reduce community wildfire risk. MBP focuses on sharing proven methods to empower stakeholders and strengthen the effectiveness of their partnerships with community leaders and property owners. The course is based on social-science research and hands-on experience.

This training is designed for personnel who are responsible for planning, developing, and implementing a community wildfire risk reduction program that encompasses all aspects of community fire adaptation. This is not an entry level course

Building the National Mitigation Infrastructure

Most high-risk communities recognize the need to mitigate fire risk and want to take action but don't have the resources to move mitigation forward. In other words, the biggest barrier to community fire adaptation is not motivation or desire at the community level; it's the lack of local capacity.

While billions of dollars have been spent developing a state-of-the-art wildfire response infrastructure that provides consistent training and qualifications, a leadership structure, and a secure funding stream, far less has been spent to build, maintain, and strengthen local community wildfire risk reduction. Local mitigation efforts must overcome daunting challenges, such as a lack of knowledge and training, a shortage of good mitigation specialists, and unreliable funding sources. Many mitigation specialists must spend their time looking for project funding at the expense of on-the-ground action.

To help close the gap, this course builds on the mitigation infrastructure concept by training mitigation practitioners to build local capacity and maximize resources.

Course Schedule (Subject to change)

Week of August 3 - August 9

- 1. Introduction - Familiarize yourself with Google Classroom and your fellow students (approx. 30 min)**
 - a. Reading - Module documents
 - b. Complete introductory exercise
- 2. Module 1 - The National Mitigation Infrastructure (approx. 1 hr)**
 - a. Reading - Module document and Fire Management Today
 - b. Respond to Discussion Questions
- 3. Module 2 - Guiding Principles (approx. 2 hrs)**
 - a. Reading - Module documents and Asset Mapping Toolkit
 - b. Complete Mitigation Services Table
 - c. Respond to discussion questions
- 4. Virtual Live Module discussion (Aug 6) 5:00 PM MDT**
 - a. Students are invited to this voluntary virtual live meeting. Get to know your instructors and fellow students

Week of August 10 - 16

- 1. Module 3 - Community Engagement (approx. 4 hrs)**
 - a. Reading - Module document
 - b. Watch videos
 - c. Respond to discussion questions
 - d. **Assignment - 1-2 Page Paper DUE 5:00 PM MDT - Aug. 16**

Week of August 17- 23

- 1. Module 4 - Building and Maintaining Partnerships (approx. 1 hr)**
 - a. Reading- Module Document, Community Toolbox
 - b. Respond to discussion questions

- 2. Module 5 - Developing and Implementing Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) (approx. 1 hr)**
 - a. Reading - Module Documents
 - b. Respond to discussion questions

- 3. Virtual Live Module discussion (Aug 20) 5:00 PM MDT**
 - a. Students are invited to this voluntary virtual live meeting. Come with your questions, stories or experiences regarding Partnerships, CWPPs and funding.

- 4. Module 6 - Mitigation Funding (approx. 2 hrs)**
 - a. Reading - Module document
 - b. Respond to discussion questions
 - c. **Assignment - 1-2 page Paper DUE 5:00 PM MDT - Aug. 23**

Week of August 24- 30

- 1. Module 7 Structure Hardening and Creating Defensible Space 9 (approx 1hr)**
 - a. Reading - Module Document
 - b. Watch video
 - c. **Assignment - Fire Brands Due 5:00 PM MDT - Aug. 26**

- 2. Virtual Live Module discussion (Aug 27) 5:00 PM MDT**
 - a. Students are invited to this voluntary virtual live meeting. Join as your instructors share some successful examples of cross boundary landscape projects and lessons learned

- 3. Module 8 - Landscape Fuels Treatment (approx. 1 hr)**
 - a. Reading- Module Document
 - b. **Assignment - Fuels Treatment Exercise DUE 5:00 PM MDT- Aug. 30**

- 4. Module 9 - Home Site Visits (approx. 1 hr)**
 - a. Reading - Module Document
 - b. Respond to discussion questions

Week of August 31 - September 6

- 1. Module 10 - Mitigation Events, Tracking Progress and Celebrating Successes (approx. 1hr)**

- a. Reading - Module Documents
 - b. Respond to discussion questions
- 2. Module 11 - Codes Ordinances and the Role of Insurance (approx 1 hr)**
- a. Reading - Module Documents
 - b. Respond to discussion questions

Week of September 7 - 13

- 1. Module 12- Moving to Solutions**
- a. **Assignment - Working with your Mitigation partner (partner will be assigned by the instructor) Develop your draft Mitigation Plan**
 - i. DRAFT Mitigation Plan **DUE 5:00 PM MDT Sept. 13**
 - b. **Virtual Live Module discussion (Sept 10) 5:00 PM MDT**
 - i. Students are invited to this voluntary virtual live meeting. Topic TBD

Week of September 13 - 18

- 2. Module 12- Moving to Solutions**
- a. **Assignment - finalize and submit your Mitigation Plan Mitigation Plan DUE 5:00 PM MDT Sept. 13**

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