

Mitigation Best Practices
Fall 2020
Dates - February 1 – April 4 2021
Syllabus

Eligibility:

Mitigation Professionals, Mitigation Specialists and individuals responsible for implementation of wildfire risk reduction programs.

Platform:

Canvas

Instructors:

Jonathan Bruno - Jonathan@cups.ws

Jeremy Taylor - wildfiretogether@gmail.com

Rebecca Samulski - fireadaptedco@gmail.com

Mike Jensen – jensensmokey83@gmail.com

Teaching Assistants:

Wendie Warner - Wendie@cusp.ws

Guest Speakers:

The Instructor cadre will invite Subject Matter Experts (SME) to support class learning throughout the duration of the class.

TBD

Course Description

Mitigation Best Practices is not an overview of mitigation tools, but rather, a collection of strategies to reduce community wildfire risk. The Mitigation Best Practices curriculum focuses on proven methods that aim to empower stakeholders and strengthen the effectiveness of partnerships with community leaders and property owners. The course is based on social-science research and hands-on experience. The course is designed over a 7-9-week period with weekly assignments, virtual discussions, quizzes and other learning opportunities aimed at increasing mitigation program effectiveness. Students should expect to actively engage throughout the class; however, the class is flexible and focused on the working student. Students should plan to spend anywhere from 3-4 hours per week, reading, writing, completing assignments, participating in virtual live events and completing assignments.

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

Student Expectations

Students should be familiar with the basics of community fire adaptation, including home ignition zones, defensible space, home hardening, fire behavior in the wildland-urban interface, and hazardous fuels removal. Students must achieve a minimum score of 70% on all tests, complete prework, fully attend all modules, and participate in class to receive a certificate of completion.

Equity Statement

The instructor is dedicated to establishing a learning environment that promotes diversity of the students including race, class, culture, religion, gender, sexual identity, and physical ability. It is important that this is a safe classroom environment. We will practice being generous and respectful members of our classroom community. Anyone noticing discriminatory behavior in this class, or who feels discriminated against, should bring it to the attention of the instructor immediately.

Virtual Live Events

Throughout the class we will hold several Virtual Live Events. They will be optional but are a great chance to interact with your teachers and fellow students and learn from industry professionals. Once the class list is finalized, a survey will be sent out to determine days and times that work best for the majority of the class.

Course Schedule (Subject to change)

Week 1 - February 1 – February 8

- 1. Introduction - Familiarize yourself with the classroom platform - Canvas and your fellow students**
 - a. Review syllabus
 - b. Complete introductory exercises
- 2. Virtual Live Event – Instructor and Student Introductions and expectations**

Week 2 - February 9 – 15

- 1. Module 1 - The National Mitigation Infrastructure**
 - a. Reading - Module document and Fire Management Today
 - b. Watch video
 - c. Respond to Discussion Questions
- 2. Module 2 - Guiding Principles**
 - a. Reading - Module documents and Asset Mapping Toolkit
 - b. Complete Mitigation Services Table DUE 11:59 PM MST February 15**
 - c. Respond to discussion questions
 - d. Quiz DUE 11:59 PM MST February 15**
- 3. Virtual Live Event – Guiding Principles**

Week 3 - February 16 – 22

- 1. Module 3 - Community Engagement**
 - a. Reading - Module document

- b. Watch videos
 - c. Respond to discussion questions
 - d. **Quiz DUE 11:59 PM MST February 22**
 - e. **Assignment - 1-2 Page Paper DUE 11:59 PM MST February 22**
2. **Virtual Live Event- Community Engagement**

Week 4 - February 23 –March 1

- 1. **Module 4 - Building and Maintaining Partnerships**
 - a. Reading- Module Document, Community Toolbox
 - b. Respond to discussion questions
- 2. **Module 5 - Developing and Implementing Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP)**
 - a. Reading - Module Documents
 - b. **Assignment – Review a local CWPP- 1 to 2 page paper DUE 11:59 PM MST March 1**
 - c. Respond to discussion questions
 - d. **Quiz DUE 11:59 PM MST March 1**
- 3. **Virtual Live Event- TBD**

Week 5 - March 2 – 8

- 1. **Module 6 - Mitigation Funding**
 - a. Reading - Module document
 - b. Respond to discussion questions
 - c. **Assignment – 1 to 2 page paper DUE 11:59 PM MST March 8**
- 2. **Module 7 - Structure Hardening and Creating Defensible Space**
 - a. Reading - Module Document
 - b. Watch video
 - c. **Assignment - Fire Brand exercise Due 11:59 PM MST March 8**
 - d. **Quiz DUE 11:59 PM MST March 8**
- 3. **Virtual Live Event- TBD**

Week 6 - March 9 – 15

- 1. **Module 8 - Landscape Fuels Treatment**
 - a. Reading- Module Document
 - b. **Assignment - Fuels Treatment Exercise DUE 11:59 PM MST March 15**
- 2. **Module 9 - Home Site Visits**
 - a. Reading - Module Document
 - b. Respond to discussion questions
 - c. **Quiz DUE 11:59 MST March 15**
- 3. **Virtual Live Event- TBD**

Week 7 - March 16 – 22

- 1. **Module 10 - Mitigation Events, Tracking Progress and Celebrating Successes**
 - a. Reading - Module Documents
 - b. Respond to discussion questions

2. **Virtual Live Event- Mitigation Events led by Mike Jensen**
3. **Module 11 - Codes and Ordinances and the Role of Insurance**
 - a. Reading - Module Documents
 - b. Respond to discussion questions
 - c. **Quiz DUE 11:59 PM MST March 22**
4. **Virtual Live Event- Codes and Ordinances led by Jeremy Taylor**

Week 8 - March 23 – 29

1. **Module 12- Moving to Solutions**
 - a. **Assignment - Develop a Mitigation Plan Draft DUE 11:59 PM MST March 29**
2. **Virtual Live Event- TBD**

Week 9 - March 30 – April 5

1. **Module 12- Moving to Solutions**
 - a. **Assignment - Develop a Mitigation Plan Final DUE 11:59 PM MST April 5**
2. **Virtual Live Event- TBD**

The AIM program is supported by a cooperative agreement with the USDA Forest Service. In accordance with federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this organization is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll free voice (866) 632-9992, TDD (800) 877-8339, or voice relay (866) 377-8642. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.