INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE
Choose Manchester

International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response

Why Study International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response at Manchester?

At Manchester, you’ll experience an education and environment that sets you on the right path to a professionally rewarding and personally fulfilling future. Choose Manchester and we’ll help you make your mark.

Study at a leading global centre for the study of humanitarianism, conflict responses, global health, international disaster management and peacebuilding.

We offer a truly interdisciplinary course, where you will be taught by anthropologists, historians, political scientists, geographers and medical doctors.

Gain valuable hands-on experience by conducting overseas fieldwork and work placements in the UK.

Benefit from research-led teaching, with lectures and seminars based around the most contemporary debates.

Learn from tutors who have led teams to sudden onset disasters, emergencies and conflicts.

We’re home to UK-Med, the country’s medical deployment lead to global humanitarian crises.

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Our teaching is informed by experience of working in both contemporary and historical incidents, strong relationships with institutions in the humanitarian sector and through consultation with governments around the world. These networks are integrated into our teaching where students can benefit from lectures, workshops and events with key sector organisations including Save the Children and Médecins Sans Frontières.

Study with us and you’ll explore the causes and impacts of disasters at different scales and locations. You’ll discover the concepts and strategy that surround vulnerability and resilience, as well as exploring response and recovery in the post-disaster setting. Understanding how disasters are connected to broader global processes of climate change, inequality and sustainable development will be a key learning objective.

You will engage with the definitive concepts of humanitarianism, such as neutrality and impartiality, to comprehend where they came from and how they are contested. You’ll apply your learning to specific fields such as peacebuilding and security, disaster response, and humanitarian governance, providing you with a comprehensive understanding of disaster management and humanitarianism to aid your future career.

The Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI) is a ground-breaking centre for multidisciplinary teaching in the field of humanitarian action. Our corridors house medical doctors, next to anthropologists, sociologists, disaster management experts, historians, and peace and conflict scholars. Together our research influences humanitarian practices in the field.

Find out more at:
www.manchester.ac.uk/hcri
Matilda, a first year student, studying BSc International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response, gives the lowdown on life in Manchester

I chose to study at Manchester because it offers unique and interesting courses like mine. I’d also visited Manchester many times before I went to University and loved the city so knew it was the place for me!

Manchester has so much going on. Whatever I fancy doing, whether it’s a night out or something fun to do at the weekend, there are so many places within walking distance of my flat that I can go to.

I live on the Victoria Park campus in Rusholme. I love living here because there aren’t as many University halls in this area, so I don’t feel like I’m in a student bubble which could be anywhere in the UK and instead I feel like I actually live in Manchester.

My favourite place in Manchester is MediaCityUK, which is only a quick bus or tram ride from the city centre. MediaCityUK is one of the city’s creative hubs and it’s home to the BBC and ITV. You can watch some of your favourite shows being recorded here. There are also lots of restaurants, a shopping centre and museums, and is less busy than the city centre so better for going to eat.

THE TOP FIVE THINGS ABOUT MANCHESTER:

1. The nightlife
2. The diverse population
3. The community spirit
4. The music scene
5. The cost of living – even though it’s a major city it’s still much cheaper to live here than some other cities.
INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE BSc

UCAS code: VL38
Duration: 3 years
Typical A-Level offer: AAB

For full entry requirements, including IB requirements, please see our website: www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate

You’ll learn about humanitarian response systems, including their design, the work of the international community in relief work, and the challenges and opportunities in the humanitarian response agenda. We want our students to develop an informed attitude towards ethical issues impacting humanitarianism, including actions taken by government and non-government organisations in reaction to both natural and man-made disasters.

Each year, you’ll take a number of compulsory course units. This core study will be supplemented by optional course units, allowing you to tailor your study to specific needs or interests. This includes relevant multidisciplinary courses in history, politics, medicine, geography and development studies.

Your final year dissertation allows you to make the focus of your last semester here truly your own, and wholly relevant to your personal interests and prospective career. Up to a third of your degree can comprise language study, such as French, Arabic, German, or Russian. This option addresses the demand for language-speakers from employers in the humanitarian sector, and would give you a great foundation for making use of your degree overseas.

You’ll study issues arising from relief and development work, including resilience-building and preparation for crises and disasters.

• Develop practical expertise in risk / vulnerability analysis, alongside strategic research methods.

• Optional fieldwork in the UK or overseas, to learn how your knowledge of disaster management and humanitarian response might be applied in a real life context.

• Opportunity for humanitarian work placements to provide you with the confidence and experience to achieve a successful career.

STUDY ABROAD

STUDY WITH A LANGUAGE

INDUSTRIAL PLACEMENT

INTERNSHIP

SAMPLE COURSE UNITS

YEAR ONE
Introduction to Disaster Management
Key Concepts in International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response
Introduction to Humanitarianism

YEAR TWO
Everyday Peace Building and Security
Disasters and Development
Professional Experience Project (optional)

YEAR THREE
War Migration and Health (optional)
Practical Approaches to Research in Fragile Environments (optional)
Dissertation and Research Methods

These are examples of course units offered in 2019/20 and are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/study-hcri

MINUSTAH Peacekeepers assist flood victims in Haiti. Image © Marco Dormino, United Nations
“On the International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response course we learn about such a variety of topics; one week can include lectures on climate change, inequality and responses to disasters. If that’s not enough, they also offer you the opportunity to explore other subject areas to ensure you leave the course with an understanding of the wide variety of challenges the world is facing.

Although the realities that we face on this course are hard-hitting, the staff are so approachable, and the small course size means there are plenty of amazing people around you to support you through this mentally challenging but incredibly fascinating degree.”

Juliette Flach
BSc International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response

Find out more about the course:
www.manchester.ac.uk/hcri
As an International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response student, you’ll have the opportunity to undertake field study – either here in the UK or overseas.

You’ll learn how your knowledge of disaster management and humanitarian response might be applied in the context of real-life hazards and vulnerabilities.

Find out more on our website: www.manchester.ac.uk/study-hcri

“Our research trip to India allowed us to gain research experience and to apply our learnings about disaster management and its theories to the context of Mumbai. Our group’s research focussed on how plastic waste, infrastructural development and the destruction of mangrove ecosystems contribute to flood risk in Mumbai.

Through our observations and interviews we found that plastic and construction waste often ends up in waterways, preventing them from flowing naturally into the sea.

Overall, our trip to Mumbai was incredible, challenging and eye-opening. We learnt a lot more than expected about not only our topic and the opinions of local people but also in terms of India’s history, culture, and how the reality of research was often quite different to our expectations.”

Isabelle Kidder and Heidi Parkes-Smith
International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response BSc
Manchester Global Health Society promotes issues of global health and works closely with the Office for Global Health and the UK Faculty of Public Health. The society offers interactive workshops on key topical issues and hosts a TEDx-style series with leading experts on issues of global importance.

British Red Cross Society provides many opportunities to get involved: with fundraising events, First Aid training and Peer Education programmes, this is your chance to join some of the most rewarding charity projects available.

Friends of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) are part of a national network of societies which campaign, fundraise and raise awareness about global health issues and the work of MSF.

Engineers without Borders (EWB) are a young person-led charity that focuses on removing barriers to human development through engineering. Their programmes provide opportunities for young engineers in the UK to learn about technology’s role in development.

Save the Children Society works with the national charity Save the Children by supporting its work in 120 countries. It helps the charity to save children’s lives, fight for their rights and help them fulfil their potential by challenging world leaders to make the right policy decisions.

Mines Advisory Group Society conducts fundraising activities to support MAG, screens films related to the issues of landmines and unexploded bombs in conflict-affected parts of the world, and organises talks from MAG fieldworkers.

The highlights of the course have been studying new areas such as politics and history. Learning about the humanitarian sector has also been insightful and given me a potential direction for a career.

I joined a volunteering society for homelessness, Big Change Society and have helped out at a shelter. I also joined the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) Society and Global Health Society, it’s really great to have the opportunity to attend special talks and events that interest me.

The societies provide opportunities to find something to get involved in and broaden your learning outside your degree. I think my course being so niche has opened areas of learning and sectors of work I hadn’t previously considered.

The new and diverse nature of the course will hopefully make my qualification stand out in the future.

Abigail Olde
International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response BSc
there are numerous possibilities for graduates of the subject areas of disaster management and humanitarian response.

The University of Manchester is the most targeted university in the UK for top graduate employers (High Fliers Research, 2019)

The general and academic skills acquired on our courses are welcomed by a broad spectrum of employers including:

- International organisations (for example the UN and the EU);
- International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC);
- Non-governmental organisations.

As well as outstanding study facilities, our courses also benefit from partnerships with NGOs, industry bodies and policy-makers around the world.

Our pioneering partnerships with specific national and international Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) shape the real-world focus of our teaching, as well as offering strong industry links to key career destinations for graduates.

Our partners include Save the Children, International Alert, Médecins Sans Frontières, The Overseas Development Institute, ALNAP, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

We have a flourishing partnership with Manchester’s UK-Med and the UK International Emergency Trauma and Medical Registers (UKIETR/UKIEMR) – an initiative supported by the Department for International Development (DFID).

We also offer opportunities for students to gain professional experience through the Professional Experience Project, helping to develop key practical skills and knowledge.

Find out more: www.manchester.ac.uk/hcri-professional-experience

INTERNATIONAL ALERT
The biggest peacebuilding INGO in Europe and second largest in the world, International Alert is one of the leading, senior policy voices on peacebuilding, providing high-level advice to governments and inter-governmental organisations.

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES
Our robust approach to humanitarian education has led to a teaching arrangement and we are pleased to contribute to IFRC staff and associate training programmes.

UK-MED
HCRI is home to UK-Med, a medical emergency response charity and the UK’s deployment lead for global humanitarian crises.

MÉDECINS SAN FRONTIÈRES (MSF)
Through senior HCRI academics, we have close ties to MSF – one of the leading bodies in international medical assistance, including collaboration on a new postgraduate course for the humanitarian sector.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
We are also a WHO Collaborating Centre for Emergency

Find out where your degree can take you: www.manchester.ac.uk/hcri-careers
Our Flexible Honours scheme may offer you the opportunity to study an additional arts, languages or cultures subject, allowing you to create a unique blend of knowledge, experience and transferable skills to suit your needs.

To find out more visit www.manchester.ac.uk/flexhons

To help you find your unique path to personal and professional success, you’ll need opportunities to develop and grow.

At Manchester, we call this process Stellify: to change, or be changed, into a star. Stellify offers you opportunities to develop and grow at a university leading the way in social responsibility. Here’s how:

- **Learn without boundaries**
  Enjoy interdisciplinary, international and entrepreneurial study options outside your course

- **Understand the issues that matter**
  Become ethically, socially and politically informed on some of humanity’s most pressing global issues

- **Make a difference**
  Contribute to and learn from local and global communities through volunteering

- **Step up and lead**
  Gain confidence and experience by assisting and inspiring your peers

- **Create your future**
  Explore countless opportunities for professional career development

www.manchester.ac.uk/stellify
STUDY ABROAD

Study abroad is an excellent opportunity for you to see the world, experience new cultures and study overseas.

THE BENEFITS OF STUDYING ABROAD

- Improve your language skills and cultural awareness
- Experience the subjects of your study first-hand
- Gain a new perspective on your subject area and on higher education
- Give context to your academic studies with an improved international understanding
- Enjoy the opportunity of a lifetime!

All University of Manchester students will have the chance to study abroad during the second semester of your second year – in Europe, Australia, Canada, USA, Hong Kong, or Singapore – through the Worldwide Exchange Scheme. Students do not generally incur any additional tuition fees for taking part, and the credits obtained while abroad contribute towards your degree.

Please note that Joint Honours Languages students are not eligible for this scheme, as they will instead spend an entire year abroad as part of the Residence Abroad scheme. Please see the Modern Foreign Languages brochure for more information.

Find out more about what it’s like to study abroad through our social channels, including our blog, Manchester on the Road, written by students currently abroad:

- www.manchesterontheroad.wordpress.com
- /TheUniversityOfManchesterStudyAbroad
- @UoM_GoAbroad
- www.manchester.ac.uk/salc-study-abroad
LET'S TALK

WANT TO DISCUSS YOUR APPLICATION WITH US?

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FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL

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SPEAK TO A STUDENT

www.manchester.ac.uk/salc-unibuddy

VISIT US AT AN OPEN DAY

Friday, 21 June 2019
Saturday, 22 June 2019
Saturday, 28 September 2019
Saturday, 12 October 2019
www.manchester.ac.uk/opendays

HOW TO APPLY

www.manchester.ac.uk/how-to-apply

This brochure was printed in 2019 for the purposes of the 2020 intake. It has therefore been printed in advance of course starting dates and for this reason, course information may be amended prior to you applying for a place. There are a number of reasons why changes to course information and/or published term dates may need to be made prior to you applying for a place—more details can be found on our website. Prospective students are therefore reminded that they are responsible for ensuring, prior to applying to study, that they review up-to-date course information by searching for the relevant course at:

www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses

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THE SCHOOL OF ARTS, LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

The School of Arts, Languages and Cultures is one of the largest groupings of arts, languages and humanities scholars and students in the UK. Study with us and you’ll benefit from multidisciplinary learning opportunities, world-renowned cultural resources, and the ever-evolving creative scene of Manchester itself.

www.manchester.ac.uk/salc-our-story