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Graduate level emergency/disaster management program offered

NEW HAVEN — Southern Connecticut State University will launch a 12-credit, graduate-level certificate program in emergency and disaster management this September.

Scot Phelps, a certified emergency manager and a former assistant commissioner for emergency management at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, is coordinating the program. He is an associate professor of emergency management at SCSU.

Phelps said the program is designed for individuals who serve in an emergency management role or who wish to expand their job duties into the field. It is also geared toward those who may be unable to pursue a master's degree in emergency management, but seek additional education.

Students can complete the program in two to four semesters. Classes will be offered evenings and weekends.

To gain a certificate, students must successfully complete the three core courses and earn at least one endorsement course.

The core courses are "Emergency, Disaster & Catastrophe Management Concepts 1," "Emergency Disaster & Catastrophe Management Concepts 2" and "Emergency Project Management."

Endorsement (capstone) courses are "Emergency, Disaster & Catastrophe Management Concepts 3" and "Contemporary Topics in Emergency, Disaster & Catastrophe Management," which covers business continuity, school crisis management, public health preparedness, hospital emergency management, critical infrastructure and exercise design and evaluation on a rotating basis.

Students may take as many endorsement courses as they would like and can gain additional specific "endorsements" on their certificate.

For more information, call Phelps at 392-6566.