**Disaster & Emergency Management Studies**

**Term Paper**

**“Mitigation Options”**

**Paper Details: Natural Hazard:**

**Wildfires, the 2016 Fort McMurray Wildfire.**

**Format: •**

Written narrative essay of 4-6 written pages (not including references)

• Double-Spaced, 12-point font, one-inch margins

• All references MUST be properly cited using APA format

• Students must use between 6-7 sources at minimum

• Use academic and credible sources of information only

• Do not cite Wikipedia

• Plagiarism breaches will be checked via Turnitin

• Expectation of correct basic grammar, spelling, punctuation, and proofreading

**Paper Overview:**

Mitigation refers to taking actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risks to human life and property, from hazards.

Structural mitigation efforts achieve risk reduction through construction, physical alteration, or application of engineering solutions. Non-structural mitigation refers to risk reduction through modification of human behavior

that occurs without construction. For this essay, you are required to select one of the hazards listed below and discuss **at least two** structural and **two** non-structural mitigation option for dealing with that hazard. For each mitigation option, you must describe the nature of the project in detail and describe obstacles that may exist in implementing the project. **You must conclude your paper with a discussion on what mitigation option is superior in addressing that hazard.**

Structure your paper as follows:

**1. Title**

**2. Introductory Section** • Provide a description of the risks associated with the hazard you have chosen

- Throughout the paper, you are encouraged to refer to an actual disaster(s) resulting from that hazard (see examples above) • Include a paper thesis, i.e. what is the overall argument of the paper?

- e.g. “For this particular hazard, structural mitigation options are most useful for risk reduction”, OR” Both structural and non-structural mitigation options must be used in tandem for most effective risk reduction”

• Explain what you will be doing in the paper, i.e. paper outline - e.g. “The paper begins by discussing \_\_\_xyz\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_zyx\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as structural and non-structural mitigation options for dealing with flood risk, and concludes with a discussion regarding the superiority of non-structural mitigation for addressing flooding hazards.”

- NOTE: Wherever you deem appropriate in your essay, you must define what you mean by structural and non-structural mitigation.

**3. Structural Mitigation Section •**

Name a structural mitigation option that can be applied to prevent or decrease the consequences of the hazard

• Describe the nature of the structural mitigation option in detail

• Describe obstacles that may exist in implementing the structural mitigation option

**4. Non-Structural Mitigation Section**

• Name a non-structural mitigation option that can be applied to prevent or decrease the consequences of the hazard

• Describe the nature of the non-structural mitigation option in detail

• Describe obstacles that may exist in implementing the structural mitigation option

**5. Discussion/Conclusion**

• Discuss whether the structural OR non-structural mitigation intervention is most effective for risk reduction, OR whether both should be applied in tandem

• Provide reasons to support your argument

• Conclude your paper with an area of future research or a question for readers to ponder over