

# Building sustainable and resilient societies

An online course to enhance natural hazard scientists' contribution to disaster risk reduction

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# Motivation

How can natural hazard researchers contribute to building resilient societies?

- An online training course based on seven recommendations made by Gill et al. (2021) - *Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci.*





# Course Information

The screenshot shows the OpenLearn website interface. At the top, there's a red header with the OpenLearn logo and a search bar. Below this is a dark blue navigation bar with links like Home, Get started, Create a course, Free courses, Collections, and a My Profile button. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: Home > My courses > Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities: Actions for Natural Hazard Scientists. The course title is prominently displayed. Below the title, it says 'You're on this course' with a green checkmark. A large image of a city at night with mountains in the background is shown, with the text 'Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities: Actions for Natural Hazard Scientists' and 'Course In Development' overlaid. To the right of the image, there's a section 'Edit your course' with a yellow button. Below that, 'About this course' section lists '10 hours study' and 'Level 2: Intermediate'. There's also a 'Ratings' section showing 0 out of 5 stars. At the bottom, there's a 'Share this course' section with social media icons. The footer of the page has three tabs: 'Course description' (active), 'Course content', and 'Course reviews'.

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**Course**

**Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities: Actions for Natural Hazard Scientists**

You're on this course ✓

**Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities: Actions for Natural Hazard Scientists**

Course In Development

Funding provided by: EGU

Image Credit: Martin Mergili (distributed via imageio.edu.eu) - CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

**Edit your course**

You are logged in to your course and have access to the course editing tools.

Edit your course

**About this course**

10 hours study

Level 2: Intermediate

Ratings ☆☆☆☆☆

0 out of 5 stars

You're on this course

**Share this course**

Course description | Course content | Course reviews

- Free & self-led
- 7 training modules
- Diverse & inclusive examples
- Active-learning strategies

**The course is not finalized.**

We welcome feedback and comments now to help refine the content 😊

<https://tinyurl.com/DRRTraining>

Access course: <https://tinyurl.com/DRRLesson>

# Course Structure

## Modules:

1. Characterize multi-hazard environments

2. Prioritize effective partnership

3. Understand your stakeholders

4. Understand the cultural setting

5. Ensure access to hazard information

6. Champion people-centered DRR

7. Connect DRR with Sustainable Development

**Pre-Module  
Assessment**



**Post-Module  
Assessment**

# Course Structure

## Modules:

1. Characterize multi-hazard environments

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6. Champion people-centered DRR

7. Connect DRR with sustainable development

**Pre-Module  
Assessment**



**Post-Module  
Assessment**

# Module Example

## Module Menu

Introduction\*

Pre-Module Assessment\*

lesson content

1. Hard Conversations
2. Defining Culture
3. Cultural Sensitivity
4. Cultural Competence
5. Interview with an Expert\*
6. Summary & Recommendations\*
7. Further Reading and Resources\*

Post-Module Assessment\*

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\* Included in all modules

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### 4. Understand the cultural setting

Culture can affect risk by influencing how people prepare for, respond to and cope with disasters, and is closely linked with both livelihood choices and opportunities. How researchers approach ideas or partnerships can also be affected by culture. Therefore, understanding culture and how it relates to disaster risk response and reduction is important when planning and implementing DRR activities.

By the end of this module, you should be able to:

1. Define culture, its main components and how it affects risk
2. Understand how your own positionality may influence your work
3. Recognize the importance of indigenous knowledge integration in DRR
4. Learn about how ethnographic research outcomes can inform actions contributing to DRR

This training module will take about 1 hour to complete, plus time for readings.



Photo credit: Heijn van Gent (distributed via imaggeo.egu.eu)

Module 4: Understanding Culture

Learning objectives

Length

Lesson

# Module Example

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Post-Module Assessment\*

\* Included in all modules

## Pre-Module Assessment

**1** On a scale from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest), please rate your knowledge and confidence about the role of **culture** in hazards and disaster research.

		1	2	3	4	5
1. What is your level of knowledge and understanding of <b>culture</b> , its key components and relation to risk?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. How confident are you for embedding cultural understanding into hazards and disaster research?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. How important do you think cultural understanding is to hazards and disaster research?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**2** On a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest), please rate your level of agreement with the following statements about the role of **culture** in disaster risk reduction research.

		1	2	3	4	5
1. When developing research partnerships, natural hazard scientists should include those with ethnographic training (e.g., geographers, historians, and anthropologists)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. When developing research partnerships, natural hazard scientists should identify existing and relevant ethnographic knowledge in publications and reports	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. When planning research dissemination strategies, public outreach, and hazard education initiatives, natural hazard scientists must consult literature, historians, anthropologists to understand cultural constraints, challenges, and opportunities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Natural hazard scientists should be trained to understand and reflect on their own positionality, and how their belief systems may influence their work	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Submit questionnaire

**Assessing  
knowledge &  
confidence**

**The role of  
culture in DRR**



# Module Example

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Post-Module Assessment\*



How can people's ideology shaped by culture influence their risk to natural hazards? (case study)



Read text & answer a few questions

\* Included in all modules

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Post-Module Assessment\*



What is culture and why cultural knowledge matters?



Read text & answer a few questions

\* Included in all modules

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Post-Module Assessment\*



How to use cultural knowledge to practice cultural sensitivity?

➡ Watch video & answer a few questions

\* Included in all modules

# What you can do

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Funding provided by: **EGU**

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**About this course**

10 hours study

2 Level 2: Intermediate

**Ratings** ☆☆☆☆☆

0 out of 5 stars

You're on this course

**Share this course**

Course description Course content Course reviews

1. Test a module of interest
2. Share your feedback

**Access course:**

<https://tinyurl.com/DRRLesson>

**Submit feedback:**

<https://tinyurl.com/DRRTraining>

**Contact:**

[solmaz.mohadjer@gmail.com](mailto:solmaz.mohadjer@gmail.com)

