

HUMANITARIAN ACTION MINOR—CORE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

KNOWLEDGE BASED OBJECTIVES

1. Foundational Knowledge

- Concept of humanitarian crises
- Causes of humanitarian crises
- Roles, interests, and interactions of key actors in humanitarian response, including beneficiaries

2. Conceptual and Theoretical

- Key factors in determining whether, when and how to intervene during humanitarian crises (e.g. social, political, economic, ethical, legal, cultural, and religious dimensions), and theories for understanding them

3. Normative and Policy Contexts

- Type of response, including gender dimensions, and differences between military and civil interventions
- Knowledge of International Humanitarian Law, including refugee law/IDP standards, Code of Conduct, and other humanitarian standards, such as the SPHERE Project

VALUE BASED OBJECTIVES

1. Discernment (in relation to self, others, contexts, values)

- Commitment to take all possible steps to prevent or alleviate human suffering, regardless of where humanitarian crises occur
- Commitment to core humanitarian principles to do no harm and to uphold integrity, impartiality, independence, accountability, empathy, resilience, diversity, transparency, and learning
- Mutually empowering action for all participants, and principles of democratic participation
- Communicate sense of fulfillment and frustration in humanitarian response
- Openness to learning about other's beliefs and cultures

2. Action values

- Service and humanitarian engagement
- Advocacy

SKILL-BASED OBJECTIVES

1. Managing relationships

- Planning, teamwork, leadership, coordination, and collaboration within teams and across sectors

2. Managing complexity

- Organizing, data, monitoring, evaluation and assessing, design and response, information gathering, technology skills (IT systems, data collection and analysis, hardware and software packages)

3. Skills for working in dangerous and insecure environments

- Critical languages, intercultural competencies, religious literacy, culturally appropriate practices, conflict sensitivities, and coping capacities

4. Communication

- Speaking, listening, writing, negotiations, advocacy, presenting and communicating information