**Description:** This course will investigate the role of data and science in policy and decision making as it relates to natural hazard resiliency. We will cover three types of natural disasters: hurricanes, earthquakes, and tornadoes/severe storms. The scientific fundamentals of each of these hazards will be introduced first followed by an exploration of how available data, various policies, programs, and real-time decisions can impact a community’s response and recovery from disasters. This course is not designed to arrive at particular consensus solutions to the specific case studies that we will cover; rather, the goal of this course is to explore the linked complexities between the science of the threat and the political and social response. The format will include guest speakers who give accounts of their role in specific disasters and in framing the policies and decisions made in the aftermath of the natural hazards.

Here’s a video on the class from last spring: [http://wlfi.com/2015/04/09/purdues-twitter-research-helps-emergency-response-time/](http://wlfi.com/2015/04/09/purdues-twitter-research-helps-emergency-response-time/) *(the 15 seconds from Pure Michigan is lovely but not part of the class).*