

## Bio

Dulce Suarez, Ph.D is the Assistant Director for the Academy for International Disaster Preparedness, who actively teaches disaster management in a graduate program integrating practical experience with academic principles. Dr. Suarez holds graduate degrees in International Relations from the University of Miami, the University of Florida, and Florida International University.

Before Dr. Suarez arrived at FIU, she played a pivotal role in providing humanitarian aid and spearheading the development of disaster mitigation and recovery projects across Latin America. Today, with more than 13 years of experience in crisis and disaster management operations, she is educating and preparing the next generation of emergency and disaster management leaders. Dr. Suarez's experience has further honed her ability to bridge the gap between real-world application and academic rigor. Between 2011 and 2016, she actively responded to and coordinated relief efforts for 27 hurricanes affecting Central America and the Caribbean. She has demonstrated leadership in emergency management and homeland security, both nationally and internationally.