

Masters of Arts Degree in Youth Ministry Course Schedule & Descriptions

YM 1101 Principles of Youth Ministry

This course will cover: a brief history of the growth of contemporary youth ministry, orientation to various ministry strategies, theology of youth ministry, Biblical principles for successful ministry programming, methodology, and relationship building with youth and adults, an introductory evaluation of adolescent development, and an introduction to the overall concepts and practices involved in local church youth ministry.

YM 1102 Youth Culture

Basic determinants critical to adolescent culture will be evaluated and observed. Identification, integration, and application to the contemporary youth culture is emphasized. Focusing on the science of the anthropological and sociological nature of the “people-grouping” of the young. Special attention will be given to reaching the global adolescent within the context of one’s local culture using quality missiology and ethnographic research and evaluation.

YM 1187 Part I: Supervised Ministry Experience (SME): Local Church Youth Ministry Survey

An experiential learning introduction of field education to be conducted at the student’s local church. The practicum gives the youth degree students the opportunity to apply and contextualize the course lessons in their local church youth ministry. YM 187 will require a survey of their local church and local youth culture with consideration for implementing the youth ministry strategies.

YM 1103 Programs in Youth Ministry

This course explores administration and management of student ministry including outreach and teaching strategies for students and their families. It includes volunteer enlistment and training methods, as well as programming skills to directly involve youth in ministry, and minister to and with parents of youth. The student will acquire detailed skills to administrate and develop programs and events. Budget and calendar planning and implementation will also be included.

YM 1104 Youth Evangelism and Campus Outreach

Special attention will be given to evangelizing students, and equipping church youth to reach out and evangelize their peers within their local church context. The course will also focus on researching and establishing campus outreach ministries to local schools; primary, secondary and college.

YM 1187 – Part II Supervised Ministry Experience (SME): Programming & Evangelism projects.

This experiential learning practicum focuses on applying the strategies of Youth culture research Learned in YM 1102, targeting youth evangelism efforts through application of the practices taught in YM 201 and the programming skills taught in YM 1103.

YM 1202 Discipleship in Youth Ministry

This course will focus on principles and methods of spiritual maturing in the context of the social, physical, and cultural youth development. Youth workers and students will be trained to disciple new believers into the church. Application of the learned principles and methods of discipleship will be required for course completion.

YM 1203 Communication to Adolescents

The course will include the study of platform techniques, sermon construction, teaching strategies, lesson preparation, small group facilitation and general speaking qualifications within the context of biblical guidelines and cultural appropriateness. Special emphasis is given to adolescents and age-appropriate communication using experiential learning techniques for maximum retention.

YM 1287 – Supervised Ministry Experience (SME): Discipleship and Youth Communication

This experiential learning course will give special consideration to the discipleship/mentoring of new believers, as well as spiritual growth for all students. Application of communication skills will also be assigned in the local area of youth ministry.

YM 1301 Youth Ministry Curriculum Development

An examination of Church youth ministries for purposes of development of Biblical curriculum. The curriculum will teach the student to develop a philosophy of curriculum that will balance the teaching of youth in the area Doctrine and Bible learning, ministry practice and Christian disciplines, and addressing the felt needs of the young person in the local culture. The student is taught how to write and critique curriculum, in an overall system of youth ministry Christian Education and to develop a scope and sequence of curriculum planning.

YM 1302 Special Programming: Youth Missions trips and Camping/Retreats

Contemporary Youth Missions: An overview of evangelizing adolescents as a distinct people group in a cross-culture environment. Special attention is given to equipping nationals and to programming strategic cross-cultural mission Trips and internships outside one's own people group. Also included will be an overview of Christian camping including promotion, planning, programming, staffing, and evaluation. Special attention will be given to implementation of varying local church camping models.

YM 1387 – Supervised Youth Ministry Experience:

This practicum will give attention to the development of curriculum development skills for youth Bible curriculum for local church Christian education in large and small group applications as taught in YM 301. Students will also be required to research opportunities for application of YM 302 to youth missions and camping. This practicum will also require pre-research for use in prepping them for the next two classes, YM 401 and 402, specifically in relationship to local cultural family practices and social and emotional challenges that youth in their area face.

YM 1401 Youth and Family Ministry

A comprehensive examination of the adolescent in context with the local cultural family dynamic. This course will not only examine the traditional home but will also investigate the non-traditional home. Special attention will be given to providing strategies and resources to parents. The integration of the family and the local church youth ministry will be emphasized.

YM 1402 Ministry to Troubled Youth

This course will examine personal conflicts that the contemporary student confronts in his/her life. Special attention is given to conflict resolution in relationships and spiritual giftedness, temperament, and group process. The student will be trained to recognize serious personal problems and how to refer them for healing and care.

YM 1487 – Supervised Youth Ministry Experience:

This practicum will give attention to the research, development and application of skills for youth ministry related to the principles and theory taught in YM 1401 and 1402 as they apply to youth and family issues as well as identifying and ministering to troubled and at-risk young people through the local church.

YM 1501 Professional Orientation to Youth Ministry (Capstone Course)

Students will focus on their call to ministry examining personal growth and commitment. Job descriptions, staff development and relationships, goal setting, time and financial management, personal leadership styles and development will also be emphasized. Students will be required to write their doctrinal statement, youth ministry philosophy and a professional resume.

YM 1600 MA Youth Ministry Thesis.

This writing project will require that the student propose for approval a research study on an approved topic that will give special attention to application of the course content to youth ministry and/or training in their local area. An assigned youth ministry professor will supervise the project. The project will be done in accordance to approved institutional policies and written project requirements.

- 11 Youth Courses – 3 credit hours each = 33 hours – 33 credits.
- 4 SME Supervised Ministry Experience Courses – 1 Credit hour each. – 4 credits
- 1 MA Thesis – 3-6 credits
- TOTAL – 37- 43 Credits

Add any additional institutional courses required for a MA or MDiv program students who have no previous strong Theological training. The track above, as a MA would be for those who have sufficient Theological training at the Masters or Bachelor levels.