

# Youth Studies

The Youth Studies major prepares students to establish, develop and evaluate a ministry to youth and emerging adults in local church and parachurch ministry contexts. Emphasis is on understanding youth in their everyday life grounded in a biblical theology of seeing youth as created in God's image. The major also lays a foundation for seminary/ graduate study.

### What Type of Work are Related to this Degree?

- Campus ministry
- Christian education
- Curriculum development (church/parachurch)
- Early adult ministry coordinator
- Pastoral roles to young adults
- Parachurch ministry worker
- Social/human services worker or case manager
- Camp administrator
- Fund development
- Disaster/aid relief worker
- Program administration or development
- Dorm parent/international school or residential treatment facility
- Missions or tent making ministry
- Residence life or student development
- Job development or life skills coaching

### Who employs people with this degree?

- Christian colleges
- Local churches and denominational offices
- Mission agencies
- Parachurch organizations
- Social and human services organizations
- Educational programs (non-licensure)
- Curriculum publishing companies
- Residential treatment programs
- Parks and recreation programs
- Community services agencies/programs
- National and international humanitarian aid organizations

**More information at [ONETonline.org](http://ONETonline.org)**

### General Strategies for Success:

- Pursue mentoring relationships with ministry leaders you respect.
- Obtain part-time, Summer, internship or volunteer experiences in churches as well as hospitals, camps, or overseas programs, or in advocacy or service-oriented programs addressing alcoholism, drug abuse, family violence, aging, poverty, disabilities, etc.
- Serve as a peer mentor, resident assistant, or student advisor to cultivate leadership and program development skills.
- Keep your finger on the pulse of pop culture and the pressures young adults face. Know the trends that will affect your ministry.
- Early in your career, you may need to supplement ministry income with other work

### Professional Associations

National Association of Evangelicals  
National Network of Youth Ministries  
Christian Camping International  
Evangelical Theological Society Christian Camp and Conference Association  
National Campus Ministry Association

This information represents possible occupations and strategies for careers with this major. As with any job or career, there may be additional qualifications or experience needed. For more information and options, make an appointment with Career & Leadership Development or check out our online resources on our website or on myUNW, Career & Leadership Development tab.