M.S. online Degree in Youth Development Leadership

Clemson University
College of Behavioral, Social, and Health Sciences

Youth Development Studies Major Curriculum Map

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**YDP 8000: Theories of Youth Development: An Applied Perspective (3 credits).**
Examines theories of positive youth development with an emphasis on how to apply them to “real world” issues facing young people. Students explore existing models, read theoretical and applied literature and examine current social changes that impact positive youth development.

**YDP 8060: Youth Dev in the Context of a Global & Diverse Society (3 credits).**
Focuses on specific circumstances and issues related to youth in at-risk environments. Students learn methods, strategies and techniques to address diversity issues (i.e. racial, ethnic, gender, disability, sexual preference). Issues of poverty, mass culture, physical environment, etc. are examined globally.

**YDP 8880: Special Topics (3 credits).**
Provides opportunities to students in youth development to explore topical areas of the discipline not currently covered in required courses, but which are receiving greater attention in the field. Examples include youth and technology, volunteerism, sports, school-community partnerships, education and employment.

**YDP 8010: Child and Adolescent Development (3 credits).**
Focuses on child and adolescent development emphasizing a strength-based approach. Students develop an understanding of early childhood and adolescent growth and development from a social, cultural and psychological perspective.
**YDP 8020: Youth Dev. Programming in a Contemporary Society (3 credits).**
Focuses on programs and administrative policies and procedures that govern youth development programs at the local, state and national levels. Model programs emphasizing best practices are studied. A cross-sectional approach is used to examine assets and protective factors in the contexts of family, school and community.

**YDP 8090: Management of Staff and Volunteers (3 credits).**
Examines approaches and strategies for successful management and development of staff and volunteers in youth-serving organizations, including effective organizational systems and working with boards and advisory committees. Covers business and organizational principles and practices for success as well as challenges of recruiting, supervising and retaining staff and volunteers.

**YDP 8050: Youth Development in the Context of Family (3 credits).**
Focuses on youth development in the context of family development and interpersonal relationships. Students gain knowledge and skills in development issues and family functioning. Students become aware of and respect diverse family structures, parental involvement and the influence of culture and ethnicity on family dynamics.

**YDP 8090: Creative and Ethical Leadership in a Changing Society (3 credits).**
Focuses on the development of leadership skills and group dynamics in program development and supervision of staff and volunteers. Students engage in listening, empowerment and process skills utilizing the latest approaches in the field of communications. Professional ethics related to human service professionals are integrated.

**PADM 8410: Public Data Analysis (3 credits).**
Considers various aspects of database management, storage and retrieval; data description; univariate, bivariate and multivariate analysis in policy studies and decision-making theory.

**YDP 8040: Assessment and Evaluation of Youth Programs (3 credits).**
Focuses on developing knowledge of rationale, procedures and tools for conducting intake, needs and environmental assessments of youth, families and communities. Effective skills for mastering comprehensive program evaluation strategies are taught. Students explore statistical packages specifically appropriate for evaluation of youth programs.

**YDP 8080: Grantsmanship (3 credits).**
Students conduct searches to identify youth-related funding sources. They write proposals to include purpose, rationale, background information, literature review, identification of collaborators/partners, budget, budget justification and human subjects review.

**YDP 8900: The Profession of Youth Development Leadership (3 credits).**
Students create and submit a digital portfolio as evidence of academic and experiential mastery of the ten core competencies of youth development leadership. Competencies include growth and development, youth programs, observation and assessment, family, school, and community relationships, safety and wellness, and youth engagement.