

The Canadian Certificate in Youth Ministry Studies - Course Descriptions

Cycle One Courses

1. *Principles of Youth Ministry (April 10-11, 2010)*

Presents the foundational understandings and principles for developing effective, comprehensive ministry with young and older adolescents. It presents the vision and principles for comprehensive youth ministry and a model for developing youth ministry which incorporates developmentally appropriate youth programming, strengthens family life, involves young people as integral members of the faith community, and collaborates with civic organizations in a common effort to promote positive youth development.

2. *Practices of Youth Ministry (June 5-6, 2010)*

Explores the development of comprehensive youth ministry through the collaborative sharing of the resources in the community. Rooted in a theological and pastoral vision of community life, this course develops foundational understandings that will assist leaders in setting and implementing a vision for dynamic ministry with youth. This will include skills for advocacy, planning and organizing youth ministry efforts. Methods for collaborative leadership among ministries and within ministry teams will also be developed.

3. *Foundations for Ministry Leadership (September 25-26, 2010)*

Explores the theology, principles, and practices of effective leadership in Christian ministry. Participants will explore current leadership concepts and approaches, as well as Christian perspectives on leadership. Participants will also learn how to empower individuals and teams of leaders for ministry with youth. The course combines theory presentation with experiential learning as participants explore (a) leadership theory and an assessment of styles for effective leadership; (b) theological and pastoral foundations for understanding leadership and empowerment; and (c) processes and tools for inviting, preparing and nurturing adult and youth leaders in ministry.

4. *Skills for Christian Leadership (November 20-21, 2010)*

Addresses the theories and skills needed for principle centered leadership in ministry. Participants will develop a practical, working understanding of leadership process and skills and the experiential ability to use the skills. The course stresses the application of leadership skills to various ministry settings, problems, and issues.

Cycle Two Courses

5. *Fostering the Faith Growth of Youth through Evangelization and Catechesis (February 19-20, 2011)*

Develops the foundations and practices for nurturing faith growth and Catholic identity in young and older adolescents through evangelization and catechesis. Participants will explore a variety of ways to learn of and from Jesus, and how to promote a living relationship with Jesus in the lives of adolescents. They will examine a contemporary approach to developing Catholic identity and Catholic practices in the lives of adolescents today. Participants will experience and analyze the “postmodern” culture and develop strategies for faith formation with adolescents in a postmodern world. They will learn creative approaches for evangelization and catechesis and develop skills and methods for evangelizing and catechizing adolescents.

6. *Fostering the Faith Growth of Youth through Prayer and Worship (April 30 & May 1, 2011)*

Investigates the foundational role that prayer and worship have in fostering the spiritual growth of youth. Participants develop understandings and practical skills necessary for: (a) preparing liturgy and worship experiences, (b) fostering the prayer life of youth and preparing prayer services, and (c) understanding the role of youth retreat experiences. Participants will apply these understandings by developing a realistic and integrated approach to worship within a comprehensive ministry to youth.

7. *Fostering the Faith Growth of Youth through Justice and Service (September 24-25, 2011 tentative date)*

Explores the foundations for fostering a justice and service consciousness and spirituality in youth drawn from: Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, adolescent development, and contemporary catechetical principles. It develops skills for creating integrated, action-learning models for the justice and service component of a comprehensive youth ministry.

8. *Fostering the Faith Growth of Youth through Pastoral Care (November 19-20, 2011 tentative date)*

Explores the principles and methods of caring for young people from various cultures and their families. The course develops an understanding of pastoral care. This includes exploration of family systems, adolescent development and the role that cultural identity plays in the development of adolescents. The goal is two-fold: (a) to promote healthy adolescent development from a pastoral care perspective, and (b) to develop preventative interventions for families with adolescents.

Managed and directed by Redemptorists of the Edmonton-Toronto Province
in association with The Center for Ministry Development, Naugatuck, Connecticut, USA.