



## Course Syllabus

**Winter 2013**

### **FOUNDATIONS IN YOUTH MINISTRY YMIN 0592**

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS 8:30 – 11:20 AM

INSTRUCTOR: REV. DR. DAVE OVERHOLT  
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**Office Hours:** Wednesday afternoons

To access your course material, please go to <http://mytyndale.ca>

#### **I. Course Description**

In the context of an ever-changing culture, youth workers must be ready to assess and develop ways of reaching and discipling today's adolescent. This course is designed to present a theological, sociological, and philosophical foundation for youth ministry. One third of the course is focused on understanding adolescents, one third on building youth programs, and the last third on skills needed in youth ministry. Designed for both a foundation for professional youth workers, for lead pastors in small churches, and those counseling adolescents.

Students will develop the tools necessary to develop programs to meet the needs of contemporary adolescents. An overview of concepts in traditional youth ministry, history of adolescences and youth ministry, current research in adolescent development, family and contemporary youth ministry models are presented. Also a Pastoral Ministry and Educational Ministry credit (PAST 0758/ CHED 0558).

## II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the inner world of adolescents as subjects in transition: searching for identity, expanding in thinking and questions in faith.
2. Understand the unique culture of the Canadian teens' outer world.
3. Evaluate specific teenage ministry models from around the world.
4. Explore basic group ministry skills in the areas of youth including outreach, spiritual growth, and leadership training.
5. Explore basic personal ministry skills in the area of youth communications, counseling, community building and volunteer empowerment.

## III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### A. REQUIRED TEXTS

Duffy Robins, *Youth Ministry Nuts and Bolts (revised and undated)*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2010.

L. David Overholt and James Penner, *Soul Searching the Millennial Generation: Strategies for Youth Workers*. Toronto, ON: Novalis, 2005.

EFC Round Table, *Turning the Tide*, 2012.

### B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

**Interaction paper:** 2 pages in length [10%], due March 6<sup>th</sup>.

a) Create a model of ministry. P/F.

This paper will complete the evaluation of teenage ministry models.

**Test over Soul Searching Book** [30%], due Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>

This test is not an evaluation of the content, but a test of the retention and understanding of the unique cultural facts of the Canadian teenager.

**Book report: Youth Ministry Nuts and Bolts** [30%], due March 20<sup>th</sup>

Chose five chapters of Duffy Robin's book and write two pages for each chapter. In each of the five chapters, shortly summarize the main points, list what questions you still have in this area, and specifically, creatively, apply this point to your ministry.

**Research paper** over a specialized topic fifteen to twenty pages. Must have at least five research articles used in bibliography research. [30%], due April 17<sup>th</sup>

This assignment allows the student to explore a personal ministry skill or a group ministry skill in a deeper fashion.

### C. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Your work will be graded for first, completion of instructions (if you do not do what I ask you will receive a “C” or lower). Secondly, understanding of the topic (If you demonstrate a clear understanding you will receive a “B”). Thirdly, application of theory to practice (If you apply theory to practice you will receive a B+). Fourthly, creativity and freshness of ideas (“A” and “A-” will be reserved for creative solutions).

#### Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Students should consult the current *Academic Calendar* for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System. The Academic Calendar is posted at [www.tyndale.ca/seminary/calendar](http://www.tyndale.ca/seminary/calendar). An excerpt is attached with this syllabus for easy reference.

### D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments

Interaction Paper	10 %
Test	30 %
Book Report	30 %
Research Paper	30 %
Total Grade	100 %

### A. IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

## **1. Canadian Adolescents**

- Jan. 9 Course orientation: Steven Glenn and the origins of adolescence  
Issues in Youth Ministry and the Church: Survey of Erik Erikson, James Marcia,  
Susan Harder, Five cries of Youth (Psychosocial Development)
- Jan. 16 Adolescent development continued
- Jan. 23 Turning the Tide – how do we stop young people from leaving the local church
- Jan. 30 Survey of Peter Blos, Jean Piaget, Kohlberg, the physical teen (Cognitive and  
Moral Development)
- Feb. 6 Soul Searching the Millennials; Ethnic Second Generation Teenagers

## **2. Group Ministry with Adolescents**

- Feb. 13 Models of Ministry – basis for second interaction paper
- Feb. 20 [Soul Searching Test]  
Creative Programming: whys and how of programming
- Feb. 27 Spiritual growth in group settings, Small group community  
Mentoring – Worship
- March 6 Leadership training with adolescents  
Adult or Student leadership  
[Interaction paper due]

## **3. Personal Ministry Skills with the Adolescent**

- March 13 Reading Week
- March 20 Communication with Adolescents  
Contacting and Storytelling – lesson plans – leading discussions  
[book report due]
- March 27 Counselling teenagers;  
Retreats; Spiritual Life of YP – spiritual disciplines Volunteers – value, recruit,  
keep, problems – situational leadership  
Worship – Why we do what we do (Bobb Beihl)

April 3            Getting a job, (article) Keeping Vision Alive, Personal Leadership  
Change Agents in an organization

April 10          New moves in youth ministry

**a)        V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Barna, George. *Real Teens*. Ventura CA: Regal, 2001.

Basking, Julia, Newman, Lindsey. *The Notebook Girls*. New York, NY: Warner Books, 2006.

Bibby Reginald and Donald, Posterski. *The Emerging Generation: An Inside Look at Canada's Teenagers*. Toronto, ON: Irwin, 1985.

Bibby, Reginald and Posterski, Donald. *Teen Trends: A Nation in Motion*. Toronto, ON: Stoddard, 1992.

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Clark, Jerusha. *Inside a Cutter's Mind*. Colorado Springs, CO: Think, 2007.

Devries, Mark. *Family Based Youth Ministry*. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press, 1994.

Elkind, David. *All Grown Up and No Place to Go*. Reading MA: Addison-Wesley Publishing, 1971.

Erikson, Erik. *Identity Youth and Crisis*. New York NY: Norton and Company, 1968.

Erikson, Erik. *Identity and the Life Cycle*, New York, NY: Norton and Company, 1980.

Glen, Stephen. "General Session" taped in Chicago, IL. At the *National Youth Worker's Convention*. ElCajon CA: Youth Specialties, 1988.

Fields, Doug. *Purpose Driven Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1998.

Jones, Tony. *Postmodern Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Youth Specialties,

Zondervan, 2001.

Hersch Patricia. *A Tribe Apart*. New York, NY: Ballantine Books, 1998.

Howe, Neil and Strauss, Bill. *13<sup>th</sup> Gen: Abort, Retry, Ignore, Fail?* New York, NY: Vintage, 1993.

Howe, Neil and Strauss, Bill. *Millennials Rising*. New York, NY: Vintage, 2000.

Kroger, Jane. *Identity in Adolescence: The Balance Between Self and Other*. New York, NY: Routledge, 1988.

Kroger, Jane. ed. *Discussions on Ego Identity*. Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 1993.

Muuss, Rolf. *Theories of Adolescence 6<sup>th</sup> ed*. New York, NY: Radom House, 1996.

Nappa, Mike. *Get Real: Making Core Christian Beliefs Relevant to Teenagers*. Loveland CO: Group, 1996.

Overholt, L. David, Penner, James, *Soul Searching the Millennial Generation*. Toronto, ON: Novalis, 2005.

Overholt, Dave, *Reasons to Believe*. Hamilton, ON: Church on the Rock, 2001.

Parrott, Les. *Helping the Struggling Adolescent*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, Harper Collins 1993.

Ponton, Lynn. *The Romance of Risk*. New York, New York: Basic Books, 1997.

Rice, Wayne. *New Directions in Youth Ministry*. Loveland CO: Group, 1998.

Richards, Larry. *A Theology of Christian Education*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1975.

Richards, Larry. *Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids MI: Zondervan Publishing, 1985.

Robins, Duffy. *The Ministry of Nurture*. Grand Rapids, MI: Youth Specialties, Zondervan, 1990.

Robins, Duffy. *Youth Ministry Nuts and Bolts (revised and undated)*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2010.

RussKoff, Douglas. *Playing the Future: How Kid's Culture Can Teach Us to Thrive in an Age of Chaos*. New York, NY: Harper Collins Publishers, 1996.

Smith, Timothy, *The Seven Cires of Today's Teens*. Nashville TN: Integrity, 2003.

Stanley, Andy. *The Seven Checkpoints*. Westmore Louisiana: Howard Publishing, 2001.

Stormmen, Merton, Jones, Karen E., Rahn, Dave. *Youth Ministry that Transforms*. Grand Rapids MI: Zondervan, 2001.