
University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
Young Adult Ministry Scholars

Program Preview 2018-2019

Program Description

Young Adult Ministry Scholars (YAMS) participate in two or four years of in-depth experiences interacting with young adults through a variety of college campus experiences including teaching World View Seminar first-year student courses and investing in experiences where young adults interact throughout campus. Practical experiences geared toward professional preparation include facilitating small group interactions, planning and developing curricular elements, working with social and visual media, assessing and improving programs, mentoring and leading young adults, etc. The scholarship experience requires twenty hours per week of some scheduled and some flexible work time, and some evening and weekend hours may be required. The twenty hours are divided among three primary types of work: teaching, practicum experiences, and assigned projects. Students, in return, receive full tuition and housing. The scholarship is renewable for up to four years.

Year One and Two Requirements

Students in year one and two can expect to divide their time between teaching (approximate 10 hours per week), practicum assignments (approximately 10 hours per week), and office hours (5 hours per week set aside for work on either of the above).

Requirements:

- Fall: Teach one assigned 3-credit course section
- Spring: Teach one assigned 3-credit course section OR complete assigned 10 hour per week project
- Maintain 5 office hours per week
- Select and complete one 10 hour per week practicum experience per semester

Year Three and Four Requirements

Students in year three and four may select to continue in the Standard Pathway which follows similar to year one and two including teaching, teaching related projects, office hours, and practicum experiences; or they may apply to complete a specific Ministry Pathway which would allow for deeper exploration and immersion in an alternate particular young adult ministry context. In order to complete the Ministry Pathway, year three or four YAMS must conceptualize, develop, and request written approval to complete a specific ministry project.

Eligibility Requirements for Ministry Pathway:

- Successful completion of at least year one and two of YAMS
- Satisfactory feedback from all previous practicum assignments
- Good academic standing, maintaining at least 3.25 GPA

Requirements for Ministry Pathway:

- YAMS must complete an application and receive approval from the director of YAMS as well as the dean of the Seminary or designee.
- Projects must have an approved site supervisor who will provide regular feedback to the director of YAMS on pathway progress.
- Ministry Pathway YAMS must complete approximately 20 hours per week for an academic term or year on a specific pre-approved ministry project.

- Projects must have measurable skills development outcomes that will mark progress throughout the pathway. Examples of skills outcomes might include worship coordination, small group facilitation, communication with large audiences, etc.
- Projects must end with a specific deliverable “product.” Examples of end products might include a final presentation, a newly established campus program or event, a set of completed service hours in a particular area, a digital repository of research or information collected, etc.
- Ministry Pathway projects may be requested for a single term or an academic year. More than one Ministry Pathway is allowed, but each separate experience must be approved for each term desired.

Practicum Experiences

Practicum Experience Description

YAMS are required to participate in a practicum experience each academic term. Practica may be a single semester or an entire academic year. A practicum experience is generally approximately 10 hours per week of specific project-based work with specific skills development outcomes. Year three or four Ministry Pathway YAMS are exempt from practica.

Developing New Practica

If YAMS have interest in pursuing an alternate practicum assignment that is not currently available, they are free to seek out potential site supervisors and work with the director to develop new project concepts.

Supervisor Feedback

Site supervisors for each practicum assignment will be provided with a mid-semester and end-of-semester evaluation form to provide feedback on their YAMS student. YAMS and their practicum site supervisors are encouraged to meet to discuss the feedback before it is submitted to the director of YAMS. Feedback requested will include questions of skill development and project completion.

Sample Practicum Experience Descriptions

Christian Leadership Council Advisor

Site: Campus Ministry

Project Description:

- Engage in the Christian Leadership Council’s efforts, with a focus on retreats and service projects
- Attend meetings of the CLC
- Serve as a resource person for CLC officers, and mentor the ministry-team leaders
- Help the service projects ministry team plan and execute service projects
- Attend the Fall and Winter Retreats, helping to coordinate and lead as directed by Campus Ministry staff

Skills Outcomes:

- Collaboration, organization, and vision-casting
- Mentoring
- Awareness of worship offerings and exploring what can be done with student leadership

International Student Services Programming Assistant

Site: International Student Services

Project Description:

- Welcome and engage international students, formally and informally
- Develop programming connecting international and domestic students and the greater Dubuque community
- Develop activities to promote a greater awareness and understanding of UD's multicultural makeup
- Assist with student organization projects that are focused on celebrating the diversity of UD and other nations

Skills Outcomes:

- Interpersonal communication
- Active listening and non-verbal communication awareness
- Cultural sensitivity, diversity and inclusion tools
- Supervision

Residence Life Community Development Assistant

Site: Residence Life

Project Description:

- Implement new curriculum to resident life communities
- Develop social and educational programming events for residents
- Foster interaction between multiple resident life communities
- Assist resident life projects and goals

Skill Outcomes:

- Program development and assessment
- Formal and informal communication
- Community building
- Critical thinking and engagement with diverse people and communities

Small Group Bible Study Leader/Mentor

Site: Campus Ministry

Project Description:

- Assist in the coordination and leading of inductive small group Bible studies in the Residence Halls
- Learn the inductive method of study and help guide and support the Bible study leaders in their preparation
- Take part and help lead meetings of Bible study leaders as they prepare passages that will be studied that week
- Mentor/disciple Bible study leaders and establish relationships with the aim of spiritual formation
- Participate in leadership retreats/weekends

Skill Outcomes:

- Knowledge of the inductive method of study
- Communal Scripture approach
- Emotional intelligence and human interactions
- Mentoring and discipleship

Wendt Center Community Service Coordinator

Site: Wendt Center

Project Description:

- Participate as a [Wendt Scholar](#) during the course of the practicum through participating in events and activities
- Coordinate service projects for Wendt Scholars
- Establish and maintain communication between various service organizations
- Track service hours and generate opportunities for Wendt Scholars
- Lead devotions for Wendt Scholars meetings

Skill Outcomes:

- Event planning and promotion
- Formal and informal communication
- Coordinating and inspiring new service projects

World View Seminar Supervised Teaching Experience

YAMS Instructor Preparation and Evaluation

YAMS are offered a number of training opportunities before their first teaching experience. All Year One YAMS take a 1-credit Seminary course, Teaching Young Adults (MN 502), to learn student development theories, specific curricular tools, and introductory teaching pedagogy that will prepare them for teaching young adults. YAMS also participate in various faculty development opportunities online.

All YAMS instructors are observed in the classroom at least once per teaching semester. Feedback is provided by the director of YAMS or a faculty designee. Student evaluations will be collected at the end of each teaching term and reviewed by the director of YAMS for consideration of future teaching placements.

World View Seminar Course Descriptions

The following courses are taught by YAMS.

World View Seminar I: A Life of Purpose

World View Seminar I (WVS 101) is an interdisciplinary seminar in which students and instructors explore various perspectives on developing a life of purpose. Topics of personal strengths development, the Christian perspective as well as other perspectives on purpose filled lives, and living out ones purpose as college students will be approached reflectively and through discussion, activities, and written responses. Upon completion of the course, students will be able to identify significant questions that help them seek out a life of purpose, describe Christian response to those questions, identify and utilize personal strengths, and create a plan for pursuing their college experience with purpose.

World View Seminar II: Self and Society

World View Seminar II (WVS 201) is an interdisciplinary course in which students and instructors address issues of citizenship, social values, and vocation and how our personal values and faith shape our responses to them. Topics such as national and global citizenship, service to others, and living out one's purpose in a diverse society will be approached through discussion, reflective writing, and interactive activities. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to express what it means to be a global citizen, articulate how faith and values inform responses to global issues, actively engage in beneficial service, and reflect on their vocation in the world.

Teaching Requirements and Options

All year one YAMS will be assigned to teach one 3-credit section of WVS 101 for the fall term. Opportunities for teaching in spring term will be offered based on availability. All physical and online course materials are provided for this course. Year one YAMS may only teach 3-credits at a time.

Year two YAMS may have the option to teach WVS 101 or WVS 201 based on availability in the fall and spring terms. Teaching in the fall is required. Teaching in the spring is optional. Year two YAMS may only teach 3-credits at a time.

Year three and four YAMS in the Standard Pathway may have the option to teach WVS 101 or WVS 201 based on availability in the fall and spring terms. Year three and four YAMS are not required to teach any credits but may only teach 3-credits of WVS at a time. Teaching 3-credits in other approved course areas is possible. Year three and four YAMS in the Ministry Pathway may not teach WVS 101 or 201.

Other Duties, Options, and Information

Office Hours

Office hours are required for all year one and two YAMS as well as year three and four YAMS in the Standard Pathway. At least 5 hours per week will be spent at the Student Engagement Office in Heritage Center. YAMS may request to hold office hours in other locations on campus if specific desires arise. Office hours will be scheduled as a YAMS team during a meeting with the director of YAMS each semester.

Regular Meetings

All YAMS will attend regular meetings with the director of YAMS as well as the pastor of students for personal, professional, and spiritual development. Regularity of the meetings will depend upon YAMS year and pathway. Typical meetings are to be expected approximately once or twice per month for no more than an hour.

Important Contacts

Lindsey Ward, EdD

Director of Young Adult Ministry Scholars
Director of First-Year Experience
306E Heritage Center
lward@dbq.edu
563.589.3866

Annette Huizenga, PhD

Dean of Seminary
Associate Professor of New Testament
232 Severance Hall
ahuizenga@dbq.edu
563.589.3858

Susan LeFeber, DMin

Director of Seminary Vocation
Director of Field Education and Placement
slefeber@dbq.edu
217 Severance Hall
563.589.3114

Beth McCaw, DMin

Seminary Pastor to Students

Associate Professor of Ministry

bmccaw@dbq.edu

208 Severance Hall

563.589.3390