

# What can I do with a major in **YOUTH, FAMILY, AND EDUCATION MINISTRY** from Valparaiso University?

## **Description of major:**

Youth, Family & Education Ministry is an interdisciplinary major that may be taken only as a complementary academic major, typically along with a first academic major in Theology. Students interested in parish work in roles such as Youth Minister and Director of Christian Education would find this major appealing. Through this program, students will combine an interest in Theology, along with Education, Psychology and Sociology. In order to help students gain a better understanding of their career options, they are encouraged to participate in experiential training opportunities such as practica, internships, and mentoring.

## **Relevant skills for a YOUTH, FAMILY, AND EDUCATION MINISTRY major:**

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|--|--|---|
| ◆ Advise   | ◆ Have patience  | ◆ Persuade & influence others                   |
| ◆ Analyze  | ◆ Inspire  | ◆ Plan  |
| ◆ Answer questions   | ◆ Instruct   | ◆ Prepare reports                               |
| ◆ Be creative  | ◆ Interact with people of varying age and backgrounds                    | ◆ Read, write & communicate orally              |
| ◆ Be dependable  | ◆ Interpret  | ◆ Show sensitivity to and compassion for others |
| ◆ Carry out and integrate one's occupational responsibilities with one's religious faith | ◆ Know one's area of personal ministry                                   | ◆ Supervise                                     |
| ◆ Coordinate   | ◆ Know the practices, procedures, guidelines and doctrine of one's faith | ◆ Think quickly                                 |
| ◆ Develop ideas  | ◆ Make appropriate decisions & solve problems                            | ◆ Understand human spiritual & social needs     |
| ◆ Direct   | ◆ Motivate   | ◆ Write   |
| ◆ Evaluate   | ◆ Organize   | ◆ and others!                                   |
| ◆ Explain  |  |   |
| ◆ Have excellent interpersonal communication   |  |   |

## **Sample work activities for Graduates in YOUTH, FAMILY, AND EDUCATION MINISTRY (some may require an advanced degree)**

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Associate Pastor                | • Hospice Director                    | • Religious Researcher        |
| • Campus Minister                 | • Lay Minister                        | • Religious Writer            |
| • Campus Religious Coordinator    | • Librarian                           | • Salvation Army Worker       |
| • Chaplain                        | • Minister of Music                   | • Seminary Administrator      |
| • Church Camp Director            | • Missionary                          | • Social Worker               |
| • College/University Faculty      | • Pastor                              | • Theological Professor       |
| • Community Organization Worker   | • Peace Corp Worker                   | • Volunteer Services Director |
| • Counselor                       | • Priest                              | • Writer                      |
| • Denominational Executive        | • Religious Bookstore Worker          | • Youth Minister              |
| • Director of Religious Education | • Religious Educational Administrator | • YMCA/YWCA Worker            |
| • Evangelist                      | • Religious Education Teacher         | • and others!                 |

## **Potential hiring institutions for YOUTH, FAMILY, AND EDUCATION MINISTRY majors:**

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| ◆ Camps                        | ◆ Libraries               | ◆ Religious publishers    |
| ◆ Churches                     | ◆ Military services       | ◆ Social Service Agencies |
| ◆ Colleges/Universities        | ◆ Non-profit agencies     | ◆ YWCA/YMCA               |
| ◆ Elementary/secondary schools | ◆ Religious broadcasters  | ◆ and others!             |
|                                | ◆ Religious organizations |                           |

## Area of further education for YOUTH, FAMILY, AND EDUCATION MINISTRY majors:

- ◆ Education
- ◆ Educational Administration
- ◆ Ethics
- ◆ Foundations & Philosophy of Education
- ◆ Humanities
- ◆ Liberal Studies
- ◆ Missions & Missiology
- ◆ Pastoral Ministry & Counseling
- ◆ Philosophy
- ◆ Religion
- ◆ Religious Education
- ◆ Theology
- ◆ and others!

## Sources of additional information for YOUTH, FAMILY, AND EDUCATION MINISTRY- majors:

- ◆ VU Department of Theology: <http://www.valpo.edu/theology>
- ◆ VU Majors & Areas of Study: <http://www.valpo.edu/cas/departments/theology.html>
- ◆ Occupational Outlook Handbook: the US Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles information about various occupations, including the nature of the work, the job outlook, the earnings, and other relevant information. <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm>
- ◆ Association of Christian Schools International: Resources and information about Christian schools. <http://www.acsi.org/>
- ◆ Christian Career Center: the online career center developed specifically to meet the needs of Christians. <http://www.gospelcom.net/ccc/>
- ◆ Christian Jobs Mall: is designed for businesses, churches and ministries to post their Christian jobs. <http://www.christianet.com/christianjobs/index.htm>
- ◆ Christian Jobs Online: helps to take your quest for employment further and find a position that will enrich you spiritually as well as emotionally and mentally. <http://www.christianjobs.com/>
- ◆ Christian Placements: Job bank for Christians. <http://www.christianplacements.com/>
- ◆ ChurchStaffing.com: Church ministry positions including music, youth, and administration. <http://www.churchstaffing.com>
- ◆ Ministry Search: - Christian ministry job positions. <http://www.ministrysearch.com/>
- ◆ Opportunity NOCs: connects you with a full range of employment and human-resources-related information and services. <http://www.opportunitynocs.org/>
- ◆ Pastornet.com: an Internet resource for pastors. <http://www.pastornet.com/>

## VU Career Center Resource Library Materials:

- ◆ *Alternatives To The Peace Corps: A Directory Of Third World And US Volunteer Opportunities*
- ◆ *Career Opportunities In Education*
- ◆ *Careers For Caring People & Other Sensitive Types*
- ◆ *Careers For Good Samaritans & Other Humanitarian Types*
- ◆ *Careers For Talkative Types & Others With The Gift Of Gab*
- ◆ *Careers For Women As Clergy*
- ◆ *Careers In Sociology*
- ◆ *Civil Service Career Starter*
- ◆ *Education For Action: Undergraduate And Graduate Programs That Focus On Social Change*
- ◆ *Field Placement Directory*
- ◆ *For The Common Good: Internships With Social & Community Service Agencies 2003*
- ◆ *Graduate Programs In Education*
- ◆ *Graduate Programs In Humanities*
- ◆ *Graduate Programs In Psychology*
- ◆ *Graduate Programs In Social Sciences*
- ◆ *GRE Exam Booklet*
- ◆ *Great Jobs For Liberal Arts Majors*
- ◆ *Liberal Arts Jobs: The Guide That Turns Learning Into Earning*
- ◆ *Non-Profits Job Finder*
- ◆ *Opportunities In Counseling And Development Careers*
- ◆ *Opportunities In Educational Support Careers*
- ◆ *Opportunities In Gerontology And Aging Services Careers*
- ◆ *Opportunities In Homecare Services Careers*
- ◆ *Opportunities In Nonprofit Organization Careers*
- ◆ *Opportunities In Recreation And Leisure Careers*
- ◆ *Opportunities In Religious Service Careers*
- ◆ *Opportunities In Your Own Service Business*
- ◆ *Peterson's Graduate Programs In Business, Education, Health, Information Studies, Law & Social Work*
- ◆ *Peterson's Graduate Programs In The Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences*

**For more information about majoring in , YOUTH, FAMILY, AND EDUCATION MINISTRY contact:**

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**For more questions about your career decisions, please make an appointment with a VU Career Counselor by calling 464-5005, stopping by the Career Center in Alumni Hall or e-mailing us at [Career.Center@valpo.edu](mailto:Career.Center@valpo.edu)**

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