



Queensland  
Theological College



# DM310/510

# Foundations for Youth Ministry

## Unit Outline

### **About this Unit Outline**

This unit outline contains information essential to finding your way around the unit **Foundations for Youth Ministry**. It provides a structure for your learning, giving details of lecture topics, assessment requirements, and key resources.

**SEMESTER 2 2019**



## Important notice

While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the information given below, **it is the personal responsibility of each student to check the current ACT Handbook**, copies of which may be found in the Library or online at the ACT's website: [www.acttheology.edu.au](http://www.acttheology.edu.au)

It is very important that students plan their time carefully to ensure that reading and especially assignments receive adequate attention and so as to prevent a bottleneck of work at the end of the semester.

It is very important that all quoted material in assignments be properly footnoted and acknowledged. The attention of students is drawn to the ACT's **Academic Misconduct Policy**, as well as ACT **Late Penalties Policy** and **Extensions Policy**, all of which are available on the ACT's website. Failure to comply with the standards required will incur penalties as outlined in the relevant ACT Policies.

The attention of students is also drawn to the section in the current ACT Handbook, headed **"Guidelines for Essays in Coursework Units"** (see also the QTC Student Handbook). All essays and assignments should comply with these standards.

# Information about this unit

## Unit description

*Foundations for Youth Ministry* commences with an overview of the Bible's teaching on young people. It then assists you to develop a theology of youth ministry by examining the place of biblical authority, different philosophies of ministry, and an historical overview of Christian youth ministry in Australia. It will also consider strategic models of youth ministry; including motivation; goals; content; and methodologies.

The unit will familiarise you with aspects of youth culture in secular western society, with particular focus on Australia; reviewing the beliefs and values of significant youth subcultures, and their various contexts.

## Learning outcomes

After successfully completing this unit, you will have a sound basis to begin forming your theology of young people and youth ministry, a clear foundational knowledge of some models of youth ministry, and a practical understanding of youth culture in a secular society.

### DM310 Learning outcomes

#### Know and understand:

- Leading biblical, theological, historical and strategic foundations of youth ministry
- Leading aspects of contemporary youth
- Nature, shape and forms of youth ministry
- Leading issues in youth ministry

#### Be able to:

- Explain the leading biblical, theological, historical and strategic foundations of youth ministry
- Discuss the leading aspects of contemporary youth
- Analyse the nature, shape and forms of youth ministry
- Engage in 'ministry with youth' fieldwork

#### Be in a position to:

- Integrate perspectives from 'Foundations of/for Youth Ministry' with their other theological and ministry studies
- Apply perspectives and skills from 'Youth Ministry' to personal formation and ministry practice

### **DM510 Learning outcomes**

#### Know and understand:

- Leading biblical, theological, historical and strategic foundations of youth ministry
- Leading aspects of contemporary youth
- Nature, shape and forms of youth ministry
- Leading issues in youth ministry
- Selected approaches to youth ministry

#### Be able to:

- Explain the leading biblical, theological, historical and strategic foundations of youth ministry
- Discuss the leading aspects of contemporary youth
- Analyse the nature, shape and forms of youth ministry
- Engage in 'ministry with youth' fieldwork
- Evaluate selected approaches to youth ministry

#### Be in a position to:

- Integrate perspectives from 'Foundations of/for Youth Ministry' with their other theological and ministry studies
- Apply perspectives and skills from 'Youth Ministry' to personal formation and ministry practice

## How this unit contributes to the course

In developing an understanding of the place of youth in society, and the role youth ministry plays in their life, students will be equipped with a holistic appreciation of young people and trained to be more effective in their pastoral work with them. Learning how to structure a balanced and culturally relevant youth program, and how to evaluate existing programs will assist students to work effectively within a variety of contexts.

This unit caters for students studying either of the following accredited units:

- DM310 Foundations for Youth Ministry – an elective unit of the BTh/BMin/AssocDegTh/DipTh/DipMin.
- DM510 Foundations for Youth Ministry – an elective unit of the MDiv/ GradDipDiv/ GradCertDiv.

Each of these units is a 4-credit point unit in its respective award.

## Pre-requisites and co-requisites

As this unit is being taught at foundation level (300/500 level), there are no prerequisite requirements.

## How this unit is organised and what we expect of you

The unit is taught over a 13-week semester. Lectures will take place in the normal QTC lecture weeks of Semester 2. For details, please see the Unit Timetable in this unit outline and the QTC Timetable and Calendar.

There are three lectures per week, each of 50 minutes duration. This unit will involve approximately three hours per week of contact time, involving lectures, and class discussion time.

This unit is worth 4 credit points towards your course.

A 4 credit point unit is considered to require a total time commitment of 7–8 hours per week. Please contact the lecturer as a matter of urgency if you find that you are regularly needing to spend significantly more time than this on DM310/510.

Students are required to attend all lectures, complete any set reading and complete any assessment tasks by the relevant due date.

## Teaching staff

LECTURER

Danny Mitchell

E [dmitchell@qtc.edu.au](mailto:dmitchell@qtc.edu.au)

Please feel free to contact Danny if you have any problems or concerns about the course.

## Other key contacts

### Registrar's office

Contact the Registrar's office for any queries about which unit to enrol in next, if you wish to change your enrolment, defer due to illness, family circumstances etc., or request an extension for your assessment (criteria apply).

P 07 3062 6939, extension 2

E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

### Moodle functions and queries

Contact the Registrar or the Assistant Registrar for help if something on Moodle is not working, if you need help using Moodle etc.

P 07 3062 6939, extension 2

E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

### Library/Resources

Contact the Librarian for help with finding resources for your assessment, finding full-text database articles, for help with logging into the library databases and catalogue, & for how to renew a book for longer or place a hold on a book currently out to another person.

P 07 3062 6939, extension 3

E [library@qtc.edu.au](mailto:library@qtc.edu.au)

## Unit timetable: topics, teaching and learning activities

	LECTURE TOPIC	PRESCRIBED READINGS
WEEK 1- 17 JUL	Introduction to the Unit The Bible's teaching on youth and young people	Youth Ministry On The Front Foot (YMOTFF) <b>Chapters 1-3</b>
WEEK 2 -24 JUL	Historical overview of Christian youth ministry in Australia	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 4-6</b>
WEEK 3 -31 JUL	Adolescence in Western society	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 7-9</b>
WEEK 4 -7 AUG	Major aspects of youth culture in Australia	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 10-12</b>
WEEK 5 -16 AUG*	Youth subcultures—their beliefs, values and artifacts	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 13-15</b>
WEEK 6 - 21 AUG	Developing a theology of youth ministry	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 16-18</b>
WEEK 7 - 28 AUG	Using theology in youth ministry	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 19-21</b>
ESSAY WRITING WEEK: Monday 02 September – Friday 06 September		
WEEK 8 - 11 SEP	Strategic models of youth ministry (part 1)	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 22-24</b>
WEEK 9 - 18 SEP	Strategic models of youth ministry (part 2)	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 25-27</b>
MID-SEMESTER BREAK: Saturday 21 September – Monday 07 October		
WEEK 10 - 9 OCT	Key tactics in discipling youth	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 28-30</b>
WEEK 11 - 16 OCT	Leading an effective youth ministry team - leading leaders	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 31-33</b>
WEEK 12 - 23 OCT	Leading an effective youth ministry team - other key players	YMOTFF <b>Chapters 34-35</b>
WEEK 13 - 30 OCT	Connecting with teenagers in the community	

\* Due to the RNA Exhibition Public Holiday on Wednesday 14 August, Make-Up Lectures will take place on **Friday** 16 August.

## DM310 Assessments

**Assessments are submitted online via Moodle**

**In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.**

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, in accordance with the ACT **Late Penalties** Policy, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of **3%** of the total possible marks for the assessment item **per calendar day**, up to 14 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero. Where the assessment is a **Take-Home Exam**, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of **6%** of the total possible marks for the assessment item **per calendar day**, up to 7 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero.

Your submitted assessment items must also be within 10% of the required **word limit**, and failure to meet this requirement shall result in a penalty of **10%** of the total possible mark being deducted. **Please see the QTC Handbook for full details on what is included within your total word count.** QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASKS	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Email or Letter</b></p> <p><b>1000 words total</b></p> <p><b>Worth 20% of Final Grade</b></p>	<p><b>Write a 1000 word letter/email</b> responding to the following scenario:</p> <p>A person in your church tells you that they don't see any need for targeted ministry to youth.</p> <p>Write an email/letter in response, providing a biblical basis for your position including a biblical understanding of young people. Your email/letter should be written in correct English, through using persuasive language.</p>
<p><b>Article</b></p> <p><b>1500 words total</b></p> <p><b>Worth 35% of Final Grade</b></p>	<p><b>Write a 1500 word article</b> for the leadership group of your church in which you discuss a youth subculture relevant to your church.</p> <p>Your research should include information drawn from newspapers, popular magazines and websites, together with observations drawn from academic books and journal articles.</p> <p>You are not permitted to conduct interviews to obtain information for this assessment.</p> <p>Identify key challenges that may arise when presenting the Christian faith to a person of this sub-culture.</p> <p>Attach a list of your sources as an appendix to your article.</p>
<p><b>Ministry Strategy</b></p> <p><b>2200 words total</b></p> <p><b>Worth 45% of Final Grade</b></p>	<p><b>Prepare a 2200 word ministry strategy</b>, with theological justification, for a local church that aims to engage with the youth subculture analyzed in Assessment 2.</p> <p>Outline the specific motivations, goals, content and methodologies that you propose, and indicate how you would evaluate your strategy as it is implemented.</p>

## DM510 Assessments

**Assessments are submitted online via Moodle**

**In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.**

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, in accordance with the ACT **Late Penalties** Policy, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of **3%** of the total possible marks for the assessment item **per calendar day**, up to 14 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero. Where the assessment is a **Take-Home Exam**, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of **6%** of the total possible marks for the assessment item **per calendar day**, up to 7 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero.

Your submitted assessment items must also be within 10% of the required **word limit**, and failure to meet this requirement shall result in a penalty of **10%** of the total possible mark being deducted. **Please see the QTC Handbook for full details on what is included within your total word count.** QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASKS	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Email or Letter</b></p> <p><b>1200 words total</b></p> <p><b>Worth 20% of Final Grade</b></p>	<p><b>Write a 1200 word letter/email</b> responding to the following scenario:</p> <p>A ministry colleague tells you of having difficulty thinking about how ministry to youth fits in to the ministry of their church as a whole.</p> <p>Write an email/letter in response offering some advice in the form of general principles, providing a biblical basis for your position, including a biblical understanding of the place of young people within an all-ages Christian congregation.</p> <p>Your email/letter should be written in correct English, through using persuasive language.</p>
<p><b>Article</b></p> <p><b>2000 words total</b></p> <p><b>Worth 35% of Final Grade</b></p>	<p><b>Write a 2000 word article</b> for the leadership group of your church in which you analyze a youth subculture relevant to your church, and address leading issues relating to ministry in that subculture.</p> <p>Your research should include information drawn from newspapers, popular magazines and websites, together with observations and reflections drawn from academic books and journal articles.</p> <p>You are not permitted to conduct interviews to obtain information for this assessment.</p> <p>Locate this sub-culture within the wider context of the generally secular youth culture of Australia. Identify key assumptions and beliefs of this sub-culture that may present challenges when seeking to communicate the Christian faith to members of this sub-culture.</p> <p>Attach a list of your sources as an appendix to your article.</p>

<p><b>Ministry Strategy</b></p> <p><b>2500 words total</b></p> <p><b>Worth 45% of Final Grade</b></p>	<p><b>Prepare a 2500 word ministry strategy</b>, with theological justification, for a local church that aims to engage with the youth subculture analyzed in Assessment 2.</p> <p>The strategy should note selected alternative approaches that might be taken, and show evidence of your having evaluated these.</p> <p>Outline the specific motivations, goals, content and methodologies that you propose.</p> <p>Describe, with justifications, the criteria you would use to evaluate the success of your strategy.</p>
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## Guide to assessments

### ***What are we looking for?***

Each assessment in this unit requires that you present a clear answer on a particular topic. So please make sure that you present a clear description or argument in each case. You must also observe the word count limits and acknowledge all your sources. Do not commit plagiarism by 'cutting and pasting' the writings of other people into your answers.

### **Email or Letter:**

Your answer must include a clearly stated description of a biblical understanding of young people and their place in a Christian congregation, as well as how youth ministry forms part of the life of a church.

You are to write persuasively, but politely, giving reasons for your arguments.

You should write in correct English, with correct spelling and grammar, not using slang or common abbreviations which do not have a place in academic writing.

### **Article:**

Research your chosen youth subculture thoroughly, using a wide range of materials. You may include material from newspapers, popular magazines and websites, but you should also include material from academic books and journals which will deal with the subject matter in a more detailed and analytical manner. Make sure you reference all your sources, and give greater weight to reasoned academic arguments than to popular assertions which may be difficult to substantiate.

You are **not** permitted to conduct interviews to obtain information for this assessment, as interviews would require an ethical clearance which does not form part of the arrangements for this unit.

Make sure you attach a list of your sources as an appendix to your article.

### **Ministry Strategy:**

Your ministry strategy is to be designed for the subculture you wrote about for Assessment 2, not for some other group.

You need a theological justification for your ministry strategy, and your assessment submission should state this clearly and cogently. It is not enough to make pragmatic suggestions because they appear to you to be effective.

Spell out clearly the motivations, goals, content and methodologies you propose. Indicate the criteria for how you would evaluate the success or otherwise of your strategy.

This assessment should bring together many aspects of youth ministry that you have studied in this unit.

For full information on what is included in the total word count, see the QTC Handbook.

## Learning resources

### Textbooks:

Moser, Ken. *Changing the World Through Effective Youth Ministry*. Baulkham Hills, NSW: Youthsurge, 2013.

Veron, Zachary, and Ken D Noakes. *Youth Ministry On The Front Foot*. 1st ed. Sydney, NSW: Anglican Youthworks, 2012.

### Other References:

**It is not essential to purchase these. They are listed as sample starting points for assessments.**

Bomar, Chuck. *Serving Local Schools: Bringing Christ's Compassion to the Core of Your Community*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2017

Brain, Matthew. *Engage! How The Church Can Connect With Young People*. Barton, ACT: Barton Books, 2011.

Brain, Matthew. "No One Gets Left Behind; the Local Church as the Bridge between Gospel and Culture." *St Mark's Review* 217. (2011): 30-42.

Brain, Matthew. "The Challenge of Connecting with Young People." *St Mark's Review* 216. (2011): 42-53.

Clark, Chap, Fernando Arzola, Brian Cosby, Ron Hunter, Greg Stier. *Youth Ministry in the 21st Century: Five Views*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2015.

Cole, Cameron and Jon Nielson, eds. *Gospel Centered Youth Ministry: A Practical Guide*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2016.

Cosby, Brian. *Giving Up The Gimmicks: Reclaiming Youth Ministry from an Entertainment Culture*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 2012.

Crouch, Andy, and Sean Runnette. *Culture Making: Recovering Out Creative Calling*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2008.

Dean, Kenda Creasy. *Practicing Passion: Youth and the Quest for a Passionate Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2004.

Dean, Kenda Creasy, Chap Clark and Dave Rahn. *Starting Right: Thinking Theologically About Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.

Fields, Doug. *Purpose Driven Youth Ministry: 9 Essential Foundations for Health Growth*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1997.

Fields, Doug. *Your first two years in youth ministry: a personal and practical guide to starting right*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002.

Fowler, James. *Weaving the New Creation: Stages of Faith and the Public Church*. San Francisco, CA: HarperSanFrancisco, 1991.

Hawkins, Tim. *Fruit That Will Last: How to Develop a Youth Ministry with Lasting Impact*. Castle Hill, NSW: Youth Ministry, 1999.

Heflin, Houston. *Youth Pastor: The Theology and Practice of Youth Ministry*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2009.

- Kinnaman, David and Aly Hawkins. *You Lost Me: Why Young Christians Are Leaving Church and Rethinking Faith*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2011.
- Kinnaman, David and Gabe Lyons. *unChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity and Why It Matters*. reprint ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2012.
- Mason, Michael, Andrew Singleton and Ruth Webber. *The Spirit of Generation Y: Young People's Spirituality in a Changing Australia*. Mulgrave, Vic.: John Garratt, 2008.
- Moser, Ken. *Youth Evangelism: Reaching Young People in a Way That Honours God*. Vancouver: Changing the World Press, 2004.
- Muggleton, David and Rupert Weinzierl. *The Post-Subcultures Reader*. Oxford: Bloomsbury Academic, 2004.
- Nilan, Pam, Roberta Julian and John Germov. *Australian Youth: Social and Cultural Issues*. 1st ed. Frenchs Forest, NSW: Pearson Education Australia, 2007.
- Osmer, Richard. *Practical Theology: An Introduction*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2008.
- Petty, Scott. *Tactics for Teen Ministry*. Sydney, NSW: Youthworks, 2014.
- Powell, Kara E. and Chap Clark. *Sticky Faith: Everyday Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Kids*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011.
- Renfro, Paul, Brandon Shields and Jay Strother. *Perspectives on Family Ministry: Three Views*. Edited by Timothy Paul Jones. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2009.
- Root, Andrew. *Taking Theology to Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2012.
- Smith, James, K.A. *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2016.
- Stanton, Graham. "Reforming 'Practical Theology': Can a Reformed theologian have their Scripture and Practice too?" *St Mark's Review* 2.224 (2013): 13-27.
- Senter III, Mark, Wesley Black, Chap Clark and Malan Nel. *Four Views of Youth Ministry and the Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Youth Specialties, 2001.
- Tyson, Paul. "A Spectral View of Contemporary Australian Youth Spiritualities & Evangelical Youth Ministry." *Australian eJournal of Theology* 12.1 (2008): 1-31.
- Vanhoozer, Kevin. *The Drama of Doctrine: A Canonical-Linguistic Approach to Christian Theology*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2005.
- Westerhoff, John H. *Will Our Children Have Faith?* 3rd ed. New York: Morehouse Publishing, 2012.
- Yaconelli, Mike. *Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2006.

## ACT standards: Grades

Grades in assessment instruments are awarded in the following categories –

Grade	Score	GPA
Fail (F)	0-49%	0
Pass (P)	50-57%	1
Pass+ (P+)	58-64%	1.5
Credit (C)	65-74%	2
Distinction (D)	75-84%	3
High Distinction (HD)	85+%	4