

# Minor in Youth Empowerment and Urban Studies (YES)

## Guidance Sheet – 2017-2018 (18 semester hours)

The YES Minor is designed to provide all students with an interdisciplinary, critical understanding of the role youth can play in social change in an urban environment. As a multidisciplinary minor with a strong focus on experiential learning grounded in theory and research, it provides students with greater skills and knowledge in order to be effective professionals in an urban environment, and core courses and faculty who teach them take a strength-based approach to urban youth, families and communities. **This minor requires one extended format course (YES 301), that does not end until June. This minor is open to all majors.**

### Required:

9 Semester Hours

- YES 250 *Introduction to Youth and Urban Community Work*: Urban Professional Workshop\* ← Offered each Fall  
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- YES 300 *Youth Empowerment and the Urban Context*\* \_\_\_\_\_ 3 ← Offered each  
Spring, field in  
Philly
- YES 301 *Seminar in Youth-Led Media and Inquiry*\* \_\_\_\_\_ 3 ← Offered each  
Spring (extended  
format, Philly and  
other fieldwork)

**\*YES 300 and 301 take place in part on WCU's campus and in part in the City of Philadelphia. Prerequisites for YES 300/301: All clearances AND YES 250 or two focused electives (below) or permission of instructor.**

### Focused Electives:

9 Semester Hours

2. Choose one course from each of the next three categories:

***Urban Contexts and Communities*—(choose one)**

One of:

- GEO 204 Introduction to Urban Studies
- ECO 350 Urban Economics
- GEO 312 Urban Geography
- ANT 347 Culture of Cities
- SOC 342 Urban Sociology
- PSC 304 Urban Politics

(other courses may be approved on an individual basis, such as LIT 370: *Urbanism and Modern Imagination*, HIS 364: *U.S. Urban History*, GEO 200: *Urban Cities*)

***Youth and Social Systems*—(choose one):**

One of:

- HIS 444 History of American Education
- EDF 300 Democracy and Education
- HON 312 Educational Systems and Social Influence
- HON 322 Leadership with ELLs in the Classroom and Community
- EDF 255 Evolution of Schooling in the U.S.
- WRH 305 Images of School in Film
- SOC 345 Sociology of Education
- SWO 423 Child Welfare Practice and Policy

(other courses may be approved on an individual basis, such as SWO 332: *Social Welfare Policies and Services*, ENG 215: *Views on Literacy*, CRJ 310: *Juvenile Justice Administration*; HEA 440: *School Health Programs*; EDR 400 - *Literacy, Diversity, & Equity in K-12 Classrooms*; COM 325: *Strategic Social Media*)

***Empowerment Work in Diverse Communities.*** Any additional course, housed in any College or Department, which integrates service learning/community-engaged learning/community-engaged research/field placement in urban settings or with diverse populations; courses should take critical and strength-based approaches to issues addressed. Courses and placements that qualify will be approved by the Coordinator of the program by review of syllabi. Students and faculty should contact the YES Coordinator about particular courses.

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Many majors  
already require  
field-based  
coursework,  
community work  
or internships in  
the field.

**Total Credits**

**18**