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Hi! Hello!

If you're reading this you're probably every bit as curious as I was about the YES minor. I can't tell you if it is the right choice for you but I can tell you that, for me, it most certainly was. As a political science major at West Chester (concentrating in international relations) the world was my oyster. I had a plethora of career options ...but most of them did not appeal to me. I knew I wanted to work in the non-profit sector but couldn't quite find my niche. I felt a bit aimless, despite doing incredibly well in my discipline. Enter: Youth Empowerment and Urban Studies.

I found the minor accidentally whilst fumbling around on WCU's website. Next thing you know, I was doing hands-on work in Philadelphia, visibly bettering my community. I loved the experiences the YES minor provided me. Cut to present day: As a recent graduate of the program, I have already seen the benefits of this minor. Right after graduation, I landed a community partnerships coordinator position at a k-8 school in North Philadelphia. If you're wondering what the heck a community partnerships coordinator is, imagine E-harmony (yes, really). I essentially play match-maker for my school and the community it lives in, finding the best programs and connections to strengthen the ties between the pair of them. In concrete language, this would look like extracurricular and after school programming etc. It is an incredibly fulfilling and meaningful job that I wake up everyday thankful for having. Even on the tougher days, I know what I am doing benefits students and community members alike. This opportunity was available to me quite largely because of my YES minor and I can't stress enough how grateful I am to have discovered it.

So if you want useless/easy credits, don't sign up. If you want a challenging, rewarding experience that leads to work that truly matters, the YES minor wants you, too.

Best of luck!