

## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY (YFM) ~ OBJECTIVES, MEASUREMENTS, & OUTCOMES

Some Youth & Family Ministry courses are offered only every second year, or twice in three years. Therefore, for some objectives, data is not available every year. Further, enrolment in the program is small so data is limited. In addition, in the past couple of years, objectives and assignments have been modified for clarity; this has also led to limited data in some fields.

### OBJECTIVE 1 – Youth & Family Ministry students will have a solid biblical and theological foundation for effective ministry to students and their families

In the introductory course for this program students learn about those to whom they will minister, building on material learned in the general education course, Developmental Psychology. Students articulate a philosophy of youth ministry as the final assignment in Models of Youth Ministry (YM 313). An interview with a Family Ministry pastor helps students see how a philosophy is implemented as well as through their own practical ministry experiences

**Benchmark – 80% of YFM students will earn a grade of at least 80% (B-) in assignments related to foundations for effective ministry<sup>1</sup>**

**Data:**

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Percentage meeting benchmark	100%	64%	89%	50%
Number of courses	1	3	2	2
YFM students enrolled in above courses	1	14	9	2

### OBJECTIVE 2 – Youth & Family Ministry students will learn practical and effective team dynamics for serving in a multiple staff ministry with professionalism

In Models of Youth Ministry (YM 313) students must interact with the course professor in a way they might interact as a member of a ministry team, experiencing team relationships. Youth and Family ministry courses require that students be engaged in ministry, for some of which grades are assigned. Here they have first-hand opportunity to explore what it means to be part of a ministry staff. Further experience comes in the four-month, full-time Supervised Ministry Experience (SME). In their final evaluation, SME supervisors rate their students on multiple elements at the mid-point and end of the four-month SME, using a four-point Likert scale. Several of the elements relate to the student's participation as a team member.

**Benchmark 1 – 80% of YFM students will earn a grade of at least 80% (B-) in assignments related to staff ministry<sup>2</sup>**

**Data:**

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Percentage meeting benchmark	80%	71%	100%	100%
Number of courses	1	3	2	2
YFM students enrolled in above courses	5	7	3	2

**Benchmark 2 – YFM students will earn an average rating of at least 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) by their SME supervisors on team-related outcomes<sup>3</sup>**

Data:

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022, to date
Average score	3.8	4.0	3.6	4.0
YFM students in enrolled in MIN 425	3	1	3	2

**OBJECTIVE 3 - Youth & Family Ministry students will be effective communicators of the claims of God's word in culturally relevant and age-appropriate ways**

In addition to the preaching course all B.A. Ministry students are required to take (Homiletics, MIN 300), Youth & Family Ministry students have several experiences where they are required to teach and preach to teens, not only to provide preaching experience, but also ensuring they are communicating effectively with a specific audience.

**Benchmark – 80% of YFM students will earn a grade of at least 80% (B-) in preaching and teaching assignments<sup>4</sup>**

Data:

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Percentage meeting benchmark	58%	54%	75%	100%
Number of courses	2	2	4	2
YFM students enrolled in above courses	12	13	3	2

**OBJECTIVE 4 – Youth & Family Ministry students will participate in practical hands-on ministry experiences, implementing practical models of creative, need-meeting ministries for outreach and discipleship**

Students enrolled in the Youth & Family Ministry program have multiple opportunities to participate in hands-on youth ministry, culminating in the Supervised Ministry Experience (SME) which must take place in a youth or family ministry setting and under the supervision of an experienced youth and/or family minister.

**Benchmark – 80% of YFM students will earn a grade of at least 80% (B-) in the required practical experiences<sup>5</sup> required for this program**

Data:

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022, to date
Percentage meeting benchmark	82%	91%	92%	100%
Number of courses	3	3	3	2
YFM students enrolled in above courses	11	11	12	2

**OBJECTIVE 5 – Youth & Family Ministry students will be prepared to equip students to take part actively in the mission of God as members of the church**

Youth & Family Ministry students are expected to participate in the life of the church. By doing this they learn the value of the local church so they can teach their students out of their own experience. In addition to required church participation, students consider how the church is influenced by culture, and how the church can influence culture.

**Benchmark – 80% of YFM students will earn a grade of at least 80% (B-) in assignments related to being a part of the church<sup>6</sup>**

**Data:**

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Percentage meeting benchmark	65%	88%	100%	93%
Number of courses	1	3	1	3
YFM students enrolled in above courses	20	34	16	14

**OBJECTIVE 6 – Youth & Family Ministry students will understand the importance of partnering with families and have tools to support parents as the spiritual leaders of the home**

Ministry to youth includes ministering to the families of youth. A course in this program is devoted to ministering to the entire family and supporting adults (parents of teens). Written and practical assignments in this course provide experience in family-ministry.

**Benchmark – 80% of YFM students will earn a grade of at least 80% (B-) in family-related assignments<sup>7</sup>**

**Data:**

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Percentage meeting benchmark	100%	100%	83%	na
Number of courses	2	2	3	
YFM students enrolled in above courses	2	2	24	

**CONCLUSION/ACTION STEPS**

There are a couple of objectives where the measurements have not consistently met the benchmarks in past four years. Steps have already been implemented which are expected to address these weaknesses:

- Recognizing a student weakness in articulating a theology of youth ministry (Objective 1), assignments related to this objective have been strengthened. The low score in 2021-2022 is the result of only two students enrolled in courses which address this objective, and one of them not meeting the benchmark;
- The area of apparent greatest weakness relates to student ability be effective communicators. Part of the reason for this may be as a result of course sequencing. Prior to 2021 youth ministry courses in which students were expected to preach and teach were first- and second-year courses while Homiletics (MIN 300) is a third-year course. Since 2021 one of the youth ministry courses has been changed to a third-year course and, as such, many students will take it at the same time as Homiletics, allowing the two courses to complement each other. Further examination of grade rubrics for these assignments may help to determine in which specific area students are struggling.

<sup>1</sup> Phases of Development assignment (CMYM 101); Theology of Youth Ministry paper (YM 313); Family Pastor Interview (CMYM 414).

<sup>2</sup> Modeling Staff Relationships assignment (YM 313); Onsite Ministry Assignments (CMYM 101).

<sup>3</sup> Four measures are used: Empowers others and is committed to team building; Honours and respects lines of authority; Values team-based learning and service; Develops and nurtures an active network/support system.

<sup>4</sup> Preaching & Teaching assignments (CMYM 101; YM 313); Preaching text reflection (YM 313).

<sup>5</sup> Onsite Ministry assignments (CMYM 101); Practical assignments (YM 313); Family Devotional assignment (CMYM 414); Supervised Ministry Experience (MIN 425).

<sup>6</sup> Spiritual Formation Component requirements include church attendance (SF); the mid-term reflection exam and the Cultural Observation assignments also contribute (SO 223).

<sup>7</sup> Four-week Devotional; Family Needs project; Parent Meeting observation & reflection (CMYM 414).