These courses are available to Graduate and Post-baccalaureate Studies students only (GR, PBS). Unless noted, all courses are 3 credit hours.

**YFCS 500- Supervised Professional Experience in YFCS** (Fall, Spring, Summer - Kirby)
In preparation for professional positions in family life & youth development, students will work with a faculty member or community-based organization to design a Master's capstone project that aligns with their professional goals and offers field-based experience. Faculty supervision required.

**YFCS 502- Theories in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences** (Fall only - Huff)
This course will critically compare and evaluate major human development and family science theories, their application to the field, and the usefulness of theory in describing, explaining, predicting, and/or changing behavior.

**YFCS 523- Family Relationships Over the Life Course** (Fall, even years only - Hardison-Moody)
Application of theories and research about interpersonal relationships and family dynamics as related to issues facing families over the life course, including the changing role of the individual throughout the lifespan. The course will emphasize the interplay of social, developmental, and health factors affecting change, continuity, and well-being.

**YFCS 524- Gerontology in Family Life Education** (Spring, odd years only - Bearon)
The course will examine the social context of aging, the lived experience of aging as reported by older persons, and the interaction of individuals and families with social institutions and community systems of care, including the "aging network."

**YFCS 531- Effective Management of Family Resources** (Spring, even years only – Bird)
Family resource management theory is used to examine personal financial management concepts. Family systems and stress theories will be employed to emphasize the interconnections between families, communities, resources through topics such as personal management (decision-making, time & organizational management, stress management); human and social capital (education, skill building, health, employability, relationships); physical capital (transportation, real estate, and housing); financial management (credit and debt, budgeting, retirement issues, bankruptcy).

**YFCS 533- Complex Family Issues** (Fall, odd years only – Behnke)
This course will examine educational intervention strategies for family issues that pose particular difficulty for youth, family, and community professionals. Topics include: addictions/substance abuse; child abuse and neglect; domestic abuse; Illness, death and dying; divorce/mediation; step-families & single parenting; gang memberships, suicidal ideation, sexuality/teen pregnancy; and rape and other acts of violence. The course will include a discussion of evidence-based prevention and treatment options for referring clients, and a debate of the role of educators in this process.

**YFCS 535- Family Health and Well-Being** (Summer II, odd years only – Hardison-Moody)
This course will examine health and well-being issues of special concern to families, especially healthy lifestyle choices. Areas of focus will include food safety and nutrition, physical activity and well-being and healthy environments. Woven throughout the course will be the family's role in creating supportive situations related to health and well-being, as well as the impact of public and social policies. Students must have completed a Bachelor's of Science.

**YFCS 540- Environmental Influences on the Family** (Summer I, even years only - Kirby)
The course will include an examination of social, economic, and behavioral housing theory, historical and current housing policy and its relationship to the housing, neighborhoods and community development, and an investigation of diverse populations and their housing/neighborhood concerns.

**YFCS 543- Applied Concepts in Parenting and Family Life Education** (Spring only - Behnke, Huff, & Allen)
This course will examine theoretical and empirical literature in family life and parenting education, along with implications for issues affecting families/parents throughout the lifespan. Particular emphasis will be placed on the content, delivery, and evaluation of parenting education programs.
YFCS 545- Family Communication and Coaching (Summer only – Allen)  
This course examines communication in interpersonal relationships and relationship coaching. Topics include identifying individual, couple, and family strengths; appreciating differences; discovering purpose; managing conflict; conducting successful critical conversations; mending relationships; effective communication; direct and indirect communication. This skills-based course prepares students to coach individuals or couples on interpersonal issues.

YFCS 550- Youth and Family Professionals as Leaders (Fall only – Downing)  
This course examines the application of classic and contemporary theories and models of leadership to the work of professionals in community-based organizations. Students will examine leadership from diverse perspectives, and then analyze the strengths and weaknesses of leadership theories and models when applied to organizational development of community-based systems.

YFCS 552- Program Development and Evaluation in Youth and Family Settings (Spring only - Behnke)  
This course will examine historical and contemporary foundations of program development and evaluation in non-formal, community-based youth, family, or community-based settings. Major topics of focus include theory, research, and four program development constructs: 1) planning; 2) design; 3) implementation; and 4) impact evaluation.

YFCS 553- Applied Concepts in Child and Youth Development (Fall, even years only – Allen)  
This course explores the fundamental concepts of child and youth development through adolescence as applied to programmatic and organizational contexts. A special focus is placed upon the concepts as applied to Community Youth theories & practice.

YFCS 554- Collaborations & Partnerships in Youth & Family Settings (Fall, even years only – Behnke)  
This course is designed to prepare formal and non-formal educators to better establish, lead, and manage collaborations and partnerships in family settings, and in professionals who support holistic community-based youth development organizational systems. Specific foci include: types and levels of partnerships; environmental scanning and socio-organizational linkage; contextual factors affecting community collaborations; leadership factors affecting community collaborations; and human, financial, and programmatic management in collaborations.

YFCS 556- Organizational Systems in Youth and Family Settings (Fall, odd years only - Downing)  
This course is designed to prepare current and future professionals who lead and manage community-based organizations. Course includes: fundamentals of management and leadership; institutional and organizational structures; administrative and strategic planning; working with advisory and governing groups; marketing and program delivery systems; information management systems; and human resource, financial, facilities, and risk management systems.

YFCS 557- Volunteerism in Youth and Family Settings (Spring, even years only – Edwards)  
This course is designed to prepare current and future community-based youth and family professionals to better manage volunteers in local program service delivery. Specific foci include: volunteerism as a social phenomenon; volunteer resource management; new forms of volunteerism; and future trends in volunteerism

YFCS 558- Contemporary Issues in Volunteer Resource Management (Fall, even years only – Edwards)  
In-depth examination of current and emerging issues and trends impacting volunteer involvement in community-based youth and family organizations. The course is designed to prepare current and future youth and family professionals to manage volunteers in local program delivery; examining contemporary research related to trends and issues, and evaluating historical and current social phenomena so as to understand their impact upon volunteer involvement and consider future challenges for volunteer administrators

YFCS 585- Contemporary Issues in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences (Spring – Huff)  
This course explores contemporary issues facing youth, family, and community professionals in the United States. Students will explore respective social, cultural, political, and/or organizational underpinnings of issues as focused in two major domains: (1) family law and public policy and (2) professional ethics and practice. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the legal issues, policies, and laws influencing the well-being of families, along with understanding the character and quality of human social conduct. This includes the ability to critically examine ethical questions and issues as they relate to professional practice.

YFCS 590- Family Life Coaching (Fall – Allen) The focus of this course is improving familial relationships through coaching. As a result of this course, students will leave with the skills and training needed to apply coaching skills to family life issues including parenting, working with special needs, and relationship coaching. Focus also on planning for building and sustaining a family life or parent coaching business.
YFCS 590 - Applied Concepts in Early Childhood Development  (Fall, odd only – Huff)
This course examines the fundamental theories and concepts of early childhood development (birth through age 5) as applied to family contexts. We will explore theoretical and empirical literature in early childhood development and examine the implications for practice with families and community-based organizations.

YFCS 590 - Human Sexuality  (Summer 1, Hardison-Moody)
This course will provide students with an advanced understanding of the physiological, psychological, and social aspects of sexual development throughout the lifespan. This includes, but is not limited to, emotional and psychological aspects of sexual involvement; sexual behaviors, values, and decision-making; gender and sexuality; and influences of sexuality on interpersonal relationships. The course will focus on developmental sexuality across the life course.

YFCS 590 - Research Methods in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences  (Spring – Huff)
This course introduces students to research design, methodology, and program evaluation as applied to youth, family, and community-based practices. Specific emphasis will be placed on giving students experiences and interactions with a variety of research methods and techniques used to conduct investigations in youth and family settings.

YFCS 590 - Thesis Research (Thesis Option)  (1-6 credits. Fall, Spring, Summer – Student's advisor)
This course is designed for thesis students to work independently under the direction of the student’s advisor on their thesis research.

YFCS 630 - Independent Study in Family Life & Youth Development  (1-6 credits. Fall, Spring, Summer – various YFCS faculty)
Students engage in independently designed study guided by specific objectives constructed under the supervision of a faculty member.

ST 507 - Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences  (Fall, Spring, Summer – Statistics faculty)
This course provides a general introduction to the use of descriptive and inferential statistics in behavioral science research. Methods for describing and summarizing data presented, followed by procedures for estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses concerning summarized data.