



CHILD DEVELOPMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CD 101 (3) CHILD, CHURCH & MISSION

Children, they are so commonly overlooked in the African Church today. Child, Church & Mission is designed to bring awareness to children and the role that they play in the contemporary church and Christian missions as a whole. Students will learn strategies to incorporate children into the broad picture of church, as well as grasp the global and eternal significance that their ministries to children have.

CD 102 (3) BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF HOLISTIC MINISTRY

What does the bible say? This is the first and foremost authority in all ministries, whether within the walls of the church or outside of them. Throughout this course of study, students will learn the biblical, theological and practical foundations that Holistic Child Development is built on. Major doctrines, hermeneutics, and exegesis from those who committed themselves to children and youth will also be explored.

CD 103 (3) CHILD DEVELOPMENT: FUNDAMENTALS, THEORY & THE CHURCH

All children are created in the image of God. Child Development: Fundamentals, Theory & Church will investigate how the truth of that reality relates to theories of child development, including the psychoanalytic, psychosexual, cognitive, behavioral, and social dimensions of growth and development. Throughout the course, students will respond to major developmental theories in light of Christian thought and ministry to children living in a variety of circumstances.

CD 104 (3) UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN AT RISK

Everyday children all over the world are placed in situations that put them “at risk”. In Uganda alone, children are orphaned from AIDs, captured as soldiers, forced to live on the streets, or sexually abused and harassed. Understanding Children at Risk will give students a deeper understanding of the problems children face all around them, as well as give them tools to help them show Christ’s love. Topics will include major risk factors, theological foundations, and best practices in effective ministry to “at risk” children.

CD 105 (2) HEALTH & WHOLENESS: AN INTRODUCTION TO HIV/AIDS & OTHER CHILDHOOD HEALTH RISKS

Malaria, TB, Mal-Nutrition and many other diseases plague the children of Uganda. In addition, alongside the shores of Lake Victoria, the first cases of the HIV/AIDS virus was discovered and it has taken a toll on the people of Uganda, and the rest of the world ever since. Health & Wholeness is an introductory course aimed at bringing an awareness of these specific issues affecting children in Uganda, as well as to bring awareness on how the Christian church has mobilized to respond to their needs. In addition to the overview of childhood health risks, discussions on the theological, medical, psychological, sociological and economic dimensions that affect the plight of at risk children in Uganda will be covered.

CD 106 (2) MINISTRY WITH STREET CHILDREN

You see them everyday on the streets of Kampala and in the surrounding villages, children that are forced to beg for their survival and call the streets their home. The Ministry with Street Children course is designed to give students a variety of key principles and tools that are needed to understand the needs and challenges faced by street children. Along with foundational concepts and alleviation strategies, students will also learn how to establish and maintain an effective ministry to this particular group of at-risk children and youth.

CD 107 (2) SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

It has long been believed that children with special needs and disabilities are a curse to their families. Often these children are left to fend for themselves on the streets rather than being cared for by their own family members. As Christians, we hold to the belief that all people are created in the Image of God and it is through him that we need to gain our perspectives. Students will overview the major types of disabilities and discuss how different cultures and societies view people with special needs. The course will utilize the bible as the foundation of all understanding and build a framework for how God views suffering and disability. Focus will be given to the church's mandate for outreach to and inclusion of all God's people into the life of His church.

CD 108 (2) ADOLESCENT & YOUTH MINISTRY

Statistics tell us that 80% of people who become Christians do so before the age of 18. With such a staggering number, and 50% of Ugandan population being youth under the age of 15, adolescent and youth ministry is a huge mission field. Youth ministry fields come with unique and specific challenges and opportunities. Students will explore these fields, along with the various methods of youth ministry used in Uganda today. They will also explore theological perspectives of youth and learn to develop effective ministry strategies for the spiritual formation and spiritual growth of all youth.

CD 110 (2) SELF-CARE IN MISSIONS

Ministry should not equal burnout however, so often ministers of the gospel are unaware of how to care for themselves while caring for the people they are ministering to. Stress and burnout; singleness, marriage, and family; safety and trauma; sexuality and sexual impurity; team relationships and conflict transformation; vocation and the reality of suffering are all issues that churches, and ministers of the gospel face at some point in their lives. This course will bring awareness to these issues as well as provide students with resources to keep their ministries thriving in a variety of mission communities and situations.

CD 201 (3) GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE OF CHILDHOOD

In every culture and society you find children. But not every culture and society view children in the same way. Global Perspectives of Childhood will look at the different ways that children are viewed, treated, parented, listened to, and disciplined as they grow and develop. Students will explore theological, sociological, psychological and anthropological perspectives that contribute to these diverse views of children and child development, as well as the implications that these views carry into politics, society, the church, and ministry with children as a whole.

CD 202 (3) POLICY, LEGISLATION & CHILD ADVOCACY

Policy, Legislation & Child Advocacy will give students an overview on how ministry and politics blend together to help care for and protect children. Topics covered include: legal issues in working with children, current legislation & policy, policy implementation & challenges, appropriate care, and children's rights both nationally & internationally.

CD 203 (3) COUNSELING & MENTORING CHILDREN

Mentoring and counseling by Christian definition is one person helping another to develop a closer and deeper relationship with God. While the methods used may change, the same is true when counseling principals are applied to children. In this course, students will use their foundational knowledge of Child Development to develop strategies of communication that are effective with children. Students will learn to recognize ways to initiate opportunities to connect with children in a variety of different settings and contexts while making the child feel safe and free to share. Methods of recognition, assessment, communication, and intervention will be discussed, as well as the referral process when specialized counseling is needed.

CD 204 (3) LEARNING & MINISTERING WITH CHILDREN

Adults are not the only bears of knowledge and wisdom. In fact, children are some of the most intuitive and innovate when it comes to ministering to and with others as they have first hand knowledge of the issues and concerns that are affecting youth at risk. Learning & Ministering with Children will focus on the many ways that we as adults can learn from, do research with and minister alongside children at risk. The course will explore inter-cultural, methodological, ethical, legal, and practical issues related to working with children as well as implementation and follow-up strategies that are needed in ministering to children at risk.

CD 205 (3) CHILD EVANGELISM & DISCIPLESHIP

A gospel message and altar call is not an effective method in creating lifelong disciples and followers of Jesus. The child evangelism & Discipleship class will teach students to effectively walk alongside and train up children as they model the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Biblical & Theological foundations, methods & principals, as well as motivations for gospel ministry will be introduced & explored as students are equipped to effectively communicate their faith with “at risk” children and youth in Uganda and around the world.

CD 206 (2) GIRL CHILD: THE PROBLEM AND POTENTIAL

Wanting a girl but needing a son. It is a problem that many around the world are presented with and as a result, girls are often marginalized and put at risk because of their age and their gender. Throughout Girl Child: The Problem and Potential course, students will gain a deeper understanding of the issues that girls face as well as the potential girls have for being active and thriving members in their communities and churches. Students will develop a biblical theology of gender, explore risk factors specific to girls, look at theological foundations for effective ministry with girls, and learn to utilize best practices when working in ministry with girl children.

CD 207 (2) CHILDREN AND ARMED VIOLENCE

Uganda is one with a war-torn past and unfortunately children were at the heart of much of the fighting and terror. Children trained to kill their own parents, ravage villages, and become child brides are much too common here. Children & Armed Violence will look at the psychological and sociological effects of children in the face of war, and how Christians can engage with and minister to this “at risk” group of children.

CD 208 (2) SEXUALLY EXPLOITED & TRAFFICKED CHILDREN

Modern day slaves...they are present all over the world and are being sold every second of every day. This class will uncover the problem of child trafficking for both sexual and labor exploitation and give students strategies to address, evaluate and formulate solutions to this wide spread problem among children at risk. Students will learn best practices in working with exploited children, along with ways to incorporate awareness of this problem into their own ministry context.

CD 209 (1) CHILD AT RISK CONFERENCE COURSE

The Child at Risk Conference Course is offered only when a Child Related Conference is being held in Uganda. Conference attendance is required of the students and will bring together leaders and senior staff of Christian NGOs and churches working with children at risk in Uganda and around the world. It is an excellent opportunity for networking with people who are working in the field and to learn from their experiences. Students will hear speakers address issues in ministry with children at risk and learn about opportunities available through local NGOs and churches. The purpose of this conference course is to provide students with a disciplined approach to reflection about children at risk issues raised at the conference as they relate to the church's role in kingdom ministry and the student's own personal ministry goals.

CD 210 (2) CHILDREN & FAMILIES: BIRTH FAMILIES, ADOPTION & FOSTER CARE

Not all families are the same. Some may be classified as the "traditional" family, consisting of a mother, father, and children, while others may be single parent homes, adopted families or temporary foster care systems. The Children & Families class will offer an overview of family systems and will explore the theological foundations of family, the impact of child development on family, and the best practices in working with children and youth in a variety of family environments. The class will also explore how family systems can impact ministry and missions.

CD 212 (2) SUNDAY SCHOOL: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT & TEACHING

Sunday school, it is often an area that is under staffed and un-prepared. This course is aimed at tearing down the belief that Sunday school is just babysitting, and is designed to assist students planning in working in a church-based context. It will explore traditional and non-traditional Sunday school approaches, and emphasize the importance of a solid and biblical based curriculum. Students will learn curriculum development, as well as effective communication methods and interactive, child-centered teaching techniques. The selection of topical texts vs. using the bible in context will also be discussed. Students will be challenged to develop their own unique ideas for teaching in a Ugandan context where material resources and funds are often in short supply.

CD 214 (2) LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT & CARE IN CHILDHOOD SETTINGS

It is easy to distinguish between childcare settings with strong leadership verses those with little to no leadership. The care of the children, their level of learning, as well as their well-being are all determined by how they are lead. During this course of study, students will learn foundational principles and skills that are essential in leading and managing children and youth ministries. Structure, vision, strategic planning, administrative skills, fundraising, resource development, program evaluation, recruiting, training and staffing will all be addressed.

IE 101/201(1) CHILD RELATED MINISTRY INTERNSHIP 1 & 2

Ministry internships are designed to give students a hands-on, practical application opportunity as they seek a career in children & youth ministry. Our mission is to produce professional workers who will go out and transform our society for Jesus Christ. By giving them an opportunity to practice what they learn, they are better prepared to handle the challenges and issues they will face in their ministries and workplaces. Emphasis will be placed on child development, children at risk, church and community based ministries to children.

Students are required to do two internships: One in conjunction with Africa Renewal Ministries (ARM) and one in conjunction with one of our other in-country NGO partners.

- **101 (1) In Partnership with ARM**
- **201 (1) In Partnership with one of a ministry partner**