

Ministry to Emerging Generations



Fulfilling the Great Commission in a rapidly changing, post-Christian world requires the church to think seriously about the unique “nation” and culture of 10-25 year olds. This track will help those ministering to the emerging generations - youth pastors, campus or military chaplains, children’s ministers, college/young adult ministers, and pastors - to work through the practical implications

of living obediently to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ in today’s rapidly changing cultural context (including the changes yet to come).

Faculty



Dr. Adonis Vidu, M.Phil., Ph.D., Associate Professor in Theology, came to Gordon-Conwell from his home country of Romania. He has over 10 years teaching experience, at Emmanuel University, the University of Bucharest, Liberty University and Gordon-Conwell. He has authored *Theology After Neo-Pragmatism* and *Postliberal Theological Method: A Critical Study*, as well as over a dozen other articles. Dr. Vidu is the recipient of six scholarships, and is currently doing research on recent atonement theory, postfoundationalism and emergent theology.



Dr. Walt Mueller, M.Div., D.Min., is currently President of the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding. Dr. Mueller has extensive experience in Youth Ministry and Emerging Generations, having previously served as both Youth Pastor and Campus Minister. He is also widely published, having written eight books and hundreds of articles, including *Engaging the Soul of Youth Culture*, *Youth Culture 101* and *The Space Between: A Parent’s Guide to Teenage Development*.



Dr. Duffy (David) Robbins, M.Div., D.Min., is a Professor of Youth Ministry at Easter University and seminar leader for Youth Specialties. He has written numerous books on youth ministry techniques and tools, including *The Ministry of Nurture*, *Youth Ministry that Works*, *This Way To Youth Ministry*, *Everyday Object Lessons* and *Enjoy the Silence*. A thirty-five year veteran of youth ministry, he speaks internationally to teenagers and the people who care about them.

Forming

As a Doctor of Ministry student, you attend three two-week intensive residencies which consist of lectures, case studies, participant reports and individual consultations. The classroom sessions are collegial in style and stress learning within a community context. In preparation for each residency, you read between 2,000 and 3,000 pages of assigned and collateral reading.

Sample Reading

Arnett, Jefferey. *Emerging Adulthood: The Winding Road from the Late Teens through the Twenties*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

Blamires, Harry. *The Post Christian Mind*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Vine Books, 1999.

Borgman, Dean. *Hear My Story: Understanding the Cries of Troubled Youth*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 2003.

_____. *When Kumbaya Is Not Enough: A Practical Theology for Youth Ministry*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1997.

Caputo, John. *What Would Jesus Deconstruct?: The Good News of Postmodernism for the Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007.

Clark, Chap. *Hurt: Inside the World of Today's Teenagers*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2004.

Conde-Frazier, Elizabeth, S. Steve Kang, and Gary A. Parrett. *A Many Colored Kingdom: Multicultural Dynamics for*

Spiritual Formation. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2004.

Garber, Steven. *The Fabric of Faithfulness: Weaving Together Belief and Behavior During the University Years*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

Horton, Michael S. *Where In The World Is The Church?: A Christian View of Culture And Your Role In It*. Phillipsburg, N.J.: P&R Publishing, 2002.

Kinnaman, David. *Unchristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity. . . and Why It Matters*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007.

Larson, Scott. *At Risk: Bringing Hope to Hurting Teens*. Loveland, CO.: Group, 1999.

_____. *Risk in Our Midst*. Loveland, CO.: Group, 2000.

_____. *When Teens Stray*. Vine Books, 2004.

Transforming

Your studies in this track will equip you to embrace the task of “dual listening” as defined by John Stott: “We stand between the Word and the world with consequent obligation to listen to both. We listen to the Word to discover even more of the riches of Christ. We listen to the world in order to discern which of Christ’s riches are needed most and how to present them in their best light.”
(The Contemporary Christian)