What is Childhood and Youth Studies?

The CYS program focuses on often-overlooked child competencies and questions commonly held assumptions about childhood and youth. We offer a deep exploration of the social experiences and formal institutions of growing up in Canada. Increasing the possibility for effective activism by young people and the realization of their participatory rights features prominently in our courses.

Learn more:
kings.uwo.ca/cys
kings@uwo.ca

A PLACE TO BECOME

The CYS program prepares students for a wide variety of graduate and professional schools. Our graduates have gone on to:

EMPLOYMENT
- Child protection organizations
- Child care agencies
- Day care facilities
- Family and youth services
- The legal system
- Non-profit organizations working with children and families
- Public schools and private academies
- Social work

GRAD SCHOOL
- Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in Childhood Studies, Rutgers University-Camden, New Jersey
- Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in Childhood Studies at Linkoping University, Sweden
- MS Childhood and Youth Studies at Brock University
- Masters of Teaching in the Osler Institute for Studies in Education (DGIS) at the University of Toronto
- MPH courses at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom
- Master of Laws at the Faculty of Law at the University of Windsor
- Bachelor of Education - Primary and Junior program in the Faculty of Education at Queen’s University

WELLNESS RESOURCES

- Student Affairs: kings.uwo.ca/wellness
- WELLNESS RESOURCES: kings.uwo.ca/wellness

A PLACE TO BE. A PLACE TO BECOME.

Dynamic streams of courses in law and policy and advocacy and rights
Internationally recognized researchers in the field who are dedicated to student learning
Overseas learning opportunities including exchange seminars in Sweden and England
Certificates in Childhood and the Legal System, and Childhood and Youth Studies
Practical training in advocacy for increasing children’s and youths’ participatory opportunities
Capstone course that provides students with an opportunity to practice and present research
Direct pathway to the Primary/Junior teaching certification program at the Faculty of Education at Western University.
ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Children and Youth Studies offers students an opportunity unlike any other childhood studies program in Canada. Our students combine the study of children everyday lives with the analysis of formal institutions. We take the perspective of young people seriously as we explore their experiences, perspectives, and contributions, in order to prepare students to advocate for young people’s rights and participation in society, as well as preparing them to contribute to social, political and legal discourse on issues that are relevant to children’s lives.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students in CYS come to see children in new ways that emphasize children’s participatory rights and practical competencies. Students enhance their knowledge and build skills in the areas necessary to become public citizens and achieve long-term career success. These include:

- **ENHANCED KNOWLEDGE** of the history and sociology of children’s cultures of public debates and policy making, of law and legal processes, of educational practices, and the development of child protection agency and welfare policies.

- **SKILL IMPROVEMENT AND REFINEMENT** in effectively contributing to a team, understanding diversity and multiple perspectives, participating in reasoned debate, constructing written reports and reviews, practicing research methods, interpreting statistical data, using multimedia formats and scrutinizing a wide range of childhood practices and policies.

THINK, Imagine, Create

FIRST YEAR

- Meet with career services to review options
- Conduct informational interviews
- Participate in local, national and international conferences and workshops
- Check out the Life after King’s series
- Meet with faculty during their office hours
- Take an independent study course
- Attend Orientation Week activities
- Attend the employer information sessions and career fairs
- Consider different ways to build engaged learning and international experiences into your degree
- Meet with alumni for informational interviews
- Explore a variety of childhood and youth topics including children’s rights, education, public policy, law, youth justice, and child protection
- Be a notetaker through the King’s Accessiblity Services
- Make sure you’re up to the Anti-Racism (TRA)
- Engage with our core courses in law and policy (CYS 2212F/G) and advocacy and rights (CYS 2214F/G)
- Attend a graduate school education session
- Sign up for the Life after King’s Mentorship Program
- Attend the employer information sessions and career fairs
- Take an independent study course or a senior project in Childhood
- Complete your certificate in childhood and the justice system or Advocacy and Childhood
- Apply to teachers college under our Education Pathway
- Participate in local, national and global childhood studies program in Canada. Our students combine the study of children everyday lives with the analysis of formal institutions. We take the perspective of young people seriously as we explore their experiences, perspectives, and contributions, in order to prepare students to advocate for young people’s rights and participation in society, as well as preparing them to contribute to social, political and legal discourse on issues that are relevant to children’s lives.

MIDDLE YEARS

- Attend CYS 3501F/G: Childhood and Youth Studies or an introduction to the program
- Meet with faculty during office hours
- Join King’s Academic Mentoring Program (KAMP) to meet upper year student mentors
- Sign up for the Co-Curricular Record
- Review potential career options with your degree
- Meet with faculty to talk about your education path
- Check out the Life after King’s series
- Meet with alumni for informational interviews
- Explore different ways to build engaged learning and international experiences into your degree
- Meet withInside job opportunities offered by Innovation Works
- Meet with career services to review options
- Conduct interviews with organizations you would like to work for
- Complete your certificate in childhood and the justice system or Advocacy and Childhood
- Apply to teachers college under our Education Pathway

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students in CYS come to see children in new ways that emphasize children’s participatory rights and practical competencies. Students enhance their knowledge and build skills in the areas necessary to become public citizens and achieve long-term career success. These include:

- **LEARNING** about children’s everyday lives with the analysis of formal institutions. We take the perspective of young people seriously as we explore their experiences, perspectives, and contributions, in order to prepare students to advocate for young people’s rights and participation in society, as well as preparing them to contribute to social, political and legal discourse on issues that are relevant to children’s lives.

ENGAGE in Local and Global Community

- Attend summer academic exchange program
- Check out children and family programs offered by Campus Ministry
- Attend Orientation Week activities at King’s and at Western
- Visit the Counsellor at King’s to review potential career opportunities with your degree
- Join the CYS Club
- Join the King’s Children Association
- Check out the King’s Children’s Library
- Become a Soph or Off-Campus Don
- Join the CYS Club
- Join the King’s Children Association
- Meet with faculty during office hours
- Meet with faculty to talk about your education path
- Meet with alumni for informational interviews
- Explore different ways to build engaged learning and international experiences into your degree
- Meet withInside job opportunities offered by Innovation Works
- Meet with career services to review options
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- Apply to teachers college under our Education Pathway

ALUMNI PROFILE

Gabrielle Gooch

- **Posting Title:** Research Assistant and Undergraduate Research Assistant
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Arts - Honours Specialization in Childhood and Social Institutions
- **Year as Student:** 2018
- **Year as Alumni:** 2021
- **Current Job:** Research Assistant and Undergraduate Research Assistant

**Bio:**

My studies at King’s allowed me to challenge myself, widen my understanding of children and their place in society and explore my own potential.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR ALUMNI

kings.uwo.ca/alumni/alumni-profiles/