WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH STUDIES (CYS) DEGREE?

The Childhood and Youth Studies program prepares students for careers in related professions – law, social work, health care, education – or to seek advanced training in the field of childhood research. Our students have gone on to work in the non-profit sector or in public institutions, in social policy or social work, or have founded their own private businesses and service organizations. Some students become professionals, some researchers, others activists and reformers. In all cases, the CYS program provides the foundation for students to recognize their aspirations and the courage to pursue their dreams.

LEARNING RESOURCES

- King's University College Career Connect
  www.kings.uwo.ca/career-connect
- King's University College Job Board
  www.kingsjobboard.ca/jobs
- King's University College Alumni Services
  www.kings.uwo.ca/alumni
- Western University Student Success: Find Work
  success.uwo.ca/careers
- Pillar Non Profit for London Region Opportunities
  www.pillarnonprofit.ca/jobs

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Dynamic streams of learning 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 Justice System, and Advocacy and Childhood
- 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
- Education pathway with an opportunity for guaranteed admission to the Primary/Junior teaching certification program at the Faculty of Education, at Western University
- 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
  - MA Arts and Youth Studies at Brock University
  - MA in Teaching in the Global Institute for Studies in Education (GISE) at the University of Toronto
  - MPhil courses at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom
  - Master of Laws to the Faculty of Law at the University of Windsor
  - Master in Social Work at the University of Toronto
  - Bachelor of Education – Primary and Junior program in the Faculty of Education at Western University

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH STUDIES PROGRAM

@kings.uwo.ca/cys

WELLNESS RESOURCES

- Student Affairs
  www.kings.uwo.ca/student-affairs
- Wellness
  www.kings.uwo.ca/wellness

LEARN MORE ABOUT KINGS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

@KingsAtWestern

Childhood and Youth Studies (CYS)

Experience Guide

What is Childhood and Youth Studies?
The CYS program focuses on often-overlooked child competencies, with questions about our understandings of childhood, and an exploration of the changing status of children and childhood in Canada and internationally. We take a critical view of the social institutions around childhood, such as the home, school, and the legal system. Issues of children as advocates, children’s rights and children’s agency feature prominently in our courses.

Learn more:

kings.uwo.ca/cys
kings@uwo.ca
@KingsAtWestern

kings.uwo.ca/cys
**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Students in CYS come to see children in new ways that encourage participatory rights and practical competencies. Students enhance their knowledge and build skills in the areas necessary to become public citizens and to pursue 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 critically contributing to debates, understanding diversity and multiple perspectives, participating in research, constructing written reports and reviews, practicing research methods, interpreting statistical data, using multi-media formats and scrutinizing a wide range of childhood practices and policies.

**THE CYS PROGRAM**

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

**THE PROGRAM**

Children and Youth Studies offers a curriculum that is relevant to children's lives.

**OUTCOMES:**

- **Students who:**
  - are interested in children, youth, and political issues;
  - wish to pursue careers working with families, children, and young people;
  - wish to prepare themselves for professional schools such as law, education, social work, etc.;
  - wish to gain the academic skills necessary to enter graduate programs in law;
- **SKILLS:**
  - research methods,
  - critical analysis of formal institutions,
  - understanding diversity and multiple perspectives,
  - reasoned debate,
  - constructing written reports and reviews,
  - analyzing statistical data,
  - using multi-media formats.

**THE CYS PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WHO:**

- Are interested in children, youth, and political relations.
- Would like to pursue careers working with families, children, and young people.
- Are preparing themselves for professional schools such as law, education, social work, etc.
- Would like to gain the academic skills necessary to enter graduate programs in law.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CYS PROGRAM**

- Meet regularly with the Academic Dean’s Office to ensure you are on track towards your degree requirements.
- Meet with faculty during office hours.
- Check out programs offered by Student Affairs.
- Continuously review your financial aid.
- Investigate opportunities to work on or off campus throughout your degree.
- Volunteer and support your community at King's.
- Use the library resources offered by the Cardinal Carter Library.
- Check out Career Connect regularly.

**ALUMNI PROFILE**

Gabrielle Gooch

Graduation Year: 2021

**OBSERVATIONS**

I completed my Bachelor of Arts degree with Honours Specialization in Childhood and Social Studies and King's Scholar at King's College in 2021. I have been researching Vote 16 and children's political participation while I apply to graduate schools in Canada and Oxford, UK, with an ambition to complete a PhD one day.

**MY STUDY AT KING’S**

I believe that King’s has encouraged 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/