



**Undergraduate Certificate in Youth Studies  
at Hostos Community College of the City University of New York**

Offered through partnership with  
John F. Kennedy, Jr. Institute, the Center for After-School Excellence,  
NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, and Wallace Foundation

**SPRING 2009**

APPLICATION

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is the Youth Studies Certificate (YSC) Program?**

The YSC program is a sequence of five college courses: one non-credit preparatory bridge course and four 3-credit courses in the field of youth development. All five courses link theory with practice by drawing on the student's own work experience and a range of interdisciplinary academic works in the fields of youth work, adolescent development, cultural issues, group dynamics, leadership development, communication skills, etc.

Graduates of YSC program can:

Climb the career ladder by receiving better salaries, pay increases, promotional opportunities, and other career incentives to workers who have the Certificate and/or college experience.

Improve their job performance by gaining a deeper understanding of the psychological, emotional, social, and cultural issues affecting the young people with whom they work. They learn how to plan educational and recreational activities, foster youth empowerment, and manage conflict and crisis.

Move closer to completing a degree by using the credits they earn in the Certificate Program towards a college degree either now or in the future.

### **How much does the YSC cost?**

If you meet the qualifications and are recommended by your employer, **Hostos will pay your tuition and fees.** However, there is a one-time application fee of \$25, and students are responsible for their books each semester. Students are also required to apply for funds through EIP (Educational Incentive Program) with the assistance of the Center for After-School Excellence.

### **Is the Youth Studies Certificate a good fit for me?**

This sequence of courses is intended as an introduction to college. They are meant to allow individuals who have never been to college or have limited college experience to assess whether they would like to pursue a college degree. Some individuals may also attend the Certificate for professional development in their field. However, if you have lots of college credits already or are enrolled in school now, this may not be the right program for you. Do you:

- Have a high school diploma (or your GED)?
- Work directly with youth or adolescents?
- Work as an employee at a youth-serving nonprofit or public agency?
- Live as a resident in New York State?
- Have availability to take courses at Hostos on Saturdays?
- Want to develop skills and confidence as a youth development worker?

If so, the Youth Studies Certificate can help you achieve your goals.

### **How often do classes meet, and when would I complete the YSC?**

Classes meet once per week for 15 weeks, based on the CUNY calendar for that semester. Two excused absences per semester are acceptable. Students will complete the Bridge in spring 2009: classes run from March 28 to June 6, 2009. Students who complete the Bridge successfully will have the opportunity to take two three-credit courses in both fall 2009 and spring 2010. Most students will be able to complete the Youth Studies Certificate by June 2010. Classes are held at Hostos Community College in the Bronx on Saturdays.

## YOUTH STUDIES CERTIFICATE CURRICULUM

Courses	Credits
<p><b>College Bridge: Reading, Writing, and Critical Thinking</b></p> <p>This 45-hour youth development theme-based course is designed to help students develop, sharpen and improve their reading, writing, and critical analyzing skills in preparation for college. Students must successfully complete the Bridge before moving on to credited coursework.</p>	0
<p><b>EDU 102 Introduction to Youth Studies</b></p> <p>This course provides an overview of the Youth Development movement which includes principles, theory and anthology analysis. It is an introduction to the transitional experience of adolescence through adulthood. This encompasses how youth behave, learn, and spend their free time. The overview also includes the role of youth in historical change, diverse cultural practices, and community resources for youth and expression throughout the 20th Century.</p>	3
<p><b>EDU 117 Adolescent Development</b></p> <p>This course focuses on students' development (cognitive, affective and physical), the factors and processes that influence that development, and how teachers can help students grow and develop. The role of culture, ethnicity, race, gender, and social class will be examined, as well as its influence on biological and psychological processes. Students in this class will learn to analyze classroom situations using various theoretical perspectives, to synthesize their analyses, and to create classroom strategies which facilitate growth and achievement.</p>	3
<p><b>EDU 160 After-School Programs</b></p> <p>This course introduces students to the growing field of after-school. It will provide students with an understanding of how politics, government, and society have impacted the after-school profession. Students will also become familiar with the components and resources needed to implement, manage, and evaluate after-school programs serving diverse communities. Students will also conduct 15 hours of observations in an after-school program.</p>	3
<p><b>EDU 114 Field Experience in Youth Studies</b></p> <p>The student will observe and participate in educational programs in schools, after-school programs, YMCAs, and other youth serving agencies for a minimum of 8 hours per week for 120 hours. The student will also engage in bi-weekly discussions with the instructor and complete tasks as assigned. The class will meet for ten 1-hour and 15-minute sessions. Some of the activities will include: journal activities, environmental assessments, focus groups, implementation of lessons. Overall the execution of these activities will support the student in meeting the eight youth worker core competencies, required by the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD).</p>	3
<p><b>Total Credits</b></p>	<b>12</b>

DEAR APPLICANT:

Thank you for your interest in the Youth Studies Certificate (YSC). The YSC is a customized 5-course college training program at Hostos Community College. You will begin with a non-credit preparatory Bridge course, and if you complete this course successfully, you will have the opportunity to move through a series of four college courses in the field of Youth Studies. The YSC is your first step to earning a degree at CUNY. We hope that with the completion of the 5 courses, you will maintain your enrollment at CUNY and work to earn either an Associate or Bachelor's degree.

**A COMPLETE APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:**

- A completed YSC application form, including
  - Personal Statement
  - Partnership Agreement Form
- A resume
- Sealed envelope with your Recommendation Form
- A copy of your GED with scores or your high school diploma
- Proof of Residency in New York State (*NYS Driver's License, Utility Bill, Tax Return*)
- \$25.00 money order made out to "Hostos Community College" for the application fee

**APPLICATION PRIORITY DEADLINE: MARCH 13, 2009**

**APPLICANTS SHOULD MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:**

JENNIFER JARAMILLO  
HOSTOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
450 GRAND CONCOURSE, ROOM C491  
BRONX, NY 10451

**ALL INQUIRIES AND QUESTIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:**

CLAUDE ASKA  
212.652.2046  
CLAUDE.ASKA@MAIL.CUNY.EDU



**YOUTH STUDIES CERTIFICATE  
APPLICANT INFORMATION**

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN INK

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent home address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt # \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: Male/ Female *(please circle selection)*

Ethnic Identity (optional): *(check all that apply)*

- Black/African American (Non-Hispanic)
- Hispanic/Latino
- White/Caucasian (Non-Hispanic)
- Native American or Alaskan Native
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

County of Residence: *(check one)*

Bronx \_\_\_\_\_ Kings (Brooklyn & Queens) \_\_\_\_\_ NYC (Manhattan) \_\_\_\_\_ Richmond (S.I.) \_\_\_\_\_

Nassau \_\_\_\_\_ Suffolk \_\_\_\_\_ Westchester \_\_\_\_\_ Rockland \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESENT EMPLOYMENT**

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Work E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month/Year

Description of Duties: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Facility Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Name & Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT**

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Employment From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month/Year Month/Year

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

Do you have a High School Diploma? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, year received? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a GED? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, year received? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list in chronological order any training, colleges you attended or are currently attending:

Dates	College/Institution	Degree Granted (Or expected)	Academic Major	Total Credits Earned (if any)

Please list any academic or professional honors you have received.

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**EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Would you like to continue in college beyond this Certificate?    Yes \_\_\_\_\_                      No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever taken the City University of New York (CUNY) Proficiency Exam (FSAT or ACT test)?  
 Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_                      If yes, what month and year? \_\_\_\_\_

If you took the Proficiency Exam, did you pass?    Reading \_\_\_\_\_    Writing \_\_\_\_\_                      Math \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL STATEMENT**

On a separate sheet of paper, in no more than 750 words, prepare a statement that answers the following questions:

1. Please tell us about your academic and career goals.
2. Please tell us about your future plans for work in the youth field.
3. Describe a relationship with a youth in which you served in a supportive professional role.

I CERTIFY THAT I have read and understood all instructions accompanying and have answered all questions truthfully and to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation or omission may be cause for denying admission or permission to register. I also agree that I will work with the Center for After-School Excellence to apply for EIP funding to the extent that I qualify.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Undergraduate Certificate in Youth Studies

### Recommendation Form

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TO THE APPLICANT:

Complete the information below (please print or type) and give it to your **Executive Director, current supervisor, or other professional at your agency**. They should place this form in a sealed envelope and return it to you, so you can attach it to your application.

NAME OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF RECOMMENDER \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY/TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

TO THE RECOMMENDER:

The above named person is applying for admissions and a scholarship for the Undergraduate Certificate in Youth Studies at Hostos Community College. We find that candid comments from those who can evaluate the applicant's performance and motivation through direct experience are extremely valuable, and we appreciate the time you are taking to provide this information. Your input will help us to determine this individual's ability to contribute to the field of youth studies.

Please complete this form and enclose it in an envelope. We ask that you seal the envelope and sign across the envelope seal to ensure confidentiality. Return the sealed envelope to the applicant, who will submit it unopened to Hostos.

I acknowledge that the above named individual has:

- Had satisfactory employment at our agency for at least one year.
- Not had satisfactory employment at our agency for at least one year.

Please use this scale to rate this applicant in relation to his or her peers	Exceptional	Outstanding	Good	Average	Poor	Unable to Judge
Analytical ability						
Oral communication skills						
Written communication skills						
Initiative						
Leadership						
Maturity						
Organizational ability						

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**Youth Studies Certificate Partnership Agreement Form**

Name of Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\* This will be the person in your agency who will have ongoing communication with Hostos.

**Staff Nominated for Program:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_



**This agency agrees to support our staff member(s) who are enrolled in the Youth Studies Certificate (YSC) in the following ways: (this section must be completed)**

\_\_\_ Provide monetary bonus upon completion of YSC

\_\_\_ Provide a raise upon completion of YSC

\_\_\_ Provide a promotion upon completion of YSC

\_\_\_ Provide release time to facilitate participation in YSC

\_\_\_ Pay for required books in YSC courses

\_\_\_ Other (ie: conferences, inter-agency recognition, mentoring, change of job title)

(Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include this completed form in your application.