

**Fundamental Information Regarding the
Youth Development Leadership (YDL) Specialization**
Department of 4-H Youth Development
North Carolina State University
(July 2005)

- The Youth Development Leadership (YDL) specialization is a relatively new collaboration between the Departments of 4-H Youth Development (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences) and Curriculum and Instruction (“ECI” – College of Education); thus, all YDL courses are listed currently under ECI 509: “Special Topics in Curriculum and Instruction.”
- The YDL specialization is not a graduate major; it is a concentration of courses that may be considered a minor, cognate or concentration for any other NCSU graduate degree program.
- An interested student should contact Dr. R. Dale Safrit before applying (dale_safrit@ncsu.edu, 919-513-0306). Dr. Safrit will review the YDL program holistically with the student and advise her/him on how to proceed. Unfortunately, as a new program still being approved at the University level, there is no current web presence.
- YDL courses are open to advanced undergraduate students and all graduate students
- All YDL courses originate on the campus of NC State University (Butler Building Distance Education Classroom) and are offered via NC REN distance education synchronous video downlink sites at UNC-Asheville; Fletcher Research & Extension Center, Hendersonville; Appalachian State University, Boone; Winston-Salem State University; Elizabeth City State University; Vernon James Research and Extension Center, Plymouth; East Carolina University Medical School; CMAST Center, Carteret County; Fayetteville State University; and UNC- Pembroke
- A student registers for YDL courses using TRACS, not via the McKimmon Center Office for Distance Education (NCSU considers “distance education” courses as entirely web-based courses, not video-linked courses.)
- According to the most recent NCSU Graduate School policies, a PBS (Post Baccalaureate Student) may transfer in “no more than one-half of their total program hours.” Thus, for most MS students, that means 18 hours of coursework.
- The YDL specialization is administered as a part of the Curriculum and Instruction Generalist Master’s Program.
- A student applies on-line directly to the NCSU Graduate School. The complete application packet includes:
 - The official NCSU Graduate School Application;
 - The application fee;
 - Three (3) letters of reference attesting to the applicant’s academic and scholarly abilities and potential as a graduate student; and
 - Either the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) or Miller Aptitude Test (MAT) scores.
- The completed application packet is assembled by the ECI Graduate Program secretary and forwarded to Dr. Safrit for review and recommendation by 4-H Youth Development graduate faculty.