At the University of Victoria’s School of Child & Youth Care, we offer you highly respected, successful and flexible programs to help you pursue your career in this challenging and satisfying profession. We have more than 30 years of experience in the effective design and delivery of practice-based education. We offer dynamic learning opportunities that help students apply what they learn in the classroom to the outside world.

Our faculty bring their innovative research into an engaging classroom setting that encourages creative problem solving and original thought.

The school has a well-established reputation for academic excellence, for leadership in distance education, and for our dedicated faculty, who are firmly grounded in research and practice. We offer comprehensive yet flexible programs geared to meeting your needs. You may attend classes on campus or participate in our community of distance learners.

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Make a difference.

Bachelor of Child & Youth Care
MA in Child & Youth Care
PhD in Child & Youth Care
BCYC Program

Child and Youth Care Practitioners attend to the social and emotional needs of children, youth and families. They work directly with clients in a wide variety of settings. Students may participate in research, program design and policy development. Graduates with a BCYC have established successful careers in a broad range of settings:

- child protection
- foster care support
- youth justice
- residential care
- child & youth mental health
- recreation & leadership
- child welfare
- early years
- school-based
- disabled/special needs
- substance use

Program of Study

We deliver our degree program on-campus and by distance delivery. We recognize credits for Human Service certificates and diplomas from accredited institutions.

Our on-campus labs, and video-based distance labs allow you to develop valuable skills. Learning does not stop at the doors of the classroom. Your education will take you into the community through your practicum placement(s), where you will have the opportunity to further develop your skills within practice settings.

Our on or off-campus courses are designed to bring a full educational experience to you. In our distance stream, all but one 10 day seminar may be completed by distance.

We admit students to the degree program on an annual basis for September entry. Students may take our courses before being admitted to the degree program.

MA Program

The MA program is designed to prepare CYC practitioners for leadership roles in advanced clinical practice, supervision, staff training and other senior support positions in services for children, youth and their families through an applied focus on:

- advanced theory and practice
- training and supervision skills
- program planning & community development
- related service support roles
- applied research skills

MA students enjoy opportunities to work on research projects with internationally recognized academics.

MA graduates are eligible for registration in the BC Association of Clinical Counsellors.

Program of Study

The program consists of 10 courses: 5 core courses, a supervised practicum, 4 electives, and either a research thesis or an applied research project.

We have a flexible program delivery where students can combine face-to-face coursework with distributed learning options and by taking electives at other institutions through the Western Dean’s agreement. Practica and theses can also be done in the student’s home community. Students can register for full or part time studies. Students select electives and a practicum that furthers their own area of interest and study.

We admit students on an annual basis for September entry, with limited enrolment.

PhD Program

The PhD program focuses on preparing students for key leadership roles at provincial, national, and international levels in the broad field of CYC.

Through research and knowledge, and with a particular emphasis on the scholarship of practice, graduates will influence teaching, research, policy, practice, program development, and evaluation.

Program of Study

The program consists of a total of 30 units, a minimum of 7.5 units of core courses; with additional course work if necessary as determined by the supervisory committee; remaining units will consist of at least 3 units of elective courses and a dissertation, normally 16.5 units. The courses address theoretical and practical foundations for working within and across cultures.

PhD students will complete 2 candidacy papers 3 units: one focused on a substantive area of interest including related theories; one on methodology related to an area and topic of interest. Both are defended in an oral examination.

The dissertation will embody original work and constitute a significant contribution to knowledge in the chosen field of study.

We admit students every even numbered year for September entry, with limited enrolment.

Visit our website for detailed information on applying to our programs.

www.cyc.uvic.ca