This weeklong course is designed for pastors, seminarians, lay leaders, and youth ministers. We will gather for evening fellowship dinners, lectures, and workshop breakouts to name, explore, and discuss concrete ways to respond to adversities youth face in order to nurture the foundations of joyful, flourishing lives. Yale Divinity School's standard charge for a Summer Study course is $400. The Youth Ministry Initiative is providing each registrant for this program a $350 scholarship, reducing the tuition for each registrant to $50 for the entire weeklong program.

**INTRODUCTION**

**COURSE SUMMARY**

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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Social Media: What You Need to Know (part one): Addressing the Negative Effects of Social Media with Youth Struggling with Bullying, Marginalization, Anxiety and Low Self-Esteem</th>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Social Media: What You Need to Know (part two): Using the Positive Potential of Social Media to Engage and Build Community with Youth Struggling with Isolation and Alienation</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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**RSVP:**

SUMMERSTUDY.YALE.EDU/YMI
Social Media: What You Need to Know (part one)
Like all other great innovations, current forms of social media have costs. We will look at reasons social media use contributes to bullying, low self-esteem, and anxiety and discuss practical ways to respond to these challenges. This night is dedicated to the darker side of social media.

Social Media: What You Need to Know (part two)
Like all other great innovations, current forms of social media have benefits. Today’s youth express that they are lonely, excluded, and unheard. We will discuss imaginative (and easy) ways to use social media to engage, listen to and build community with youth. This night is dedicated to the constructive opportunities social media affords.

Burnout in the Gap: Youth Ministry in the Midst of Adversity
In the midst of constant demands on one’s time and emotional energy, those in ministry often find themselves on a pathway to burnout. How do those who work with youth create a burnout-free zone? During this session, we will explore some of the common warning signs of burnout. We will also discuss finding God in the midst of everyday, ordinary tasks and how to integrate spiritual disciplines and practices of self-care into a practical “rule of life.” Through experiential activities, we will name, lament, and address the stressors that you and your youth face whether personal, spiritual, communal, ecclesial, or systemic.

Youth on Lockdown: Ministry to Youth on the Pipeline to Prison
The lives of our young people are constantly being recruited into identities that work against their flourishing. This session examines the dynamics that lead youth on a pathway to prison. We will briefly address the ways poverty, school discipline, addiction, and abuse contribute to entry into the pipeline to prison. Those who work with youth can serve as “disruptors” along the path. Together, we will begin to develop a “toolbox” for ministering to youth who are susceptible to incarceration.

Trauma-Informed Expressive Arts: Using Art to Heal the Effects of Trauma
Trauma poses a threat to joy and flourishing. Youth ministers are critical sources of support for youth navigating trauma. During this session, we will examine recent research that provides evidence on why art is a promising intervention to help navigate the effects of trauma. We will then participate in concrete artistic activities that identify God as artist while also “trying out” activities we might use with our youth. Ultimately, this session will demonstrate the healing power of art.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

SARAH FARMER
Sarah Farmer is on the faculty of Yale Divinity School as an Associate Research Scholar at the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. Her emphasis is on Joy and Adolescent Faith and Flourishing. She is finishing her Ph.D. in Religion at Emory University, having earned her M.Div. there from the Candler School of Theology 2008. Her dissertation is entitled, “Hope in Confinement: Moving toward a Pedagogy of Restorative Hope.” She has worked with youth in a number of contexts, including as an executive staff member at Youth Hope-Builders Academy in Atlanta, GA and as co-director of the Youth Arts Peace Camp in Chester, PA. Farmer has also served as the co-director of a Certificate of Theological Studies Program in a state prison during her time in Atlanta.

ANGELA GORRELL
Angela Gorrell is on the faculty of Yale Divinity School as an Associate Research Scholar at the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. Her emphasis is on Evaluation, Field Development and Public Engagement. She is finishing her Ph.D. in Practical Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary, having earned her M.Div. there in 2010. She also has a B.A. in Youth Ministry. Her dissertation is entitled, “Social Media, Churches, and Christian formation.” Angela specializes in helping organizations use new forms of media and technology for educational and relational purposes. She is also an ordained pastor in the Mennonite Church USA and has 14 years of ministry experience at churches and parachurch organizations. Twitter: @angelagorrell

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