Empower the next generation of change makers. Volunteers work with youth in communities on projects that promote engagement and active citizenship, including gender awareness, employability, health and HIV/AIDS education, environmental awareness, sporting programs, and info technology.

If you choose Youth in Development, take three courses from one of the following areas:

- Family, Youth and Community Services
- Sociology
- Psychology
- Counseling

And build 50 hours of related field experience through an activity such as:

- Teaching or counseling in at-risk youth programs
  - Pace Center for Girls
  - Balance 180
- Activities that involve planning, organizing, assessing community needs, counseling, and leadership, in areas such as education, youth development, health and HIV/AIDS, the environment, and/or business
- Participate in a student organization like Gator Pals, Children Beyond our Borders/Children within our Borders, TOPsoccer, or Camp Kesem.
- Join MentorUF through the Center for Leadership and Service. There are 4 different programs depending on the age range you’d like to work with: After school Gators, Motiv8, Gator Teens Mentor, and Project Mascot.
- Get involved in the County Extension office 4-H program or the CDS Family and Behavioral Health Services to provide programming for and mentor youth.

*Special note: Given the lower number of Youth Development specific postings, a good strategy is to gain experience with an at risk youth population in a teaching/tutoring capacity or as a health educator. This will aid in your competitiveness for Youth Development positions, but will open up more potential options for you through the Education and Health postings as well.