

Career Readiness Program FAQ

What is the Career Readiness Program?

Young Harris is integrating an innovative and unique program designed to prepare students for robust and successful careers. Our partner in this endeavor, Meridian Resources, Inc., is an established career management firm. Meridian has developed a comprehensive Career Readiness program exclusively for our college that will position students to not only compete well for jobs but also excel throughout their careers. The Career Readiness program is comprised of four modules completed over the course of eight semesters of coursework integrated into the college experience.

Who is Meridian Resources?

Meridian Resources is a national organization based in the Carolinas with over 19 years of experience supporting corporate clients such as Duke Energy, Hanes Brands, Michelin, and Dow Jones. More relevantly, they conduct significant work supporting undergraduate and graduate students with career and job search preparation for higher educational institutions such as Wake Forest, North Carolina State, Temple, and many others. Through their academic and corporate engagements, the Meridian team has coached thousands of individuals to help them engage in a strategic job search and manage their careers. Their motto, "Building Careers and Transforming Lives" accurately defines the level of professionalism, care, and support they bring to each individual with whom they work and they will bring this to Young Harris. To learn more about Meridian Resources, visit www.meridianresourcesinc.com.

What are the components of the Career Readiness Program?

Modules included in the Career Readiness Program are **Emotional Agility**: develop self-awareness and learn self-regulation and stress management; **Conversational Agility**: understand how to navigate professional social structures with effective communications; **Leadership Agility**: learn and develop essential skills to lead self and others; and **Career Agility**: gain life-long resilience and agility to thrive in a purpose-driven career.

How is the program delivered?

The program is conveniently delivered in a virtual format. The experience is organized in a self-directed, yet structured format that helps the student pace through the learning.

eLearning Platform

Proprietary content delivered through an eLearning platform in micro-content format facilitates quick, convenient, and topic-centered access to resources including videos, quizzes, and exercises. A wide array of topics will be available and will align with the above Learning Categories. Students self-direct through the platform (web-based and app) using a personal login. Progress through content is visible by students and a gamification experience allows a comparison to other students. Utilization reports are available for administration. **ACCESSIBILITY**: The accessible platform supports JAWS and NV access screen readers. Downloadable worksheets are specifically designed for accessibility.

Live Instructor-Led Webinars / Podcasts

Interactive webinars and podcasts offer students an avenue for deeper learning of specific course content through virtual sessions led by subject matter experts. Podcast recordings are available on-demand.

Integrated Services

Access to support services that enhance the program experience are offered to students. Meridian continually sources the best services available and negotiates terms with external vendors. Examples of services in this category include assessments, resume review, and interview practice.

Group Coaching

Group coaching sessions are offered based on student need/interest and are facilitated by Meridian Coaches. Sessions focus on individual exploration and personal application of specific course topics. Each session is limited to a maximum number of attendees to permit engagement and group discussion.

Resume & LinkedIn Review

Students engaged in *Module 3-Leadership Agility* and *Module 4-Career Agility* may submit a resume for review by Meridian's Certified Resume Writing team. Meridian also offers students the opportunity to submit a request for a LinkedIn profile review upon completion of the LinkedIn training segment.

Mock Interview Feedback

Students engaged in *Module 3-Leadership Agility* and *Module 4-Career Agility* have access to an Interview Training and Simulation platform. Students set up a customized interview which is recorded. The video recording may be submitted for review and feedback by a Meridian Coach.

Is individualized coaching available?

Access to Meridian's professional services is an important component of the Career Readiness program. Group coaching sessions will be scheduled based on student need/interest. Students may submit resumes or interview recordings for review. Should a student have a unique need, accommodation and support will be provided through YHC Student Development Services or the Meridian Coaching team.

How much time will be required for students to participate?

The program has been carefully designed to provide students with maximum learning experiences in a format that can be easily combined with a full-time academic schedule. Commitment to the program averages 30 minutes to 1 hour per week based on the level of student interest and activity. Deliverables are strategically rolled out within each semester to keep students on track with a manageable experience.

How does a student sign up?

Students are automatically enrolled each fall semester in the module designed for their class year.

What if I have additional questions?

Meridian welcomes your questions. Please email Melvin Scales, EVP, University Solutions at [mscales@meridianresourcesinc.com](mailto:m scales@meridianresourcesinc.com).