EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
THEATRE
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Theatre
FA / THEA 4021 3.0 SECTION M
ACTING VI
FALL 2018 / WINTER 2019

Last Modified Date: 11/15/2018

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Examines acting technique. Intensive application and further development of the work begun in FA/THEA 4020 3.0. Prerequisites: Grade of B or better in FA/THEA 4020 3.0 or permission of the department. Corequisites: FA/THEA 4011 3.0 and FA/THEA 4071 3.0.

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INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>La Selva, Anita</td>
<td>Sec. M / STDO / W</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, MEDIA, PERFORMANCE & DESIGN
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

COURSE OUTLINE

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**Course:** THEA 4021 3.0 Acting VI

**Term:** Winter 2019

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:**

Pre-requisites: Grade B or better in THEA 3021 3.0 and permission of the Department

Co-requisites: THEA 4010 3.0 and THEA 4030 3

**Course Director:**

Anita La Selva
CFT 325
416-992-0396
anitalaselva@rogers.com
Course Consultation Hours: by appointment

**Time and Location:**
Tuesdays 11:00am-1:00pm and 2:00pm-5:00pm CFT 142
Thursdays 9:00am-1:00pm and 2:00pm-5:00pm CFT 142

**Required Reading**
New York, New York: Bantam Dell, 2005

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**CLASS SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)**

*THEA 4021 3.0 CLASS SCHEDULE – Winter 2019*

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**WEEK ONE**

Jan 3
“You” on camera diagnostics
Swing and interior monologue
Being in Reactive, States of Being

**WEEK TWO**

Jan 8
Feedback
Short scenes

Jan 10
Scene One - TV Drama

**WEEK THREE**

Jan 15
Scene One

Jan 17
Scene One

**WEEK FOUR**

Jan 22
Scene Two - Comedy

Jan 24
Scene Two - Comedy

**WEEK FIVE**

Jan 29
Scene Two - Comedy

Jan 31
Scene Three - Film

**WEEK SIX**
Feb 5  Scene Three - Film

Feb 7  Scene Three - Film

WEEK SEVEN

Feb 12  Short monologues

Feb 14  Commercials and Auditions

What the camera sees (hits), Cypher qualities

Learning Outcomes

THEA 4021 3.0 Acting VI offers students an in-depth exploration of the tools needed to act in film or television, in addition to essential career skills for the professional actor. Script breakdowns and acting techniques will build on and further develop the work begun in the second and third years of the Acting Conservatory.

By the end of this course, students will:
- Apply advanced acting techniques to camera work
- Enhance their analytical skills preparing performance work
- Articulate the processes of acting techniques in classroom discussion and presentations
- Offer and receive critical feedback about their own work and that of their classmates
- Develop confidence in their ability to promote themselves in audition circumstances

Deepen their understanding of the acting process through class performances and On Camera analysis.

The class will rehearse and present assigned on camera scenes including audition technique for on camera work and commercials. In-class analysis will assist students in evaluating and executing what there is to play in a script, and in personalizing the material. Active participation and detailed preparation is an integral component of this curriculum.

Graded Assessment

Short Scenes 10%
Reactive Scenes 10%
Scene One TV Drama 15%
Scene Two TV Comedy 15%
Scene Three Film 15%
Monologue 15%
*Participation, Preparation, Professionalism** 10%
Written reflection on On Camera work- two pages. Due Final Class 10%
TOTAL 100%

*Interest, commitment, effort; risk-taking, initiative; application of acting fundamentals in class exercises and in discussion; growth

** Showing an understanding and of preparedness for the business of acting as regards to time keeping, line learning, preparation for auditions and scenes etc.
Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 9, 2018
Last date to drop a winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: March 8, 2019
Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: February 8, 2019

Students will receive graded feedback on work totalling at least 15% of the course grade before the deadline for withdrawing from the course so they can make an informed decision on whether to withdraw.

If you have any unanswered questions or are unsure of your marks/progress during the course, please make an appointment with the course director. The responsibility is yours.

Note: Restrictions apply to grade reappraisal. See applicable information in the 2015/16 York University Undergraduate Calendar at http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2015-2016/faculty_rules/FA/grading.htm.

*Important: the live performance component of any course is excluded from grade reappraisal.*

There will be optional conferences with faculty from 10:00-12:30 on Wednesday, April 17 2019.

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**Minimum Grade Policy for Acting Area Students:**

Students in the Acting Conservatory must maintain a “B” or higher in each course of Voice, Movement and Acting classes each term in order to be allowed to advance to the next term.

Anyone leaving the Acting Area for a period of one year or more, for whatever reason, even if in good academic standing, will be expected to re-audition to re-enter the Area unless a statement to the contrary has been received in writing from the Area at the time of withdrawal.

**Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests Grading:**

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ - 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2015-2016/academic/grades/.

**Assignment Submission:** Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, written assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment, as indicated in the class schedule. If hardcopy assignments are required, emailed submissions are not permitted; if email or online submissions are required, hardcopy will not be accepted.

**Late Submission Policy:**

Late submissions will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be given for the written assignment.

Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the course director but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter).

**Attendance Policy:**

**Absent and Late Penalty:** Students are reminded that Department of Theatre rules require attendance at all classes, rehearsals and performances. There is no differentiation between excused and unexcused absences—an absence is an absence and will affect your chances of success in this course.

All classes, rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Failure to attend all classes, rehearsals and performances will result in either academic penalty or a request that the student withdraw from the class or production. Any student in the Acting Area who is absent or late without prior arrangement with the course director or production director for an excused absence or late (at the course director or production director’s discretion) may have 2% deducted from their final grade for each unexcused absence or lateness.

If a student is going to miss a class, rehearsal or performance due to illness, or be considerably late, the student must contact the course director or production director prior to the beginning of that class, rehearsal or performance. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence or lateness.
It is the responsibility of each student to follow up on any unexcused absence in person with the course director or production director. If a student is late for class, it is his or her responsibility to follow up on that lateness with the course director in person on the class break or after class.

Part-time jobs or outside employment in theatre-related endeavors do not count as excused absences for Acting Conservatory classes, rehearsals or performances.

Exceptions to the absence and/or lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the course director or production director but will require supporting documentation (e.g. a doctor’s letter).

Notwithstanding conflicts with rehearsals/performances of the production in which they are engaged, all students must attend all studio shows and Theatre@York productions. Failure to do may result in a 2% reduction of the final grade in your Acting class.

**Class Presentations:** Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. In the discipline of acting for the stage, absences have a profound effect on scene partners and class members. Accordingly, class presentations for this course must be performed on the due dates specified for the assignment, as indicated in the class schedule.

**Missed Class Presentation Penalty:** Missed class presentations on the due date will be penalized with a grade of zero for the absent student. Exceptions to the missed class presentation penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the course director but will require supporting documentation (e.g. a doctor’s letter). The course director will attempt to reschedule the missed class presentation to facilitate scene partners affected by an excused absence. Any student with an unexcused absence necessitating a rescheduled presentation will continue to receive a grade of zero for the presentation in question. Assigning an alternate scene partner may be implemented. Due to the collaborative nature of this studio course, make-up assignments will not be scheduled.

**Dress Requirement:**
Comfortable clothing suitable for active movement. No jewelry. Bare feet. Hair tied back from face.

**Note Regarding Piercings:**
It has been our experience that some students join the program with various piercings. Some piercings can have a direct and negative affect on your training. Tongue and lip piercings in particular have the potential to affect your voice and speech considerably. As the Acting Conservatory is designed to assist you to become as proficient and flexible as possible, we require you to remove such piercings for class. We understand the importance of self-expression and do not want to discourage this—however, when it has a direct effect on your training, health or safety, we hope that you will understand that we have your best interests in mind.

**Mobile Device Use:**
All devices must be silenced or turned off prior to the start of class. Use of mobile devices is limited to note taking, calendar, to-do and similar productivity apps. Texting, messaging, and other social media usage is not permitted in class. Please note that in many classes, use of paper scripts and texts is not only preferred but required, as they allow students to take notes more rapidly.

**Replicas, Props or Real Weapons:**
At no time shall any form of replica, prop or real weapon (handguns, rifles, shotguns, swords, daggers, knives, etc.) be used in class presentations or in rehearsals outside of class. Please consult the course director if you have any questions in this regard.

**Open Flame:**
No use of open flame, candles, matches, real cigarettes/cigars, etc., is to be used in class presentation or in rehearsals.

**Casting Policy:**
To enable students to focus on the goals and curriculum of the Acting Conservatory training experience, BFA Acting students may not be cast in any student show unless permission is given by the Acting Area. The Acting Area does not permit Conservatory students to participate in theatre, film, radio, or television productions outside of the Conservatory during the academic year, and highly recommends that students do not engage in any productions on the holiday break or during the summer months until fourth-year Conservatory training is completed.

**Studio Usage:**
Except for water, no beverages or food are permitted in the studios. Please leave outside footwear at the entrance to the studio.

All studios must be neutralized before leaving the space, with all door flats, rehearsal blocks, chairs, and tables moved to the sides of the room. All garbage must be removed. Please ensure that the floors, walls and blackboards are clean.

Please treat the studios with respect.
First-year Theatre majors are not eligible to book studios.

- IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

**HARASSMENT GUIDELINES:** Sexual harassment is not anyone’s favourite topic, but we ask you to take a few minutes to read this section carefully. These guidelines explain what sexual harassment is, and what it is not, in the context of the Department of Theatre. We also hope to decrease any chance for misunderstanding surrounding activities, such as costume fitting, that are absolutely essential to the teaching and craft of theatre. What should you expect? What are the warning signals that something might be wrong?

As we know, theatre reflects life; and life has its share of sex, violence, murder, insanity, cruelty and terror, as well as romance and hilarity. To teach students to evoke an empathetic response in audiences involves the simulation of physical violence and dealing with strong emotions in the classroom, in rehearsals and in performances. Clearly, we cannot avoid these topics, so we meet them head-on in the classroom.

The York policy lists "unnecessary touching or patting" as behaviour indicative of sexual harassment. However, in the Department of Theatre, touching routinely happens in acting/directing classes and in costume fittings.

In acting, voice and movement classes, students will be touched in the abdomen, diaphragm area, rib cage, chest, spine, back, shoulders, limbs, neck and head to assist the student in proper breathing, relaxation of tensions, alignment or similar instruction. At no time should a teacher or classmate touch those parts of a student’s body that would normally be covered by a two-piece bathing suit. At no time in an acting class will a student be asked to remove intimate apparel.

The removal of clothing, however, is integral to a costume fitting. Getting changed into or out of a costume is done in the privacy of a closed fitting room, but then the costume designer and/or the cutter building the costume will have to touch the costume (and therefore the student in the costume) anywhere that it needs fitting. The costume may also include undergarments that are not the student’s (e.g. corsets for women), that require the removal of the student’s own undergarments, and costume undergarments also require fittings. No students will be asked to put on or remove any item of underclothing in the presence of any other person.

A danger signal in physical contact could be unnecessarily prolonged touching, or touching body parts not involved in the current teaching. Students who feel uncomfortable about touch from the teacher, staff member or another student have a responsibility to speak to the teacher about opting out, or to discuss the problem with York’s Centre for Human Rights, South Ross, Suite 327, 416-736-5682 / TTY: 416-650-8023, rights@yorku.ca
As well as physical contact, there is also psychological contact and gender harassment. Sexual harassment can occur with no physical contact at all: psychological contact can therefore be a more difficult area to ascertain than physical contact since it involves words, intonations or body language. Theatre training must deal with sex. For example, some of the discussions needed in acting classes are of a sexually explicit nature. There is no way for students to fully explore the nature of acting without being honest, to some level, with their personal lives.

Gender harassment consists of derogatory or degrading remarks directed towards members of one gender or sexual preference group. These are most often directed at a woman, women in general, or homosexuals. Gender harassment is definitely sexual harassment.

If you feel that sexual harassment may have occurred, speak to the teacher, the class rep, your faculty advisor, or to the Centre for Human Rights, South Ross, Suite 327, 416-736-5682 / TTY: 416-650-8023, rights@yorku.ca

Sexual assault awareness and resources information is available on the York website and we encourage you to also carefully review this information.

You shouldn’t ever feel guilty or be made to feel guilty about reporting a problem!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

Reminder: Students must maintain a 5.00 (C+) grade point average in their major (i.e. all Theatre courses) to remain in good academic standing in the department. Check the grade point average calculator at the following link if you have any questions:
http://amphd.yorku.ca/current-students/academic-resources/gpa-calculator/?

- A Note on Challenging Content

One of the central educational goals of the Theatre Department is to produce socially conscious artists — artists who are aware of and capable of participating in challenging dialogues about social injustice and inequality. This means that our courses, public events, and productions often grapple with difficult subject matter, including sex, violence, terror, and illness (among other topics). While these presentations will no doubt provoke strong emotions and cause discomfort, we feel that the diverse experiences they promote are also essential to the development of our students’ critical faculties, empathy, and understanding of the world. Rather than warning our students in advance about every potentially uncomfortable topic that they might encounter in the course of their studies, we instead encourage students to meet them head on in the classroom, in rehearsals, and performances, and to engage in civil and compassionate debate about the possibilities and effects of staging difficult knowledge.

If you require an accommodation related to your participation in Theatre experiences, please ensure that you share relevant documentation with your course director. Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

ACADEMIC POLICIES / INFORMATION: The Senate Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) provides a Student Information Sheet that includes:

York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures / Academic Integrity Web site
Access/Disability
Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants
Religious Observance Accommodation
Student Code of Conduct
Alternate Exam and Test Scheduling

"20% Rule" - No examinations or tests collectively worth more than 20% of the final grade in a course will be given during the final 14 calendar days of classes in a term. The exceptions to the rule are classes which regularly meet Friday evenings or on Saturday and/or Sunday at any time, and courses offered in the compressed summer terms. Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles. http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/files/CourseInformationForStudentsAugust20121.pdf
Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy -
The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for ‘full year’ courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade.

**York’s Policy on Academic Honesty**

York’s Senate Policy on Academic Honesty affirms and clarifies the general obligation for all members of the University to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. AMPD has established complementary procedures for the investigation and resolution of alleged violations of the Senate Policy involving students in AMPD degree program courses at the undergraduate level.

**THE ACADEMIC HONESTY PROCESS**

An Overview
1. Investigation
2. The person discovering the suspected violation will notify the course director. The course director should not meet with the student or discuss the case at this point.
3. The course director will notify his or her department Chair, providing all documentary evidence.
4. The Chair will consult with the Manager, Faculty Governance & Policy. It will then be determined whether there has been an infraction, and if so, whether it is minor or more serious. In either case, if there has been an infraction, an exploratory meeting will be held (Part B, below). A case is minor where the infraction is small in extent, can reasonably be construed as an error on the student’s part, and where there appears to be no intent to deceive.
5. If, on consultation, it is determined that an infraction has taken place, the Manager will place a “flag” in the student’s file, block enrolment activity in the course, and investigate whether there is a prior history. If it is a repeat offence, then the matter must proceed directly to a formal hearing (Part C, below).
6. Exploratory Meeting

If Minor:
1. The department Chair will conduct an exploratory meeting, attended by the course director and the student. If there is more than one student involved, each should be met with separately. Each may bring a representative.
2. If the student admits to a breach of academic honesty, a suitable penalty — not exceeding failure in the course — will be agreed upon.
3. In all cases, outcomes are reported to the Manager, Faculty Governance & Policy. Where a penalty is imposed, a joint agreement is signed by both parties, and approved by the Associate Dean Academic.

If Serious:
1. The Manager, Faculty Governance & Policy will chair an exploratory meeting, attended by the course director and the student and their representatives.
2. If the student admits to a breach of academic honesty, a suitable penalty — not exceeding failure in the course — will be agreed upon. The Associate Dean, Academic may be consulted on a penalty, if necessary.
3. A joint agreement is signed by both parties, and approved by the Associate Dean, Academic.
4. Formal Hearing

A formal hearing by AAPPC will be held in cases where:
1. a) It is not the student’s first offence.
2. b) The student neglects to attend the exploratory meeting and it is found that there are grounds to proceed with a charge of a breach of academic honesty.
3. c) The student admits to a breach of academic honesty, but no penalty can be agreed upon.
4. d) The student does not admit to a breach of academic honesty.

For further information on the penalties for academic misconduct, please see AMPD’s Policy on Academic Honesty.

As approved by AMPD Faculty Council, March 21, 2018

COUNSELLING & SUPPORT SERVICES
Personal Counselling Services (PCS) aims to help York students realize, develop and fulfill their personal potential in order to maximally benefit from their university experience and manage the challenges of university life. Students come to PCS because of a wide range of concerns including, but not limited to: depression, anxiety, abuse, stress, self-esteem, relationship issues, eating and body image as well as issues related to sexuality.

**PCS provides:**
- Short-term individual, couple, and group counselling services to York University students
- Personal development workshop and workshop series
- Crisis intervention for York students
- Consultation to the York Community regarding students in distress/crisis and issues related to mental health in general
- Critical incident response debriefings and consultations
- Clinical training for graduate students in Psychology, Social Work, and Psychotherapy

The Centre for Sexual Violence, Response, Support & Education coordinates supports and resources for all members of the community that have experienced sexual violence, receives disclosures and complaints, facilitates safety planning, and assists survivors through the complaint process. *You shouldn’t ever feel guilty or be made to feel guilty about reporting a problem.* - If your class has a tutorial leader or studio instructor, speak to your instructor first.- If unresolved, contact the Chair of the Department at thechair@yorku.ca. [http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/index.htm](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/index.htm) Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 9, 2018 Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: February 8, 2019

**POLICY REGARDING LOSS, DAMAGE AND THEFT OF PERSONAL EQUIPMENT AND BELONGINGS:** The School of Arts, Media, Performance & Design at York University will not be held responsible for the loss, damage or theft of personal equipment or any other personal belongings that are left in studios, classrooms, storage areas or any other space within the School. It is each individual’s responsibility to take care of their own property. Under no circumstances will the School incur liability for loss, damage or theft of such property. **ROOM BOOKING POLICY:** Rehearsals for mainstage productions take precedence when assigning rooms, followed by faculty assigned work. Personal projects, including playGround, will be considered only if space allows. Do not professional standards by agreeing on a rehearsal schedule with group members and by having one group member do the arranging of the space in advance. Please ensure that the floors and walls are clean. **All garbage must be removed.** Please treat the studios with respect. All spaces must be booked one week in advance and will be accepted only until 4:00 pm on Thursday the previous week. Requests must be sent by e-mail only to rehearse@yorku.ca. Requests must be submitted each week for a room unless special arrangements have been made. Spaces must be returned to neutral at the end of each booking session. There will be a picture of what “neutral” is in each studio. Anything left behind in the spaces after your booking will be thrown out. **An After-Hours Use form will be completed and emailed to University Security at: sec@yorku.ca; Contact University Security non-urgent number - 416.650.8000 - upon arrival and departure.** All public spaces on Campus require contact with the Office of Temporary Use of University Space - [http://tuus.info.yorku.ca/space-room-reservations-forms](http://tuus.info.yorku.ca/space-room-reservations-forms) For ALL site-specific work, the course director must send the request to security@yorku.ca outlining where and when the work is to take place.

**SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS:** All site-specific theatre projects anywhere on campus must be cleared by the course director, York University’s Security Services, and the department or governing body of the proposed site. This request should be made in writing at least three weeks in advance of the date required.

- Be advised of the University’s emergency protocols (e.g. contact 911 in the event of a life threatening situation) and University Security’s urgent number (416.736.5333);
- **Procedures for use of studios after-hours:** These procedures are designed to enhance the safety of authorized students when working alone in one of our studios after-hours - Monday through Friday from 11:00pm to 6:30am, and Saturday/Sunday from 10:00pm to 8:00am.
  - The sign-off sheet must be checked and signed at the end of your studio time. If you enter a space and find it not “neutral”, please e-mail rehearse@yorku.ca.  
  - You cannot “claim” a space by writing in your name or the course name in an empty slot on the weekly schedules posted outside each space (exception – Light Lab CFT 153).
• Include your full name, student ID, program, brief explanation of what the space will be used for and what kind of space you need (studio / classroom / big / small).
• Requests will be confirmed Friday by 4:00pm.
• The studios are available only within the following hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am-10:00pm and Sat-Sun 10:00am-6:00pm
• First-year Theatre majors are not eligible to book studios.
• Please take all reasonable measures to protect your personal belongings. If you do experience loss, damage or theft of personal property, please report it immediately to the Department of Security Services at (416) 736-5333 or extension 33333 from any University phone.
• DEGREE STATUS – BA AND BFA: All students accepted into the Department of Theatre in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design (AMPD) enter as Specialized Honours BA Theatre-Theatre Studies majors. The first year is a program common to all Theatre students, and offers courses in Acting, Production/Design and Performance Creation & Research. At the end of the first year, there is a selection process (either by audition or interview) to proceed into the various areas of interest.
• Last date to drop a winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: March 8, 2019
• Manage my Academic record http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/
• IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY SESSIONAL DATES (where you will find classes and exams start/end dates, reading/co-curricular week, add/drop deadlines, holidays, University closings and more.
• - If unresolved, speak to the Course Director.
• COURSE-RELATED DISPUTES: The following steps are the steps to be taken in the event of unresolved issues within the class:
  • If you or someone you know has experienced sexual violence and is in need of support, the Sexual Violence Response Office (SVRO) can help. Please call 416-736-5211 or find them online at yorku.ca/svro.
• Learn more about other York University resources related to mental health and wellness at York.

Moodle @ York University