

## Academic *Innovation* Fund

### What is the Perpetual Model?

The “Perpetual” project is rooted in re-thinking what it means to deliver “a course” in higher education. While the broader Perpetual Project at York involves innovations to the systems of registration, staffing, and student funding, this AIF grant is focused specifically on the project’s core pillars – **instructional innovations** that leverage **cognitive computing** strategies, to begin to ensure academic integrity in a digitally disrupted age, and provide students with personalized learning pathways online that train relevant skills for success.



#### *Innovative Instructional Concepts*

- ✓ Course content is organized into competency-based modules that students navigate based on their own pace of learning and choice in topic progression.
- ✓ Each module has experiential learning activities that ask students to connect information and ideas with their own real-world context.
- ✓ Each activity is then assessed on both content knowledge proficiency (i.e. course concepts and terminology), as well as essential skill acquisition (i.e. perspective taking, communication, and critical thinking).



#### *Cognitive Computing Strategies*

- ✓ Innovate internal information technology systems (Moodle)
- ✓ Leverage / integrate artificial intelligence structures
- ✓ Enable the platform to capture comprehensive data on the learning experience
- ✓ Produce dynamic, real-time dashboards of this data to inform your teaching and improve the process of skill acquisition for students.

### Process of Rapid Prototyping?

Rapid prototyping is a design methodology employed in both the private and public sectors that aims to produce a working prototype of a product (i.e. a course) in less time than traditional methods. The design is then tested to gather insights on the user experience (i.e. both the teacher and the student learning experience), and those insights are integrated into the next iteration of the design!

Failure is a natural part of the rapid prototyping process! But don’t worry if this way of designing a course is new to you, because you will have support each step of the way.

**Potential Benchmarks of The Course (Re)Design Process:**

