



Here is your July 2023 guide to all things grad at YorkU.

Important Information

FGS welcomes Dr. Ojo as incoming Associate Dean, Students

Dr. Tokunbo Ojo joins the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) as the new Associate Dean, Students. Ojo is an associate professor in the Department of Communication and Media Studies and an affiliated faculty member in the Department of Social Science within the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS). He will transition into his new role through the month of July while liaising with the managers of the different portfolios in FGS throughout the summer.

[Learn more](#)

Canada Day Holiday—University closed

Monday, July 3

This is a reminder that classes are cancelled and the university is closed Monday, July 3 in recognition of the Canada Day holiday.

[Learn more](#)

Wellness Consultation and Counselling Service

Free and confidential counselling support is available to graduate students through the Faculty of Graduate Studies' Wellness Consultation and Counselling Service. Sessions are offered via phone, video, or in-person and the service is available M-F between 9:00am-4:00pm. To book an appointment, simply visit the [online appointment calendar and scheduler](#) or email gradwell@yorku.ca.

Graduate Student Wellness Initiative Fund

Fall Deadline: October 2

The Graduate Student Wellness Initiative Fund is available for individual or groups of graduate students to apply for up to \$1500 to support the undertaking of projects, initiatives, resource development, events, or programs related to graduate student wellness. **Spring/summer semester GSWIF application window is now closed. Fall semester GSWIF application is now open and deadline for submission is October 2, 2023.**

[Learn more](#)

In the News

Three York graduate students earn Governor General's Gold Medals

Three York University graduates received this year's Governor General's Gold Medals, which recognize the outstanding scholastic achievements of graduate students in Canada. The 2023 recipients are Lawrence Garcia, Kathleen Dogantzis and Aaron Tucker. The Governor General awards are considered the highest honour earned by exemplary Canadian scholars throughout every level of academia. This year's awardees offered words of gratitude to their peers and mentors, and expressed what the medals mean to them, ahead of their Spring Convocation ceremonies.

[Learn more](#)

Recent graduates receive FGS Thesis & Dissertation Prizes for 2022-2023

Six York University graduates have been awarded thesis and dissertation prizes by the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) for their outstanding scholarly work. The prizes are bestowed to celebrate exceptional master's and doctoral research work from the recent academic calendar year. The value of the awards is \$2,000 for doctoral dissertations and \$1,000 for master's theses. From creating the world's largest dataset on honeybee genomics to demystifying the function of consciousness, these talented scholars are breaking new ground with their research.

[Learn more](#)

York University in the Top 40 globally in Times Higher Education Impact Rankings

York University is among the top 40 institutions for global leadership on advancing the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals, according to this year's Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, published last month. With 100+ additional universities joining the rankings this year, according to The Times, York has done exceedingly well to maintain its position of global leadership, placing 40th out of more than 1,500 competing institutions.

[Learn more](#)

President's University-Wide Teaching Award recipients honoured

Five York University faculty members were recognized during the 2023 Spring Convocation ceremonies with a President's University-Wide Teaching Award for enhancing the quality of learning and demonstrating innovation in teaching. The President's University-Wide Teaching Awards are chosen from four categories: full-time faculty with 10 or more years of teaching experience, full-time faculty with less than 10 years of experience, contract and adjunct faculty, and teaching assistants. They are selected by the Senate Committee on Awards. The goal of the awards is to provide significant recognition for excellence in teaching, to encourage its pursuit, to publicize such excellence when achieved across the University and in the wider community, and to promote informed discussion of teaching and its improvement.

[Learn more](#)

Faculty, administrators encouraged to complete ‘Maclean’s’ survey for university rankings

York faculty members and senior administrators are invited to fill out a reputational survey as part of the Maclean’s University Ranking. The Canadian news magazine’s annual rankings are considered to be one of the most influential sources for prospective university students when choosing their school, and boosts reputation in higher education. The annual reputational survey is part of the Maclean’s ranking methodology, which aims to gather the opinions of university faculty, senior administration and businesspeople from across Canada. The Reputational Survey is now available for York faculty and senior administrators to complete until early September 2023, when the survey closes. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete.

[Learn more](#)

Faculty of Education unveils new videos “Leaders Supporting Future Leaders in Education” to help mark its 50th Anniversary Year

The Faculty of Education at York introduces a new four part video series inspiring and showcasing its bold leadership in education which helps create more just communities. The videos visually represent the Faculty’s commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion and decolonization. They reflect the positive change which the Faculty helps drive, and experiences in return, by working with its various stakeholders including students, alumni, community partners, donors, faculty and staff.

[Learn more](#)

PhD student published in Canadian Jewish Studies

Congratulations to Alexandra Frankel, a PhD candidate in Social Anthropology has a new publication in Canadian Jewish Studies: Queering Reproductive Time: Jacob’s Wrestling and Queer Temporalities in Sheila Heti’s Motherhood.

[Learn more](#)

Kinesiology PhD Candidate awarded scholarship from True Sport Foundation

Samantha Burelle, PhD student in the School of Kinesiology & Health Science at York University was recently awarded the 2023 Lyle Makosky Values and Ethics in Sport Fund sport study scholarship from the True Sport Foundation. This competitive research award will support her work on a project entitled “Exploration of Safe Sport Practices and Safe Sport Culture Through Youth Coach Perspectives.” As described by Samantha, this project will “...contribute to the ever-changing, yet necessary, discussion on Safe Sport and the critical role of youth coaches in values-based and ethical sport. Importantly, this fund will support the mobilization of the research directly into sport by ensuring the findings are shared with coaches, sport organizations, and other stakeholders.”

[Learn more](#)

Our community mourns the passing of Wade Eon Pfaff, Communication and Culture grad student

The York community comes together to remember Wade Eon Pfaff, PhD candidate in York & TMU’s Joint Graduate Program in Communication and Culture, who passed away on Friday, June 9. He approached everything in his life with eagerness and flare—an accomplished musician, a dancer, a fashion designer, creative artist, an historian and a student. His energy and enthusiasm will be profoundly missed by many. Because he was a long-time resident of the Niagara Region, his funeral service will be held in St. Catharines. In lieu of flowers, the family is accepting donations towards a legacy scholarship fund. Online condolences may be offered at gardencityfunerals.ca.

Our community mourns the passing of long-time employee Eva Joanne Blake

The York community comes together to remember Eva Joanne Blake, retired graduate program assistant in the Department of Social Science, who passed away on Sunday May 14th at 65 years of age. Blake had a long and distinguished career with the University, beginning her journey at York in 1975 and retiring, after 46 years, in February 2021. Her contributions left a lasting impact on her team and her dedication, knowledge and warm personality made her a beloved colleague and friend to many. A memorial service took place on May 28. Family, friends and colleagues can view a video of the service, share photos and send condolences to Blake's loved ones at dignitymemorial.com.

Financial Opportunitites

- **Dr. Sangdeok Woo and Mrs. Kwisoon Lim Woo Memorial Graduate Award**

Deadline: Monday, October 30, 4:00pm

The Dr. Sangdeok Woo and Mrs. Kwisoon Lim Woo Graduate Award has been created to support graduate students undertaking research on the topic of Korean history, culture and society, and to encourage students showing promise of leadership in the Korean community in Canada. Applicants must be Canadian citizens, permanent residents or protected persons, be Ontario residents, and demonstrate financial need. Value: up to \$12,500.

[Learn more](#)

External Opportunities

- **Black Business and Professional Association (BBPA) Scholarships**

Applications close: July 3

The BBPA National Scholarship Program is dedicated to supporting and promoting the achievement of academic excellence by Black Canadian youth through an annual scholarship program. There are various scholarships available to Canadian students who meet the eligibility criteria. Please visit the link below for more details. Value: varies.

[Learn more](#)

- **Language Learning Dissertation Grant Program**

Deadline: between July 7 and 14

Facilitates the research of doctoral candidates in the language sciences, including research in the disciplines of psychology, linguistics, cognitive science, educational inquiry, neuroscience, ethnography, sociolinguistics, sociology, and semiotics, and research that addresses fundamental theoretical issues in language learning. Value: up to \$2,000.

[Learn more](#)

- **2024 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships**

Deadline to submit preliminary application to FGS: July 14

The Vanier CGS program aims to attract and retain world-class doctoral students by supporting students who demonstrate both leadership skills and a high standard of scholarly achievement in graduate studies in the social sciences, humanities, natural sciences, engineering, and health. Value: \$50,000 per year for three years.

[Learn more](#)

- **CANSSI Ontario—Data Access Grants**

Deadline: Rolling Deadline

The Ontario regional node of the Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute (CANSSI Ontario) is offering grants to cover the costs associated with accessing and working with large data sources, which are necessary to carry out data-intensive research and applications. Trainees or faculty members at Ontario-based universities are eligible to apply. Value: \$5,000.

[Learn more](#)

Mitacs Accelerate Program

Deadline: Continuous (6-8 week review period)

Put your talent to work with a paid internship at an organization that needs your expertise. Funding starts at \$15,000, and your partner organization's financial contribution starts at \$7,500. Duration: min. 4 months
Value: \$15,000. If you are interested in applying to this competition, please contact Rachel Sung, Mitacs Business Development Specialist at sungr@yorku.ca.

[Learn more](#)

Events

Complete your study permit or visa application at the Immigration Workroom

Are you working on an application to IRCC? Get real-time support for your study permit, work permit or visa. One of our advisors will be available to help you with IRCC's online application system, the application forms and any questions you may have. To find the next workroom please visit the [York International Calendar](#).

Graduate Coffee Break is back for Summer!

York International has a lot of fun-filled events planned for Graduate students this summer and the meet and greet is just the start of it all. It is a great place to meet new people. Feel free to bring your friends and encourage them to register. You will also meet other international students like yourselves while enjoying some great snacks. Check the [York International calendar](#) and join us for our next Coffee Break!

Centre for Sexual Violence Response, Support & Education hosts Art Therapy Workshops

Online, Wednesday, July 19, 12:00–1:00pm

This monthly art therapy workshop series will guide participants through mindful art wellness exercises, which can help them develop grounding skills to achieve emotional balance. No prior art skills are required. The focus is on the benefits of the art making process, and does not require any previous art making experience. To register, email: thecentre@yorku.ca.

Enhancing Your Experience

Individualized Development Plan (IDP) Certificate of Completion

The Faculty of Graduate Studies' IDP is a tool to assist graduate students in identifying and developing their goals during their studies. It is designed to provide a framework for encouraging active participation among students in professional skills training and career management over the course of their degrees. Graduate students that elected to complete an IDP this academic year can receive a Certificate of Completion that they may highlight on their resume/CV. Providing a copy of one's IDP is not requested nor required to receive the certificate. Certificates can be requested upon completion via [YU Learn](#).

[Learn more](#)

National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity (NCFDD)

NCFDD provides on-demand access to mentoring, tools, and support you need to be successful in the Academy. To access, navigate to "Become a Member", select York University as your institutional member and register with your @yorku.ca email address.

[Learn more](#)

Mitacs Training Certificate

Mitacs is pleased to provide official certificates for students who successfully complete our course bundles. Each course bundle consists of a self-paced e-learning course and an online instructor-led session. Students must complete the former before registering for the latter. For more information, contact training@mitacs.ca.

[Learn more](#)

Call for Abstracts: Canada India Research Centre for Learning and Engagement

Deadline: July 10

The Canada India Research Centre for Learning and Engagement (U of G) invites PhD students engaged in research related to India, South Asia or their diasporas to submit paper abstracts and panel proposals for our multidisciplinary conference (4–6 October 2023). The submission deadline is July 10.

[Learn more](#)

Masters and PhD Career Counselling, Career Centre

Connect confidentially with York's Career Centre's career counsellor, Susan Pogue, to learn how to develop a holistic approach to career exploration both inside and outside academia and receive support with your career transition planning. Appointments can be booked on [Experience York](#).

[Learn more](#)

Beyond the Professoriate's Career Training Platform for Post-Docs and PhDs

Beyond the Professoriate's Career Training Platform is an eLearning platform with on-demand, self-paced learning modules that allow PhDs and Postdocs to explore career options and discover ways to apply the skills acquired through their education. Content consists of videos, exercises and information for students in the areas of Arts, Social Sciences, STEM, Business, and Education. You can access the modules in any order and if you decide to complete 7 core modules, you earn a certificate of completion.

[Learn more](#)

Important Dates

Summer term classes, as well as deadlines for course additions and drops, differ widely in May, June, July, August due to many class sections. Please visit [Important Dates](#) for a summary of dates relevant to you.

- **July 3**

Canada Day Holiday / Observed on Monday July 3—University Closed July 3.

- **July 10**

Thesis/Dissertation Deadline: Deadline for the Faculty of Graduate Studies to receive recommendations for Oral examination from graduate programs for **Doctoral** students expected to fulfill all degree requirements for October 2023.

- **July 15**

Petitions Deadline: Deadline to submit Academic Petitions for status changes for Fall (FA23) term (e.g. leave of absence, change to part-time/full-time registration, extension of program time limits, reinstatement).

- **July 17**

Thesis/Dissertation Deadline: Deadline for the Faculty of Graduate Studies to receive recommendations for Oral examination from graduate programs for **Master's** students expected to fulfill all degree requirements for October 2023.

We Want to Hear from You!

We want to hear from you! Do you have story ideas, events, or accomplishments you want to share? Get in touch at [Share with FGS](#).

Visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies on our social media channels



We would love to hear any feedback and/or inclusions you have for this publication: fgsnews@yorku.ca

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