

# Teaching Commons

## Faculty Newsletter

### Teaching Commons Faculty Newsletter JUNE 2021

To view all our upcoming offerings, [here is the link to our events calendar](#)



The Teaching Commons is a positive and safe space where faculty, graduate students, and staff from across our campuses can engage in professional development activities related to any aspect of teaching and learning. We offer a [broad range of courses, certificates and other programming](#) as well as various additional [services](#), targeted [resources](#), and [support for scholarly teaching](#). [Our team](#) is ready to help you explore best practices and innovative strategies, support program renewals and course design, and offer guidance specific to York institutional priorities. We are here to help connect you to a network of colleagues, scholarly resources and evidence-based practice to explore and develop your teaching in new and unimagined ways.

#### **Instructional Skills for Remote Delivery (Spring & Summer 2021)**

During this 2-week online course (approximately 15 hours), participants will work collaboratively in a small group setting to further develop their teaching effectiveness through remote delivery, as well as receiving feedback on teaching strategies and techniques. During the first week of the course, participants will engage in daily synchronous sessions during which they will deliver a 15-minute lesson in real time. The second week of the course requires participants to deliver a second 15-minute lesson, asynchronously. There are no scheduled synchronous sessions during the second week. Participants will receive reflective verbal, written, and video feedback from the other participants who have been learners in the lessons.

[Here is the link to the ISRD registration page.](#)





### **Starts June 9th: Active Learning Playground (Summer Workshop Series)**

Attend all 5 and work toward the [Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching for eLearning](#).

This 5-part summer workshop series combines active learning strategies, reflective discussion about a range of pedagogical topics, and time for collaborative conversations about how best to apply active learning in your teaching context. Whether you teach face-to-face, online, or blended courses, large first-year surveys or small graduate seminars, in lectures or tutorials, we will explore how a range of active learning strategies can work for you and your students, while also making time to explore topics relating to the scholarship of teaching and learning, experiential education, assessment in higher education, and more.

- June 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-1:30: [Exploring Engaged Teaching Using Six Thinking Hats/Say Something](#)
- June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12:00-1:30: [Exploring SoTL Using Question Formulation Technique](#)
- July 7<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-1:30: [Exploring Experiential Education Using Escape Rooms/Fishbowls](#)
- July 21<sup>st</sup>, 12:00-1:30: [Exploring Students As Partners Using Concept Mapping/Affinity Grouping](#)
- August 4<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-1:30: [Exploring Assessment Using Case Studies/Send-A-Problem](#)

[Here is the link to learn more and to register.](#)



### **Taking It Online: Adapting, Updating, or Transitioning Your Online Course (June 14-July 9, 2021)**

This course can count toward the [Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching for eLearning](#).

Looking to get some hands-on time as you take the next step with your online or remote teaching? Join us for a fully online crash course in the practical pedagogy of eLearning as we use a range of learning activities to introduce core principles and best practices for online learning. Participants will learn by doing as they apply course learning to their own course(s) – whether you are updating

or revamping an existing online course, moving a face-to-face course online for the first time, or experimenting with blended or hyflex learning, this course will support you in developing a robust and pedagogically informed learning environment in eClass and beyond.

[Here is the link to learn more and to register.](#)

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### **Mastery-Based Grading (Wednesday, June 16, 2021 - 11:00-12:30 EDT)**

Have you been thinking about grading your students differently? In this session, participants will learn about some of the research on mastery-based grading. By the end of the session, participants will have expanded their knowledge of the dynamics that underpin the mastery-based grading approach and will have considered how or if mastery-based grading can work in their own instructional contexts.

[Here is the link to register.](#)

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### **Caring to Teach: Supporting Student Transitions between Teaching and Learning Environments (July 9-August 10, 2021)**

This course can count toward the [Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching for eLearning](#).

Help your students make a successful transition between online and face-to-face teaching and learning environments by focusing on caring teaching practices. We will apply the concept of a Pedagogy of Care to both instructor and student well-being, while also using this caring framework to build towards more flexible courses. We will also reflect on York's Model for Engaged Teaching to indicate where participants are currently positioned in their teaching practice, and how they can move toward a more community-informed approach to teaching. In this fully online course, participants will learn by doing through ongoing participation in weekly learning activities. We will consider challenges and strategies to help make the transition between teaching and learning environments as smooth as possible, while also focusing on the well-being of instructional staff and students.

[Here is the link to learn more and to register.](#)

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## Innovating your syllabus (Wednesday, June 30, 2021 - 11:00-12:30 EDT)



The syllabus is a primary tool to create an inclusive classroom and engage students. It is the first step that allows instructors to build a strong student rapport. In this workshop, participants will learn about inclusive syllabus design, visual syllabus, and annotated syllabus. Participants will also work collaboratively to create an action plan for their own syllabus.

[Here is the link to register.](#)

## Free digital teaching skills and professional learning to all post-secondary educators in Ontario –Summer 2021 Ontario Extend/Programme pour l'été 2021

The **Ontario Extend Program** provides free digital teaching skills and professional learning to all post-secondary educators in Ontario – and NEW this summer we are offering a customized and facilitated experience for educators who participate in our openly licensed program!

This summer we are offering all six Extend modules as facilitated courses with optional synchronous and asynchronous check-ins delivered in the Brightspace Learning Management System. Beginning June 7th and with continuous enrollment through to August 16th, our flexible approach to facilitated delivery offers multiple opportunities to engage with each one of the six program modules in a way that meets educators busy schedules.

This means educators can participate in course components at their own pace and/or with their provincial colleagues in order to enhance their learning journey and motivate them to completion. These facilitation efforts are led by eCampusOntario Extend facilitators who are excited to guide them through the course content in a way that is flexible with no strings attached.

[Here is the link to learn more and to register.](#)

