

Teaching Commons

Faculty Newsletter

Teaching Commons Faculty Newsletter September 2021

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



Resources for Flexible Teaching

A new semester brings new opportunities and some new challenges. As you navigate remote, flexible, hybrid teaching strategies, the Teaching Commons is here to help! Our Flexible Teaching Resources can help inspire new ways of organizing your course, delivering your lessons, and assessing student learning. [Here is the link to Flexible Teaching Resources](#)

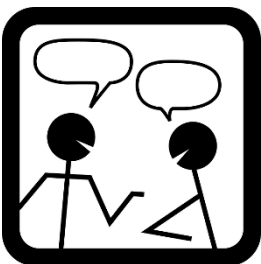
We'd also like to highlight several timely resources as the term begins:

[Here is the link to our Remote Teaching Checklist](#) to help you prepare for teaching online

[Here is the link to our resource document with strategies for Active Learning from Anywhere](#), whether you are teaching remotely, on campus, or some mix of both

Considering alternative assessment strategies? [Here is the link to our resource on Alternative Assessments for Remote Teaching](#)

[Here is the link to our guide for Alleviating Student Anxiety](#) as we help our students navigate a new and evolving learning environment



Support for New Teaching Assistants

Do you have a new graduate student starting in September? Will they be teaching for the first time? If so, please invite them to join the [Teaching Commons Online Community and Resources](#) (all that is needed is a Passport York account). This will give graduate students access to resources from across campus for both them and their students. They will also have access to engage in activities with their peers including Zoom links to one-hour drop-in sessions, daily from 11am–12pm ET, Monday August 30 to Friday September 3. [Here is the link to join the online community.](#)



Engagement Strategies for Teaching Remotely (September 13-October 8, 2021)

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

Student engagement is a common goal whether you are teaching in a classroom or online. There are, however, added complexities to engaging students in the remote and online environment. In this course, we will explore the challenges and barriers to engaging students remotely. You will be introduced to the TEC-VARIETY framework, which offers evidenced-based solutions. You will explore this framework on your own, and collaboratively with a small group of your peers, to discover how you can add some TEC-VARIETY to your online or remote course(s) to make them engaging and to motivate your learners.

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

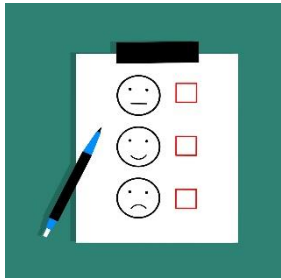


Equity in Assessment: Designing and Implementing Alternative Learning Assessment to Foster Social Justice (September 20-27, 2021)

Assessment is powerful: it allows us to understand and measure student learning, to gather information that can inform and reshape our teaching, and to assist students in becoming self-aware and life-long learners. Now, more than ever, assessment also needs to support diversity, equity, and inclusion for the changing student population. Join us in this intensive online mini-course to begin the process of transforming the assessment landscape! Together we will explore the historical and theoretical underpinnings of inequity in assessment and discuss and apply multiple strategies to support equity in assessment, including culturally responsive and trauma-informed assessment, assessing students as partners, equitable feedback, and pedagogies of care.

Synchronous online course meetings will take place from 10:00-12:00 ET September 20, 22, 24, and 27. Attendance is mandatory for all course participants.

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



Reboot Your Final: Alternative Approaches to Online Tests and Exams (October 18-November 12, 2021)

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

Looking to rethink your tests and exams for the online environment? Interested in exploring alternative assessments that might replace a traditional final? Join us for a fully online course in the practical pedagogy of alternative assessment strategies for eLearning. Participants will learn by doing as they workshop their own current assessment plans in light of best practices for online and remote teaching.

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



New Community of Practice: Equity, Diversity, Decolonisation, and Inclusion (EDDI) in Teaching and Learning (Launching Fall 2021)

For many of us, 2020 and 2021 have been a time of reckoning for higher education, as comfortable pedagogies have been disrupted in multiple ways. Faculty, instructors, and teaching assistants have all grappled with the complexities of teaching a diverse student body equitably and inclusively, and with the challenges posed by our collective need to confront systemic oppression, to decolonize our curricula and classrooms, to ensure accessibility in teaching and learning, and to respond to calls for Indigenization. If you are in search of a community of teachers at York in which to collaborate, explore, support, and challenge as we engage in this work of supporting EDDI within and beyond the classroom, this community of practice welcomes you!

This CoP is open to anyone who teaches at York and is committed to building and sustaining a culture of EDDI in higher education. Synchronous online monthly meetings will be supplemented with asynchronous resource-sharing and forum discussion. Attendance at synchronous meetings is NOT required to join this CoP.

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