

Teaching Commons

Faculty Newsletter

Teaching Commons Faculty Newsletter MAY 2022

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.

The Teaching Commons Annual Teaching in Focus Conference (May 11-12, 2022) **Pre-Conference Event (May 10, 2022)**



TiF 2022 is taking place on May 11 and 12. This year's theme, *Rest, Renew, Revitalize*, calls on us to take a timeout, provide some much-needed self-care, and build personal capacity, with hopes for Revitalization of our teaching, where we give new vigour and energy to our practice. In the true spirit of collective Renewal, York University's Teaching Commons is also partnering with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Classroom Community of Practice to present the first Teaching the SDG's Teach In as a pre-conference event, taking place on May 10 and showcasing an array of programming related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals in advance of TiF 2022! Note that advance registration is required for the pre-conference event, not for TiF itself.

[Here is the link to the conference site with more information.](#)

Caring to Teach: Supporting Student Transitions between Teaching and Learning Environments (May 30 – June 30, 2022)



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

This course will focus on helping students make a successful transition between online and face-to-face teaching and learning environments by focusing on caring teaching practices. It will begin by introducing the concept of a Pedagogy of Care in relation to both students and instructors. 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. Using this framework of care, the course will also invite participants to reflect on their teaching practices and consider the ways in which these practices might lead to a more flexible course in the future. In this fully online course, participants will learn by doing through ongoing participation in weekly learning activities.

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

Instructional Skills for Remote Delivery (Spring & Summer 2022)



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 activities. 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 is entirely asynchronous and requires participants to deliver a second 15-minute lesson, asynchronously. Participants will receive reflective verbal, written, or video feedback from the other participants who have been learners in the lessons.

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

For additional inquiries, please contact Mandy Frake-Mistak
mfmistak@yorku.ca

Course Design Intensive 2022 (July 2022 and December 2022)



This is a one-week intensive and interactive online workshop to get you started designing or updating your course. The workshop is for course directors who would like to enhance an existing course or create a new course design. Packed with creative and practical advice for developing your course, we will cover principles of inclusive course design, assessment and feedback, active learning and engagement strategies, and provide you with the support and resources you need. Please note that this course is comprised of both synchronous and asynchronous activities.

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

Scott Library's Media Creation Lab Now Open!



Scott Library's new Media Creation Lab is now open for students, staff and instructors! Located behind the Learning Commons on the 2nd floor of the Scott Library, in Room 207, we now have a range of audiovisual and VR equipment for loan, bookable workstations in a small computer lab, dedicated VR rooms, and an audio recording booth. Additional spaces and equipment are coming soon.

We are open on Wednesdays from 2PM-7PM, and on all other weekdays from 10AM-3PM. Everything can be booked using online forms, and we have staff available to show you how to use our equipment and spaces. In addition to on-demand booking, we have resources for instructors and can support curriculum-integrated media projects: send us a request to diginit@yorku.ca. Feel free to drop by the lab to have a look around - we'd love to see you!

Open Educational Resources Survey



The Open Education Steering Committee, jointly led by the Associate-Vice President Teaching and Learning Division and York U Libraries, invites all faculty and teaching assistants to complete a survey about their awareness and use of Open Educational Resources (OER) at York University. The survey takes about 9 minutes to complete. The survey results will inform the Open Education (OE) Steering Committee's development of programs and resources to support faculty with OER implementation and creation with the goal of reducing costs to students and improving the overall student experience. [Here is the link to complete the survey.](#) The survey can also be completed via eClass.

NEW RESOURCE! Reflecting On (Your) Practice



The nearing end of term is a great opportunity to reflect, explore, and celebrate our own learning. This newly created resource, *Reflecting On (Your) Practice: A Self-Paced Guide for Engaged Teaching*, is an opportunity to discover and uncover how your teaching practice has developed on your own time, at your own pace. Any feedback or questions can be sent to Lisa Endersby, Educational Developer, lendersb@yorku.ca

[Here is the link to the self-paced resource.](#)

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