

# Teaching Commons

## Faculty Newsletter

### Teaching Commons Faculty Newsletter October 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.



### Academic Integrity Month: October 2022

Academic Integrity Month is a York-wide event, taking place throughout the month of October 2022. Join in with a variety of seminars, panel sessions and activities geared towards promoting academic integrity across York and fostering student success. Each week includes a specific theme and features a distinguished main speaker.

**Tuesday, Oct. 4, 12:00-1:30:** Kick off the month with a keynote presentation by Dr. Sarah Eaton, “Academic Integrity: A Foundation for Excellence.”

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

*New resources for instructors and TAs are also now available at [York’s Academic Integrity website](#)*



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## **BOLD Institute: Blended and Online Learning Development (Oct. 5-Nov. 24, 2022)**

The BOLD Institute is an eight-week, fully online program offered to course directors, graduate student instructors, and teaching assistants as an opportunity to gain both theoretical understanding and practical experience with the pedagogy, planning, and hands-on production involved in designing and assessing eLearning activities in their fully online/blended courses. Upon completion of this course, participants will be better able to apply sound learning theories and pedagogies to design and build various key components or learning objects of fully online/blended modules. No design experience is required.

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

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## **Reboot Your Final: Alternative Approaches to Online Tests and Exams (Oct. 11-Nov. 4, 2022)**

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](#)

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## **Critical Reflection as a Learned/Learning Activity (Oct. 19, 2022 or Oct. 26, 2022)**

Critical reflection activities can encourage students in experiential education settings to make meaningful connections while also developing skills in critical thinking, communicating new insights, and using new ideas to inform future actions. In this workshop, we will engage in discussions and hands-on activities to explore frameworks for critical reflection that can be used to help students develop important skills to support their own reflective practice.

This workshop will be offered in two formats, once in person and once online (via Zoom).

**Wednesday, October 19 12:30-2pm** (IN PERSON): [Here is the link to learn more and to register](#)

**Wednesday, October 26 12:30-2pm** (ONLINE): [Here is the link to learn more and to register](#)

*Look out for our November newsletter for details about our [ONLINE](#) and [IN PERSON](#) workshops on “Strategies for Meaningful Feedback on Student Reflection.”*



### **Teaching Wheels (Oct. 20, 2022 – Feb. 28, 2023)**

Interested in seeing how other faculty at York are designing and delivering their online, face-to-face, or Hy-Flex courses? Want to get some feedback about your own course? Join us for Teaching Wheels, a peer-observation program facilitated by Teaching Commons staff, in which participants join each other’s courses as guests to see different approaches to teaching in action, share strategies, feedback, and insights with one another, and enhance their own teaching through observation and reflection.

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

*If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Endersby, Educational Developer at [lendersb@yorku.ca](mailto:lendersb@yorku.ca) or Robin Sutherland-Harris, Educational Developer, at [robinsh@yorku.ca](mailto:robinsh@yorku.ca).*



### **Academic Integrity & Assessment: Online Workshop Series (Nov. 2, 16, & 30, 2022)**

Join us in November for one, two, or all three online workshops in a series focusing on the intersections between assessment practices and academic integrity, whether you teach in a face-to-face, Hy-flex, or fully online classroom.

**Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2:30-3:30:** [Academic Integrity and Group Work \(Register Here\)](#)

**Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2:30-3:30:** [Academic Integrity and Written Assignments \(Register Here\)](#)

**Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2:30-3:30:** [Academic Integrity and Summative Tests and Exams \(Register Here\)](#)

*This series is co-hosted by the Teaching Commons and Angela Clark, Academic Integrity Officer in the Office of the VP Academic.*



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## **Access and Equity in Online Teaching (Nov. 7-Dec. 9, 2022)**

This course can count toward the Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching for eLearning.

Access and equity in eLearning environments can present a unique set of challenges, whether we are creating and sharing course content digitally, engaging students in "hot topics" through discussion forums, or deciding how best to administer high stakes online assessments. In this fully online course, participants will learn by doing through ongoing participation in weekly learning activities. Together we will test out strategies for using online technology to enhance access and support equity, explore relevant principles and frameworks to inform our online teaching, and troubleshoot common challenges.

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



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## **Formative Classroom Observations**

The Teaching Commons is offering York Course Directors the opportunity to participate in a formative teaching observation. This process is not a formal evaluation or assessment, but rather a voluntary and collaborative activity designed to inspire a reflective dialogue on classroom teaching. Observations can be done in an in person (face-to-face) class or a synchronous (live) online class. You may also wish to add your liaison Educational Developer to your eClass site as an auditor to review the overall organization of your site or a particular eClass activity, or to have the Educational Developer observe any combination of synchronous and asynchronous remote and/or in person engagement.

[Here is the link to request an observation.](#)

*For more information, please contact Lisa Endersby, Educational Developer, at [lendersb@yorku.ca](mailto:lendersb@yorku.ca)*



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## **Globally Networked Learning Information Session (Oct. 3, 2022, 10:00-11:30)**

The Globally Networked Learning team will be hosting an information session on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. This session is open to all York faculty members who are interested in innovative pedagogies that combine

internationalization, experiential education, and co-teaching a course with an international partner.

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

*To learn more about Globally Networked Learning, visit <https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/gnl/>*

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### **Media Creation Lab Launch & Open House Event (Oct. 4, 2022, 1:00-4:00)**

Drop by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Atrium of the Scott Library to learn more about media creation in teaching, learning, and research at this launch and open house. The event will be highlighted by four interactive stations placed throughout the Scott Library atrium, where attendees will have the opportunity for hands-on access to audio and video recording equipment and virtual reality headsets, guided by MCL staff. Formal remarks will be given by Joy Kirchner, Dean of Libraries, Carolyn Steele, Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities, and Rianka Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication and Media Studies.

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

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### **New Resource: The Student Project Toolkit!**

Introducing the [Student Project Toolkit!](#) This new, online resource provides a broad range of useful tips, tools and templates to help students manage every step of a project competently and confidently. Available under a creative commons license and funded through an AIF grant, the Student Project Toolkit is a collaboration between the [Learning Commons](#) and the [Envision YU project](#) with the support of research assistants from the [Professional Writing program](#). Along with its companion resource, the [Student Guide to Group Work](#), which launched last year, students are now equipped to independently navigate the challenging aspects of group and project work.