

# Teaching Commons

## Faculty Newsletter

Teaching Commons Faculty Newsletter August 2023

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.



### **Beyond eClass: Interactive Pedagogies Using Zoom, H5P, and More (ONLINE ~ August 8-September 1, 2023)**

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

There's more to teaching online than eClass! Increasingly, educators are talking about "Zoom pedagogy," "H5P plugins," and a suite of different tech tools to enhance interactivity in their online classrooms. Join us in this wholly online course to explore strategies and technologies to boost interaction with and between your students. Whether you are looking to simply connect with students more effectively, increase engagement with course content and lectures, enrich your course with formative assessments, or ensure that your approach to interactivity is accessible and equitable, this course will provide opportunities for participants to learn, experiment, and share with colleagues through participation in weekly learning activities. In

addition to Zoom and H5P, featured technologies will include Padlet, Mentimeter, and Kahoot, as well as others crowdsourced from course participants.

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

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### **Telling Your Story: Voice in a Teaching Dossier (ONLINE ~ 2:00-3:30 pm, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023)**

Whether you have attended our 2023 programming supporting the development of an application for teaching awards (Reflecting On Our Practice, What is Educational Leadership, and What is Teaching Excellence, to name a few) or if you are just looking for assistance editing a teaching dossier, in this interactive workshop participants will be guided through the re-writing and editing process to ensure that their individual voice shines through while sticking to the formal requirements of a required dossier.

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

*This session is part of a series of monthly events supporting faculty who wish to apply for internal or external teaching awards. For more details and dates, please [consult our internal and external teaching award support page here.](#)*

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### **Academic Integrity Month: Call for proposals (Deadline August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023)**

Academic Integrity Month is a pan-University event that will take place throughout October 2023. This event brings together students, faculty and staff for a series of discussions that aim to broaden the understanding of academic integrity at York University. We invite you to submit a proposal for either a presentation or panel session!

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

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### **What is Educational Innovation? (ONLINE ~ 2:00-3:30 pm, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023)**

The Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education describes educational innovation as "the novel execution of ideas that contribute to more effective teaching and learning practices. The result of educational innovation impacts people in academia and beyond to reach mutual goals." Join us as we discuss educational innovation at York. Participants will be encouraged to identify their own evidence of

educational innovation and create strategies for communicating those accomplishments in teaching dossiers and award applications.

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

*This session is part of a series of monthly events supporting faculty who wish to apply for internal or external teaching awards. For more details and dates, please [consult out internal and external teaching award support page here.](#)*

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### **Engagement Strategies for Teaching Remotely (ONLINE ~ September 18-October 13, 2023)**

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.](#)

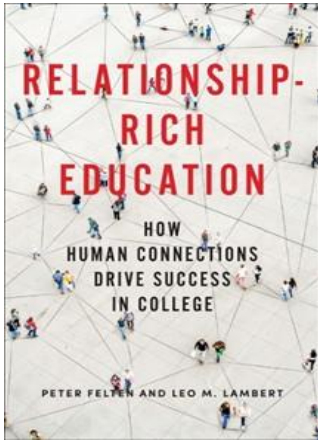
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### **Trauma-Informed Pedagogies Workshop Series – Fall 2023-Winter 2024 (ONLINE ~ Launches September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023)**

This 10-part workshop series will introduce participants to the topic of trauma-informed teaching and offer practical strategies for supporting students and themselves while developing a trauma-informed classroom. Through participation in active learning activities, reflective discussions, and collaborative conversations, participants will explore how to apply learned strategies in their own teaching contexts and consider their own personal parameters within their teaching. Please visit our [registration page](#) to view the schedule, learn more, and register. Registration is limited.

This workshop series is co-organized and co-facilitated by the Teaching Commons and the Centre for Human Rights, Equity, and Inclusion.



## Reading for Teaching – Fall 2023 (ONLINE ~ Launches September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

A collaborative program co-facilitated by the Teaching Commons and [York University Libraries](#), Reading for Teaching is an informal, collegial opportunity to engage with colleagues from across campus interested in reading and talking about teaching. Participants will meet between 2-4 times over the term to discuss a common reading related to current challenges, opportunities, and conversations in teaching and learning. In Fall 2023, we will be reading [Relationship-Rich Education: How Human Connections Drive Success in College \(Peter Felten & Leo M. Lambert\)](#).

This year, we are thrilled to be partnering with colleagues at the University of Guelph who will also be exploring *Relationship-Rich Education*. Our colleagues from Guelph will be joining us for an asynchronous kick off activity and synchronously in our December wrap up session to encourage sharing and exploring diverse perspectives inspired by our common reading experience. More details to come closer to the respective session dates.

For more information, or to register to participate in our Reading for Teaching conversations, please review our registration form: [REGISTER HERE](#)

If you have any questions, you can contact Lisa Endersby, Educational Developer at [lendersb@yorku.ca](mailto:lendersb@yorku.ca)



## Fictional Classrooms: Talking About Teaching Through Narrative (ONLINE ~ September 21, 2023-April 18, 2024)

What can we learn about our own teaching practices and identities from fictional depictions of higher education? Join us in “Fictional Classrooms” as we explore and reflect on narratives of education in films, television, short stories, and novels, whether they speak to us as learners, educators, researchers, artists, or simply as humans. Monthly meetings will alternate between text and screen, and opportunities for both and asynchronous online engagement will be provided. All our materials will be available through York University Library, Toronto Public Library, and/or other sources.

This year, we will read one longer novel alongside other shorter works/films/television. Registrants are invited to choose between Donna Tartt’s [The Secret History](#) (1992), R.F. Kuang’s [Babel](#) (2022),

and Mona Awad's [All's Well](#) (2021) to determine which novel we will collectively read.

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

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### **Save the Date! Teaching Commons Assessment Institute (IN-PERSON ~ October 11 & 12, 2023)**

This Fall reading week, the Teaching Commons is offering a two-day, in-person intensive assessment institute. During the TC Assessment Institute, participants will work closely with peer faculty members, educational developers, writing centre colleagues, and undergraduate student consultants to redesign assignments for their courses. Through themed sessions, consultations, peer feedback, and concentrated working time, participants will leave the institute with a fully developed assessment and skills/strategies to redesign other assignments in their courses. More details, including a link to register, will be shared in upcoming Teaching Commons newsletters and other promotion channels. To learn more, contact Lisa Endersby ([lendersb@yorku.ca](mailto:lendersb@yorku.ca)) or Matthew Dunleavy ([mdunleav@yorku.ca](mailto:mdunleav@yorku.ca)), Educational Developers, Teaching Commons.



### **Toolkit on Supporting Students with Invisible Disabilities**

Interested in learning more on how to support students with invisible disabilities in your classrooms? A student team called InvisEd YU has created an amazing toolkit as a part of York's Cross-Campus Capstone Classroom (C4). The toolkit is designed to be used by professors to create more equitable instructional environments to support students with invisible disabilities. Please feel free to visit the [InvisEd YU website](#) to learn more and access the toolkit!