

# Teaching Commons

## Graduate Students Newsletter

York University Teaching Commons Graduate Students Newsletter, January 2024



### Warm Wishes for Winter 2024

My name is Virginia Grimaldi and I am here to welcome you back to school this year! I am a proud "York lifer" -- I did all my degrees here -- and now happily hold a TAsip with the Teaching Commons in my final PhD year.

As we dive into the new semester and the excitement of 2024, the Teaching Commons awaits to enhance your academic journey. Unlock the benefits of collaborative learning, innovative resources, and personalized support. Embrace a year filled with growth, exploration, critical thinking, and academic success. Together, we can foster best practices, innovative pedagogies, and just have some fun with our colleagues. Join us at the Teaching Commons – where knowledge meets fun, and excellence becomes a habit. Here's to a semester of achievements and memorable moments.



### Blog 249 - Redesigning with Intention: Graduate Student Programming at the Teaching Commons

This is the first in a [series of blog posts](#) continuing in January and February regarding our redesigned programming for graduate students. Teaching Commons blog posts are featured every Monday in Yfile. Let us know if you have a blog to contribute!

## Workshops and Events for Graduate Students and TAs

The following list of events in January all count toward the [Record of Completion certificates](#).

- Learn How to “DO” a Teaching Dossier, virtually via Zoom, Tues. Jan. 16, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. [Register.](#)
- Trauma-Informed Pedagogies Series: Introduction (part two), virtually via Zoom, Thurs. Jan. 18, 10:00 am – 11:30 am. [Register.](#)
- How to Identify and Respond to Students in Distress, virtually via Zoom, Tues. Jan. 23, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm. [Register.](#)
- Reflecting on a Semester of Teaching – Teaching Assistants, in-person in DB 1014 or virtually via Zoom, Wed. Jan. 24, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm. [Register.](#)
- Classroom Strategies for When They Haven’t Done the Readings, in-person in DB 1014, Mon. Jan. 29, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm. [Register.](#)
- Trauma-Informed Pedagogies Series: Wellness and Belonging, virtually via Zoom, Tues. Jan. 30, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm. [Register.](#)
- NEW asynchronous modules: Universal Design for Learning (UDL) – you can [self-enrol in the eClass playground](#) to find and complete any of the modules!

### NEW - Teaching Dossier Circle

A teaching dossier is a reflective document that evidences your beliefs and values of teaching and learning, your teaching experience and effectiveness. The Teaching Dossier Circle is an opportunity for you to connect with peers to generate ideas for your teaching dossier, seek feedback, or have dedicated time to work on sections of your teaching dossier. [Find out more and register your interest!](#)



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### Resources and Supports for Teaching at York

- The Teaching Commons offers daily drop-in hours, Monday to Friday, 10am-11am via this Zoom link: <https://yorku.zoom.us/j/7467955013>. Please introduce yourself as a TA so we can best support you with your teaching!
- For technical support with Zoom and eClass, **Learning Technology Services (LTS)** is also offering virtual drop-in sessions daily (Monday-Friday). [Find information, including hours for each day and a link to the Zoom office hours room.](#)
- Whether you are a new TA at York, or are experienced, you may wish to [access this open enrollment eClass course of resources](#) as there are very useful links and information on resources across York University for you and your students. NEW: [Facilitating Dialogue and Challenging Conversations in the Classroom](#)

## FGS Certificate in Personal Wellness and Learning Skills

This five-week free program focuses on social connection, personal wellness, and learning skills. Topics covered include stress reduction, overcoming procrastination, enhancing motivation, time management, and skills from the field of positive psychology. The program also focuses on creating opportunities to connect with peers and learn more about support at York. The program takes place virtually over Zoom.

The upcoming Winter Term sessions will be on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- January 18, 2024
- January 25, 2024
- February 1, 2024
- February 8, 2024
- February 15, 2024

[Register](#)



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## Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

This certificate consists of two courses that can be taken throughout your graduate studies at York. Each course is approximately 20-hours of your time, offered in both the fall and winter semester. We are offering both courses in the Winter term.

[Register for "How do you know learning happens? - Winter 2024 In-person Course"](#)  
[Register for "How do you know teaching happens? - Winter 2024 Virtual Course"](#)



### Connect with Us!

Follow us on social media to stay up-to-date on all our upcoming workshops, new resources, and other materials related to teaching and learning.

Follow and connect with the Teaching Commons on [YouTube](#) and on [Instagram/Facebook/Twitter](#): @YUTeaching

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