

Teaching Commons

Faculty Newsletter

Teaching Commons Faculty Newsletter August 2024

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.



Practical AI: AI for Student Research Projects (ONLINE ~ August 12, 2024, 2:30-3:30)

In the third workshop in this series, we discuss how students might make use of GenAI for course-related research projects. We explore the possibilities of one powerful AI tool, SciSpace, for removing some common barriers to student success as researchers and streamlining the research process. By the end of this session, participants will be able to integrate this scholarly AI resource into research-related assessments in their courses.

Please register using the [Practical AI Series Registration Pages](#).



Teaching with Videos: A Practical Introduction (IN PERSON & ONLINE ~ August 13, 14, 15, 2024)

Are you thinking about incorporating videos into your teaching, but not sure how to do it? Do you find video editing software too complex to use, with a scary-steep learning curve? Would you like to utilize your lectures recorded in Zoom or Panopto, but need to 'massage' their looks and content a bit? Are you curious about how to add animation and fancy graphics to your videos simply, just by using PowerPoint?

If any of these questions piqued your interest, Teaching with Videos: A Practical Introduction from Teaching Commons is offering you a blended workshop to help you find answers to them!

In the course over three days (2 hours per day), this practical, hands-on workshop will walk you step-by-step through the processes of

- embedding third-party videos into eClass courses
- using Panopto to record and edit your lectures
- utilizing Clipchamp to combine numerous disparate pieces of video and audio files into a single product, and
- creating simple animation and opening segments for your footage with PowerPoint

This workshop will take place on

- **Tuesday, August 13, 2024, from 10am-12pm in the Victor Philip Dahdaleh Building (88 The Pond Road), room 1012**

- **Wednesday, August 14, 2024, from 10am-12pm in the Victor Philip Dahdaleh Building (88 The Pond Road), room 1012**
- **Thursday, August 15, 2024, from 10am-12pm online over Zoom**

This workshop will employ royalty-free applications in a **Windows environment**. (Please note that a **Windows PC and a headphone will be required** for participation). Our workshop will be **held in-person on-campus for the first two days, wrapped up by a virtual/online troubleshooting session on the third day**.

Please register using the [Teaching with Videos registration form](#).



Instructional Skills Workshop (ISW) (IN PERSON ~ August 15, 16, & 19, 2024)

This ISW is an intensive, 3-day peer-based workshop. You will teach 10-minute lessons on each of the three days and receive feedback from peers, garnering plenty of opportunities to further develop your teaching effectiveness individually and collectively.

Spots are limited; register to secure your spot by completing the August [ISW registration form](#). **Registration closes on August 6 at 9:00am ET**. If registration is full when you try to register, please complete [our expression of interest form](#).



AI and Education: A Hands-On Workshop for Course Transformation (ONLINE ~ August 19-30, 2024)

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

Looking to get some hands-on time as you respond to ChatGPT and other generative AI tools in your teaching? Join us for a fully online course in the practical pedagogy of technology-enhanced teaching in the age of artificial intelligence. We will explore a range of topics and resources to determine what this new technology will mean for your course policies, your assessments, and your teaching strategies. Participants will learn by doing as they apply their learning to their own course(s) – whether you are new to generative AI or already using it in your classroom, this course will support you in developing a robust and pedagogically informed approach to its many facets and implications.

Please register using the [AI in Education registration form](#).



Course Design Intensive (IN PERSON ~ Thursday, August 22nd, 10am-3pm)

This is a one-day intensive and interactive workshop, in-person, in DB 1014, for course directors who would like to enhance an existing course or create a new course design.

Learn more and register by completing the [Course Design Intensive registration form](#).



GenAI Fall Pods (ONLINE ~ August-October 2024)

GenAI Fall Pods offer a unique opportunity to work towards your course goals relating to GenAI, alongside colleagues engaged in similar work, providing accountability, feedback, and self-directed benchmarks as well as an opportunity to learn about what other faculty are doing to address GenAI. An educational developer from the Teaching Commons will facilitate sessions and support your work between Pod meetings. All levels of experience with GenAI are welcome.

- Pod 1 (Wednesdays, 2:00-3:30): August 28th, September 18th, October 9th, October 30
- Pod 2 (Dates and times TBD, given sufficient demand)

Please register using the [GenAI Fall Pods registration form](#).



Classroom Observations for Formative Feedback

The Teaching Commons offers 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.

To request an observation, please complete the [Classroom Observation Request Form](#).



Join our Community of Practice: Generative AI Pedagogies at York

This community of practice is dedicated to uniting York University educators who share an interest in generative AI. Together, we connect, collaborate, and share resources, exploring best practices and addressing the challenges and opportunities we face in integrating this technology into postsecondary education. Beyond practical tips and strategies for adapting our teaching, we foster critical conversations about the implications of generative AI. We hold regular virtual community meetings twice per semester. Additionally, all members have access to an eClass site for asynchronous discussions and resource sharing. As generative AI continues to evolve in higher education, our community will adapt, reflecting the interests and priorities of our members.

Join this Community of Practice by completing our [Sign-Up Form](#).

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