

# Teaching Commons

## Faculty Newsletter

Teaching Commons Faculty Newsletter September 2024

To view all of our upcoming offerings, visit [our calendar of events](#)



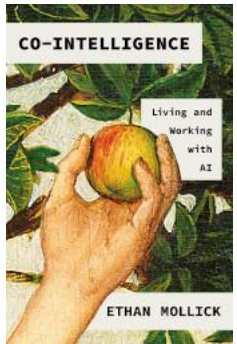
The Teaching Commons is a positive and safe space where faculty, graduate students, and staff from across our campuses can engage in professional development activities related to any aspect of teaching and learning. We offer a broad range of courses, certificates and other programming as well as various 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.



### Teaching in Focus (TiF) 2024

The Teaching Commons invites you to join us at TiF 2024 taking place on September 26<sup>th</sup> (in-person) & 27<sup>th</sup> (online). This year's theme, *Engaged Teaching in Times of Crisis*, asks us to think about this moment in postsecondary education, through scholarship, accounts of teaching practice, reflections on teaching/learning identities, discussion with colleagues, and engagement with student perspectives.

For more information about this year's TiF, or to see the conference program, please visit [the conference website](#)



## **Reading for Teaching (ONLINE ~ Launches September 10, 2024, 11:00-12:00ET)**

Join a community of colleagues in a semester-long exploration of a book about teaching. This fall we will be reading Ethan Mollick's [Co-Intelligence: Living and Working with AI](#) (2024). We will meet monthly via Zoom to work our way through the text together.

About the book: Co-Intelligence explores the idea of thinking and working alongside intelligent machines. Can we leverage AI's capabilities while staying true to our teaching identities, and can we and our students learn from it without being deceived?

To learn more and to register, review [our registration form](#)



## **Engagement Strategies for Teaching Remotely (ONLINE ~ September 23 – October 18, 2024)**

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

Join us as we 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 blended, online, or remote course(s) to increase learner engagement and motivation.

To learn more and to register, review [our registration form](#)



## **DEDI Community of Practice Conference (ONLINE & IN PERSON ~ September 30 & October 1, 2024)**

You are invited to attend our second annual **Decolonizing, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (DEDI) Community of Practice Conference!** Our theme for this year is SPACES and we will collaboratively be grappling with the work of DEDI in our spaces of teaching and learning. What comes up when you think about DEDI spaces? What do you dream about in and outside of these spaces? What are some contentions of DEDI spaces? Come explore with us! This conference is free and open to all who teach at York University.

**Day 1 (September 30): Fully online**

**Day 2 (October 1): In person**

To register, please complete our [conference registration form](#). Registration closes September 25 at 11:59pm ET. Questions? Contact Ameera Ali ([aliamira@yorku.ca](mailto:aliamira@yorku.ca))



## **New Term, New Tab!**

We are excited to announce a new tab on our website for all our programming, events, resources, and supports related to **Decolonizing, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (DEDI)**. Although we have DEDI embedded within much of our general supports that are included on our website, the DEDI tab is a space where you can come to find all of our *DEDI-specific* supports. This tab will be updated on an ongoing basis as we continue to develop our supports, so please check back regularly to see what is new!

**Please visit the [DEDI tab on our website](#) to explore for yourself!** Any questions or comments can be directed to Ameera Ali ([aliamira@yorku.ca](mailto:aliamira@yorku.ca)).



## **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 [Observation Request Form](#)

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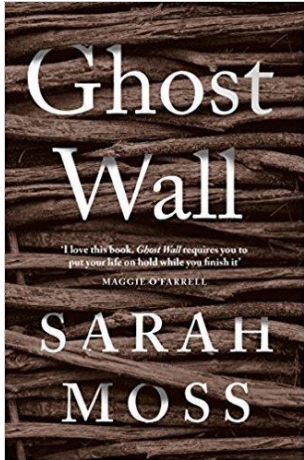


## **Practical AI: Introducing Students to Co-Writing with AI (ONLINE ~ September 19, 2024, 10:00-11:00)**

What does authorship mean when GenAI can do so much? We explore the SHARE (Streamline, Heighten, Arrange, Ratify, Evidence) framework for scholarly co-writing with AI, developed at York's Teaching Commons and pilot-tested over summer 2024. By the end of this session, participants will be able to introduce students to an adaptable approach for academic writing alongside AI while maintaining accountable authorship.

To register and to learn more about other workshops in this series, visit [our registration form](#)

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## **Fictional Classrooms: Talking About Teaching Through Narrative (ONLINE ~ September 19, 2024-April 17, 2025)**

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 and novels, whether they speak to us as learners, educators, researchers, artists, or simply as humans.

For Fall 2024 we will be discussing the following texts/films in synchronous online meetings:

- September 19, 2:30-3:30 - A trio of poems
- October 17, 2:30-3:30 - Valedictorian by N.K. Jemisin (short story)
- November 21, 2:30-3:30 - Good Will Hunting (dir. Gus Van Sant) (film)
- December 12, 2:30-3:30 – Ghost Wall by Sarah Moss (novel)

To register and to learn more, visit [our registration form](#)

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