

# Teaching Commons

## Faculty Newsletter

**Teaching Commons Faculty Newsletter March 2025**

To view all our upcoming offerings, [visit 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. Connect with us for best practices and innovative strategies, support with program renewals and course design, and guidance specific to York institutional priorities.



### **NEW: Request Teaching Commons Support**

The Teaching Commons has a new way for you to connect with us! Just click on the “Request Support” button on our home page to share your needs via our new web form. We will connect you with the resources and expertise you need within 2 business days.



### **Teaching with Videos: A Practical Introduction (In Person and Online: March 12, 13, 14)**

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?

This workshop will take place on

- Wednesday, March 12, 2025, from 10am-12pm in the Victor Philip Dahdaleh Building (88 The Pond Road), room 1012
- Thursday, March 13, 2025, from 10am-12pm in the Victor Philip Dahdaleh Building (88 The Pond Road), room 1012
- Wednesday, March 14, 2025, 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**.



### **The Paradox of Dis/Ableism and Access: A Conversation (ONLINE ~ March 6, 2025, 10-11:30am)**

This discussion and podcast will explore the contradictions, controversies and challenges of the dis/ableist systems in which we work, study, and live. Join us for a conversation aimed at bridging the gap between our dis/ableist biases and systems, and explore allyship and the expansive possibilities of a truly inclusive co-existence. This session is organized by the Centre for Human Rights, Equity, and Inclusion in partnership with The Teaching Commons and Student Accessibility Services.

To learn more and register for this session, visit the [session registration form](#).

This session is a part of Inclusion Week. To learn more and register for other Inclusion Week offerings, please visit the [Inclusion Week webpage](#).

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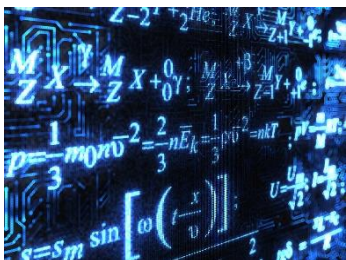


## Classroom Observations for Formative Feedback

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 here](#).

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## AI and the University: A Critical Conversation (ONLINE ~ 12:00-1:30 pm March 7, 2025)

Join the Office of the VP Teaching & Learning for a panel discussion about the challenges associated with the rapid adoption of AI and the university's role in addressing these challenges. Panelists from across York will discuss the environmental, ethical, and social impact of AI in a facilitated conversation and Q&A.

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

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## Generative AI Teaching Showcase (ONLINE ~ 12:00-1:30 pm March 21, 2025)

Are you curious about incorporating AI into your teaching? Join the Teaching Commons together with the Office of the VP Teaching & Learning for an AI teaching showcase to hear specific examples and practical advice from your colleagues who are using AI in their teaching either for assessment or for classroom activities.

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

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## Creative Course Content: Instructional Strategies for Online Learning (March 31-May 2, 2025)

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

The online environment presents several challenges to delivering course content, ranging from the technical (inconsistent internet access for students) to the cognitive (student attention dropping during a standard lecture). In this fully online course, participants will learn by doing through ongoing participation in weekly learning activities. Together we will model alternatives to the “standard” lecture, practice creative and efficient ways to convey content to students, apply best practices for designing online instruction of all types, and troubleshoot common challenges.

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



### **AI and Education: A Hands-On Workshop for Course Transformation (ONLINE ~ March 31- May 2, 2025)**

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.

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



### **Empowerment Through Understanding Panel Event**

This event will be an online panel event that focuses on the classroom and overall academic experiences of students with reading and writing-based learning disabilities. The goal of this event is to start a productive and meaningful conversation about learning disabilities within the York University community and to subsequently impart clarifying and accessibility information to those with and without learning disabilities to improve inclusion and reduce stigma around the topic. This goal will be brought to life by exceptional panel speakers, such as the Executive Director of Dyslexia Canada, who will

be providing valuable insight into such experiences and the reasons behind them.

Click this link to RSVP to the event and learn more about reading and writing-based learning disabilities and their effects in the classroom! RSVPs will close by March 8th, 2025 at 11:59 PM. A Zoom link will be sent to your indicated email address closer to the date.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScauPjTHYPVN\\_eHc5-5H\\_m6qIEwwJhZw4gNkPXcTjzieVuI2Q/viewform?usp=dialog](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScauPjTHYPVN_eHc5-5H_m6qIEwwJhZw4gNkPXcTjzieVuI2Q/viewform?usp=dialog)

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