

Teaching Commons News

Welcome

Each month we present a brief roundup of Teaching Commons news, programs, events, workshops, and courses we offer to faculty members, contract faculty and graduate students.

See our website (<http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/>) for further details of each program we offer including dates, times, locations, and how to register.



Teaching Commons News

Join in the Teaching Commons Conferences:

- **'Teaching in Focus' (TIF)** on May 23rd: come to York's inaugural annual teaching and learning conference. Thanks to your enthusiasm and support, we have been overwhelmed by positive responses to our call for proposals. We are currently reviewing them: the conference program will be available soon. To register your attendance at the conference, please visit <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/tif/> by **Thursday, May 16, 2013**. **NB:** we are still accepting proposals for poster sessions at <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=34839> by **Friday, April 12th 2013**.
- **'Supporting Teaching at York' (STAY)** Symposium on May 3rd will focus on professional development for graduate students. This symposium will be run by our Senior Teaching Assistants (STAs). See <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/sta-conference/> for details. **NB:** Deadline for registration is **Friday, April 26, 2013**.

Coming soon – Interviews with York's course directors



The first in a series of video interviews will shortly be available on the Teaching Commons website. Experienced teachers share insights into approaches that work. Watch out for more as we build on this resource.

TC eLearning blog guest editor invitation

This month, we are launching an eLearning blog to facilitate conversations and encourage debates around current issues and innovations in eLearning. We are now inviting all interested members of the community to be guest editors of the blog. If you are interested, please email Dr. Yelin Su ysu@yorku.ca for details.

Every member of York U will be able to our community of practice by engaging in the conversation, suggesting topics for discussion, posing questions or supplying answers, offering/seeking support for teaching practice, or sharing resources.

eLearning @York Course

Our May eLearning @ York course is scheduled to start on Monday, May 6th. To register, please visit <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/elearning-york-course/>.

Final call for Supervising Graduate Students @ York

This three-day SEDA accredited course is scheduled for 25th April, 16th May and 13th June 2013. This course is designed to support faculty who are currently, or would like to prepare to, supervise graduate students. This course is almost fully booked. To register, please contact Barb Wells wellsb@yorku.ca.

Course Design @ York Course

The two day Course Design @ York will run on Tues 28th and Weds 29th of May. The program aims to provide opportunities for participants to revisit and reflect on their curriculum design and teaching practices through hands-on activities and discussion with colleagues. This year's program will focus on facilitating a classroom learning environment that is evidence-based, learning-centred, and promotes deep learning. To register, please visit <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=34456>.

Coming this summer -- York eLearning Boot Camp!

One day workshop on Thursday July 11th ... Learn how to design a blended or online course or lesson, find out what students really want from online learning and how to engage them in participation. Register your interest now at <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=32389>

Did you know ...

During March, the TC collaborated with several faculties and departments to arrange tailor-made seminars and workshops. Examples include:

Running workshops on writing learning outcomes and achieving constructive alignment with assessment and course activities;

Facilitating a discussion around a Faculty eLearning strategy;

Contact us to arrange Faculty specific support - please email teaching@yorku.ca

Faculty Support Programming: Spring 2013

eLearning @ York Course

This is an introductory course for faculty members who would like to explore and develop eLearning (web enhanced, blended and online learning) in their teaching. The course has been externally accredited by the Staff and Educational Developers Association (SEDA) Professional Development Framework (PDF) award. Based on the philosophy of experiential learning and SEDA-PDF values and outcomes, the course guides participants through pedagogic theories, practical interventions and reflective practice, to create a blended or online course. This course is offered a minimum of three times each academic year. In addition we can tailor the course to the specific needs of individual Faculties.

For more detailed information about the course and registration, please visit <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/elearning-york-course/>.

Experiential Education @ York Course

This is York University's course to support faculty who would like to explore and develop "In-Course" or "Within-Community" Experiential Education (EE) in their teaching. Participants engage in a range of learning activities, including reading articles, listening to presentations, engaging in group work and contributing to online and face-to-face discussions. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet and work with EE Coordinators who provide logistical support and who help participants to develop community contacts. The March/April course is now fully booked but you can register your interest in future sessions here:

<http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=31489>

Course Design @ York Course

The course design @York course is a two-day workshop which provides opportunities for faculty members to develop a new course or redesign an existing course. During the two-day course, participants engage in hands-on activities and discussions with colleagues focusing on facilitating a classroom learning environment that uses evidence-based practice, is learner-centered, and which promotes deep learning. The 2013 Spring course is scheduled for Tues-Weds 28th and 29th of May. To register go to <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=34456>.

Supervising Graduate Students @ York course

NB: This course is almost fully booked. Aimed at graduate supervisors, at Masters or Doctoral level, this three day course will cover both practical matters such as University expectations as well as pedagogical issues concerning best practice in supervision. It will be externally accredited by SEDA (Staff and Educational Developers Association) which is a professional association that promotes innovation and good practice in higher education. Course details online at <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/supervising-graduate-students-york/>. For registration, please contact Barb Wells wellsb@yorku.ca.



Brown Bag Lunches

April 2nd – Graduate student BBL: Debunking Marking & Grading (with guest speaker Jon Sufrin)

April 9th – From accommodation to accessibility (guest facilitator Maureen Haig)

April 18th – Fostering your students' critical skills (guest facilitators Ron Sheese and Sophie Bury)

Details on <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/professional-development/monthly-brown-bag-lunches/>,

Programs for Graduate students

The TC continues to offer numerous courses, workshops, and certificate programs for Graduate Students at all levels of their teaching and professional development.

- Senior Teaching Assistant Program (SEDA Accredited)
- TA Certificate in Teaching (undergoing SEDA Accreditation)
- 'Record of Completion' Certificate
- Brown Bag Lunch Series/Professional Development Workshops

See http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/ta_support/ for details

External Links of interest

Resources for developing learning outcomes for courses and programs

- http://www.uwo.ca/tsc/resources/selected_teaching_topics/curriculum_course_design/learning_outcomes.html
- <http://www.uoguelph.ca/tss/pdfs/What%20is%20a%20Learning%20Outcome%20Handout.pdf>
- <http://www.teaching.utoronto.ca/topics/coursedesign/learning-outcomes.htm>

Assessment Strategies

- <http://www.ryerson.ca/lt/resources/assessment/>

Contact North | Contact Nord featured innovative eLearning projects

- <http://www.contactnorth.ca/pockets-innovation>

The Journal of Experiential Education

- <http://www.aee.org/publications/jee>

Bridging research and practice to support student success

- <http://nsse.iub.edu/>
- <http://supportingstudentsuccess.wordpress.com/>

For information about our programs, resources and much more, visit our website at <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca>

This newsletter is available as a .pdf at <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/tcnewsletter/>

