

Teaching Commons News

Sprinting to Spring!

The Teaching Commons has many initiatives underway that will be live come the spring. The team has been working on projects including meeting up with the groups funded by the Ontario Online Initiative and developing a new Teaching Commons website. The Teaching Commons is also proud to have been asked to host the Educational Developer Caucus (EDC) Institute, a Canada-wide 3-day development opportunity for newer and seasoned educational developers, taking place in mid-April.

New TC Offerings



First Workshop at Glendon College

The Teaching Commons is pleased to announce that a workshop will be offered for the first time, in French, at Glendon College. "Activer l'apprentissage dans un cours magistral" or "Lecturing for Active Learning" will be taking place March 4 from 1 pm to 2:30 in York Hall A220. Faculty

from Keele Campus with a good command of French are welcome to attend! To register: <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=239469>.

Let's TaLC: The Teaching and Learning Collective

TaLC, the Teaching and Learning Collective, is conceived as a group of York scholars who will come together on a regular basis to have scholarly conversation around teaching and learning. The Teaching Commons will play a pivotal role in fostering this community of practitioners with monthly events, the first of which is a workshop entitled Researching Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, taking place April 2 from 9:30 to 11:30 in TEL 1014. To register: <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=241386>.

Teaching Bites: Call for volunteers!

The Teaching Commons is launching a new teaching series and is seeking the involvement of faculty members. The Teaching Bites is a monthly event starting in April during which instructors will talk about one aspect of their teaching and encourage attendees to ask questions and share their own experience. The goal of this series is to link teaching and learning principles to practice as experienced by York instructors. If you wish to participate as a presenter, contact Dr Geneviève Maheux-Pelletier at gmp@yorku.ca.

Upcoming events

New! Lecturing for Active Learning

March 4, 1-2:30pm
YH A220 (Glendon College)

Teaching 1000-Level Courses

March 6, 9:30am-12:30pm
TEL 1014

Assessment

March 12, 9:30am-12:30pm
TEL 1014

New! Principles and Practices (of Course Design)

March 24, 9:30am-12:30pm
TEL 1012

Experiential Education (EE) Bootcamp

March 27, 10am-3pm
TEL 1014



Don't miss the IRDL Roundtable: Changing Patterns, Shifting Practices, and Emerging Pedagogies

This roundtable will be featuring TC Director Dr Celia Popovic and colleagues from LA&PS and Education

March 9, 10am-3pm in TEL 1009

Focus on TIF

With the numerous proposals received for the Teaching in Focus Conference taking place May 21-22, we have an excellent conference in the making. **We are still inviting proposals for poster presentations.** Please send your poster proposal to Dr Yelin Su at ysu@yorku.ca.

Instructional Skills Workshops and Beyond

Instructional Skills Workshops (ISW)

The ISW is a 3-day intensive experiential learning program designed to develop teaching skills for both new and experienced instructors. Offered within a small-group setting, the ISW affords the participants the opportunity to teach mini-lessons and receive feedback from the other attendees. Participants gain useful theoretical and practical knowledge to enhance their teaching. The workshop encourages self-reflection and peer feedback focused on the learning process. The Teaching Commons offers the ISW every month. To register, check out the TC events page at <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/instructional-skills-workshop/>.

ISWers... on your mark, get set, FDW!

FDW is the Facilitator Development Workshop, a five-day training event preparing educators to lead the Instructional Skills Workshop. The Teaching Commons will be offering the FDW between May 11-15. To register, you must have completed the ISW. Please inquire with our FDW trainer, Dr Mandy Frake-Mistak, at mfmistak@yorku.ca.

Communities of Practice

A Community of Practice is a group of professionals with a range of experience and expertise who meet to discuss shared goals and interests.

The Teaching Commons is facilitating the development of two communities, one for **faculty who are new to York** and one for **faculty who teach at the 1000 level**. You may wish to join either or both groups. Should you wish to start a new discussion group around a teaching topic of interest to you, please feel free to make your suggestion at teaching@yorku.ca.

For more information and meeting times (many meeting times are available to accommodate your schedule) for the two existing communities of practice, please visit <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/community-of-practice/>.

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

Look out for the
new TC website...

Coming soon!

Upcoming Events, Continued

Introduction to Learning, Teaching and Assessment

March 30, 9:30am-12:30pm
TEL 1014

New! Researching Teaching & Learning in Higher Education

April 2, 9:30am-11:30am
TEL 1014

Course Design Bootcamp

April 9, 10am-3pm
TEL 1014

Instructional Skills Workshops

March 9th, 11th, and 13th
9am-5:30pm
York Lanes Rooms 280A

April 28th, 29th, and 30th
9am-5:30pm
York Lanes Rooms 280A

New! Facilitator Development Workshop

May 11 to 15
All day

International Teaching Mentorship Opportunity

Academics Without Borders – Aga Khan University is seeking faculty mentorship volunteers who can provide pedagogical support to meetees virtually via Skype and other means. More information can be found here: <http://www.stihe.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Job-Description-Mentorship-18.01.15.pdf>.