

# Teaching Commons News For Graduate Students

## Spend Time with your Teaching Commons Family

As midterm approaches and work is piling up we tend to become introverted and isolate ourselves just trying to get through the busy time. This can be productive, but if you find yourself struggling with a particular task and spending more time worrying about it than working through it, it is time to take a break! It is often hard to take even one hour away from our work, but that one hour could save you days of stress and worry. So, consider spending just one hour with your Teaching Commons family. Our Senior Teaching Assistants are planning discipline specific workshops for you where you can spend time interacting with like-minded individuals who are likely going through the same experiences you are. Maybe our [‘Teaching, Research and a Life? Finding the Right Balance’](#) workshop is just in time!



## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Supporting Teaching At York (STAY) Symposium



It is that exciting time of year again when we announce that registration for the STAY Symposium is now open!

**When:** Friday, May 6th, 2016

**Registration:** 9:00am to 9:30am  
**Symposium runs from 9:30am to 3:30pm**

**Location:** Life Science Building, Room 103

### [Register for the STAY Symposium](#)

This year we are pleased to announce that there will be two new plenaries in addition to the valuable sessions facilitated by the [2015-2016 Senior Teaching Assistants](#). Stay tuned to the [STAY Symposium webpage](#) for details on all sessions.

Visit our [‘Record of Completion’ Certificate webpage](#) for more information about how attending the STAY Symposium can help you earn the Senior Certificate.

Both the discipline specific workshops and upcoming workshops can count toward the ‘Record of Completion’ certificates.

### Upcoming Workshops

#### Teaching, Research, and a Life? Finding the Right Balance

Wednesday February 10, 2016, 12-1pm in TEL 1014  
[Register for Teaching, Research, and a Life? Finding the Right Balance](#)

#### Reading Week is Over – Strategies to Maintain and Inspire Student Motivation

Tuesday February 23, 2016, 12-1pm in TEL 1014  
[Register for Reading Week is Over – Strategies to Maintain and Inspire Student Motivation](#)

#### How do I know I’m on the Right Track? Strategies to evaluate my OWN Teaching

Thursday March 3, 2016, 12-1pm in TEL 1014  
[Register for How do I know I’m on the Right Track? Strategies to evaluate my OWN Teaching](#)

## Discipline Specific Workshops

**From Backpack to Briefcase: Steps Toward Experiential and Service Learning**  
Tuesday February 2, 2016, 3-4pm in TEL 1014

\*This workshop is open to every graduate student

Facilitated by Alia Abbas, Senior Teaching Assistant in the Department of Geography

[For a Description and to Register for From Backpack to Briefcase: Steps Toward Experiential and Service Learning](#)



**The Benefits of Active Learning in 1000-Level Philosophy Tutorials**  
Thursday February 11, 2016, 12:30-1:30pm in South Ross 421

Facilitated by Andrew Molas, Senior Teaching Assistant in the Department of Philosophy

[For a Description and to Register for The Benefits of Active Learning in 1000-Level Philosophy Tutorials](#)

**Optimizing Student Learning Experience and Enhancing Performance in the Laboratory**  
Monday February 22, 2016, 11am – 12pm in Stong College Room 216 (Main Floor)

Facilitated by Fettah Erdogan, Senior Teaching Assistant in the Department of Chemistry

[For a Description and to Register for Optimizing Student Learning Experience and Enhancing Performance in the Laboratory](#)



**Syllabus Design Workshop**

Tuesday February 23, 2016, 12-1pm in 4034 Ignat Kaneff Building, Osgoode Hall Law School

\*This workshop is open to every graduate student

Facilitated by Zaglul Haider, Senior Teaching Assistant in Osgoode Hall Law School

[Register for Syllabus Design Workshop](#)

**From Headlines to Insights: Connecting Theory with Personal Media Consumption in the Classroom**

Thursday February 25, 2016, 9:30-10:30am in TEL 3001

Facilitated by Aidan Moir, Senior Teaching Assistant in the Department of Communication Studies

[For a Description and to Register for From Headlines to Insights: Connecting Theory with Personal Media Consumption in the Classroom](#)





**Communicating Science Effectively: Practical Strategies and Tools for Science TAs**  
Friday February 26, 2016, 12-1pm in Lumbers 354

Facilitated by Uzma Nadeem, Senior Teaching Assistant in the Department of Biology

[For a Description and to Register for Communicating Science Effectively: Practical Strategies and Tools for Science TAs](#)

**Introduction to Legal Liabilities and Teaching Practices**  
Monday February 29, 2016, 12:30-1:30pm in TEL 1009

\*This workshop is open to every graduate student

Facilitated by Meysam Saidi, Senior Teaching Assistant in Osgoode Hall Law School

[For a Description and to Register for Introduction to Legal Liabilities and Teaching Practices](#)



## Focus on Writing Workshop Series

As graduate students you take on many roles. In addition to teachers you are students and researchers. To assist you in these other roles, our colleagues from the Faculty of Education are offering workshops on writing to every graduate student at York University.

**From Reading to Writing: How to think with other people's ideas and views in your own reading and writing**

Prof. Deborah Britzman  
Wed., February 24, 2:30-3:30pm  
Winters College 283A

**(Very Important Author, 2015): Thinking about Citational Practices**

Prof. Sharon Murphy  
Wed., March 2, 2:00-3:30pm  
Winters College 283A

**8 Tips for Writing a MRP, Thesis or Dissertation**

Prof. Jen Gilbert  
Wed., March 23, 2:00pm-3:30pm  
Winters College 283A

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