

Teaching Commons News

For Graduate Students

Welcome Back!

Welcome to the first edition of Teaching Commons news for Graduate Students for Fall 2013! Please visit our website for details on the many events and certificates we offer: <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/for-all-graduate-students/>

Getting Ready for Fall Term!

York University might have been quieter during these past few months, but make no mistake – they have indeed been busy! Here in the Teaching Commons we have been continuing to engage with teachers and researchers across the campus as we hosted and facilitated events such as the Course Design Course for Graduate Students. Primarily, our time has been spent updating our courses, developing new courses for graduate students, and organizing Professional Development Workshops. We are looking forward to a successful year of teaching at York University and are ready to welcome you to be a part of it!!!

Upcoming Events for Graduate Students

TA Orientation – REGISTER TODAY!!!

August 29*, September 3rd (am and pm), 4th (pm), 5th (am & pm)

During this 3 hour session you will be provided with resources and guidance to help you get started as a TA at York University. We will discuss topics such as your role and responsibility as a teaching assistant, how to effectively engage with your course director, strategies to design your curriculum and lesson plans.

- August 29th [1:30pm to 4:30pm](#) (*For LA&PS)
- September 3rd [10am to 1pm](#) or [2pm to 5pm](#)
- September 4th [2pm to 5pm](#)
- September 5th [10am to 1pm](#) or [2pm to 5pm](#)

Registration is now open. Please visit <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/professional-development/ta-orientation/> to register for this event.



Upcoming Professional Development Workshops

Designing your Tutorial – September 17, 12 – 1pm in TEL 1014.

Accommodating Students with Disabilities in the University Classroom – September 25, 12-1pm in TEL 1014 *Note: This session must have a minimum of 15 people to run.

Participatory Learning: How to engage your Students – October 2, 12-1pm in TEL 1014.

To register for these and other Professional Development Workshops visit

<http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/ta-sessions/>

Or by visiting the Teaching Commons calendar at: <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/calendar/>



Professional Development for Graduate Students

These lunch time workshops are organized by Teaching Commons to provide support and practical strategies and advice to all Graduate Students at York University. These sessions are facilitated by Teaching Commons Staff, Faculty members from across the university, and participants in our Senior Teaching Assistants program. The topics range but are designed to offer support at every level of teaching experience. Each session contributes to one credit of your 'Record of Completion' Certificate. For a full list of workshops please visit: <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/ta-sessions/>.

Complete your 'Record of Completion' Certificate

This certificate is to honour outstanding Graduate Students for their ongoing dedication to the enhancement and improvement of teaching and learning at York University. In order to receive this certificate, you are required to register, attend, and actively participate in the TA Orientation and in a minimum of five (5) TA events and/or workshops. These sessions may be run by a Senior Teaching Assistant (STA) or through the Teaching Commons. If you do not attend TA Orientation but would like to earn your 'Record of Completion Certificate' then you must attend six (6) workshops. This certificate must be **completed within one year**. For more information on how to complete this certificate program, please visit: <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/teaching-assistant-record-of-completion-certificate/>

Senior Teaching Assistant (STA) Program

The Senior Teaching Assistant program is a yearlong, SEDA accredited course. Applicants to this program are expected to have completed the TA Certificate in Teaching (TACT) and be able to show evidence of an interest in teaching and learning beyond their immediate TA role. This may be evidenced by the TA 'Record of Completion' Certificate. Participant's role will be to: plan and deliver educational events including a session at the 'STAY' symposium, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness and acceptability of the events, and identify appropriate follow up development activity, which may then form the basis of future developments either by the STA or by future program participants.

To register and for additional information visit: http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/professional-development/senior-teaching-assistant-program/?doing_wp_cron=1358519964.2843029499053955078125

TA Certificate in Teaching (TACT)

TACT is a SEDA accredited, blended course during which participants will explore key issues in learning and teaching in higher education. In order to be considered eligible, you must have prior experience as a Teaching Assistant and must be teaching during the term in which you take TACT. Preference will be given to applicants who have participated in TA events and workshops, as evidenced by the 'Record of Completion'

Certificate. <http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/professional-development/teaching-assistant-certificate-in-teaching-tact/>

Both the Fall and Winter course offerings are now full. Should you be interested, please contact Mandy Frake-Mistak at mfmistak@yorku.ca, to be placed on the waitlist.

The TC continues to offer numerous courses, workshops, and certificate programs for Graduate Students at all levels of their teaching and professional development. See http://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/ta_support/ for details

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