TIF 2019 Call for Proposals – “Intentionality in Your Teaching: From Practice to Praxis”

The theme for our 7th annual Teaching in Focus Conference (TiF) is about your specific and intentional approach to teaching. We ask you to consider what it is you do in your classroom and why. During the conference, participants will have an opportunity to share and learn from others at York what innovative approaches and strategies are being used in classrooms across campus. TiF is designed to celebrate educational innovation and transformation. We strongly encourage all session proposals to be highly interactive to allow participants to engage in meaningful dialogue with the presenters and with each other. Proposals are due no later than March 1st, 2019.

- Session Type: Interactive Presentation
  An interactive presentation is an opportunity to encourage collaborative discussion and development around a particular topic. Sessions may also include a demonstration of a particular teaching strategy or assessment technique. These sessions will be 45 minutes in length and will be open to all conference participants.

- Session Type: Poster
  Poster sessions are an opportunity to present your research and ideas related to a particular program or project. Poster sessions should be a visual as well as text-based representation of your work. Presenters invited to the poster sessions will have the opportunity to discuss their research with conference attendees during assigned timeslots.

To submit a proposal visit: https://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=597759

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TiF 2018 Presentations

Presentations from the 2018 Teaching in Focus conference sessions are now online! Presentations can be reviewed at https://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/tif-2018/. To find a presentation, click on the name of the session. The link to the presentations will be found at the end of each abstract.
Preparing Students for Critical Reflection Workshop

Incorporating structured reflection into a course and assessing the learning that occurs as a result can be a daunting task. This hands-on workshop is designed to support faculty in identifying strategies and developing plans for reflective activities and assessments to support students in developing their ability to reflect as well as in designing structured reflective activities and a related assessment plan for both in-class and community focused EE courses.

**Time:** Monday, February 11, 2019, 10:00 am -- 1:00pm  
**Location:** DB 1014  
**Registration**

Using Adobe Connect to Host Synchronized Meetings

This hands-on workshop is aimed at introducing the basics of the Adobe Connect. Adobe Connect is a web conference software supported by York University and is embedded in Moodle. During this workshop, we will practice setting up and using different user interaction features offered by the system as a host, a presenter and a user. We will also discuss various ways of using Adobe Connect in your teaching and research.

Technical requirements: Please bring your laptops as we will be creating an Adobe Connect module in Moodle (in any active or archived course of yours). You will also be sent an email with instructions on testing your laptop for the Adobe connect compatibility shortly before the workshop.

**Time:** 2: 00 pm – 3:30 pm, Wednesday, February 20th  
**Location:** DB 1014  
**Registration**

February eLearning@York Workshop

The eLearning @ York is a hands-on course where participants will design different components to draft a course design blueprint for their blended/fully online course. This is a blended learning experience comprising two two-hour face-to-face sessions and two online sessions followed by individual consultations.

**Schedule:** Tuesday, February 5, 2019, 10:00 am -12:00 pm in DB (formerly TEL) 1014 & Tuesday, February 12, 2019, 10:00 am -12:00 pm in DB (formerly TEL) 1014  
To enroll, please fill out the registration form. Detailed information on this course can be found at the eLearning@York course website.
The Interactive Lecture: An Active Learning Workshop

This workshop introduces participants to the Interactive Lecture as a technique to promote active learning, i.e., learning by doing. Attendees will be introduced to this pedagogical approach through participation in an interactive lecture on interactive lecturing, including a range of techniques such as think-pair-share, free writes, anonymous polls and on-line games. They will also receive a packet of information material to facilitate the implementation of this pedagogical approach.

Time: Tuesday, February 26, 2019, 10:00 am -- 11:30 am
Location: DB 1014
Registration

Presentation Skill Workshop Series

February Workshop: Speaking to Engage: Effectively Communicate When Presenting

This is workshop I of the TC Presentation Skills Workshop Series. This workshop introduces effective presentation skills for in-person and online environment. We will discuss:

- Presentation skills for face to face and online teaching
- Preparing for online recording
  - Checking audio and video
  - What not to wear
- Preparing for an interview: face-to-face and phone/skype

Time: Wednesday, February 13, 2019, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Location: DB1014
Registration

March Webinar: Avoiding Death by PowerPoint

This is workshop II of the TC Presentation Skills Workshop Series. This webinar discusses effective usage of PowerPoint and other visual aids for presentation:

- Dos and Don’ts when creating and using PowerPoint for presentations
- Free resources/open resources to create visual aids for presentations
- Alternatives to PowerPoint

We will use Zoom for the TC webinars. You will receive instructions about attending the webinar after your registration.

Time: Friday, March 22, 2019, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Registration
February Teaching Commons Journal Club

The Teaching Commons is hosting its next Journal Club conversation about Cognition and Learning on **Wednesday, February 13 from 1:30-2:30pm**. Join us at the Teaching Commons for an informal discussion of *Optimizing the Use of Interpolated Tests: The Influence of Interpolated Test Lag*. Journal Club participants are asked to read the chosen article in advance and come prepared to discuss their ideas, reactions, and questions with fellow colleagues interested in exploring innovation in teaching and learning.

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**Student Perspectives on Teaching – Student Consultants on Teaching at York (SCOTAY)**

The Teaching Commons has launched an exciting initiative: SCOTAY, or Student Consultants on Teaching at York. The SCOTAYs are undergraduate students from the Faculty of Education with a keen interest in teaching and learning and the enhancement of the student experience. Their role is to provide a student voice into teaching and learning activities at York, offering a low stress opportunity for faculty to reflect on their teaching practice through the eyes of a student. Faculty whose primary role is teaching, or faculty who are looking to revisit current strategies or reflect on new pedagogies, are all encouraged to register.

These students have been trained at the Teaching Commons to work with professors who are interested in receiving feedback on their teaching from a student not enrolled in their classes. The SCOTAYs are ready to observe a lecture and provide feedback based on a pre-observation meeting in which you and the student set goals and expectations for the observation. Professors who have participated in the program have discussed feedback on the pace and organization of the lecture, student engagement activities, and clarity of information presented in class. This feedback is based around the goals and expectations discussed in the pre-observation meeting.

The program is overseen by educational developers from the Teaching Commons who ensure that both the instructors and SCOTAYs receive adequate support throughout the process.

To enroll in the program as an instructor, please visit this link: [https://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=581169](https://teachingcommonsforms.apps01.yorku.ca/forms/view.php?id=581169)

For questions about the program, please don’t hesitate to contact Lisa Endersby, Educational Developer, at lendersb@yorku.ca
Certificate in Teaching Practices

This certificate offers a flexible framework for further developing your understanding of university teaching and integrating a range of teaching strategies focused on student learning.

You will receive a certificate that is recognized at York and beyond. It can support your dossier as you progress in your teaching career or apply for teaching awards. By completing the certificate, you will better be able to:

- Consider the many factors informing how to plan a course, design classroom activities, and assess students;
- Address the diverse needs of your learners;
- Identify ways to enhance student engagement in your classes;
- Connect with other instructors and teaching & learning communities at York.

What do I need to do to get it?

- You will spend approximately 6 days on professional development spread over one year.
- Book an individual consultation with an Educational Developer by emailing us at teaching@yorku.ca. You will discuss the certificate requirements and develop an individual learning plan to achieve your goals.

For more details, visit https://teachingcommons.yorku.ca/for-cds/workshops-and-courses/courses/certificate-in-teaching-practices/.

Incorporating Audio and Video in Your Teaching practice

If you are interested in embedding self-produced audio and video components in your teaching practice but aren’t sure where to start, check out the following guides on the Teaching Commons’ blog.

Creating Effective Videos with a Smartphone is a guide that shows how you can create a good quality video by addressing three key areas when recording: audio, stability and lighting. Here is the link to that guide.

Podcasting for Teaching and Research demonstrates, step by step, how to produce a professional-sounding audio podcast. This guide discusses the equipment you need to get started and also has video tutorials showing how to edit, save and share your podcast. Here is the link to that guide.
Reading for Teaching

Have you read any good books on education lately? If the answer is yes, we would like to have your recommendation included in Reading for Teaching. In this regular feature that will be shared via social media, great books on teaching and learning will be highlighted by the Teaching Commons’ staff and York faculty. If interested in participating, please contact Anna Augusto Rodrigues at aarod@yorku.ca.

The Call for Proposals for Online Learning 2019: Global Summit & EdTech Expo, Teaching & Learning in the Digital Age

Contact North | Contact Nord invites you to submit a proposal to share your knowledge, insights, experience and understanding about online, blended and technology-enhanced learning in higher education with colleagues, practitioners, online learning experts, government policy-makers, and private sector providers from around the world in Toronto, Canada at Online Learning 2019: Global Summit & EdTech Expo, Teaching & Learning in the Digital Age from October 8-10, 2019.

Details can be found at http://globalonlinelearningsummit.ca/call-for-proposals/.

The 34th National Great Teachers Seminar in the Canadian Rockies

The National Great Teachers Seminar is a four-day, intensive retreat for post-secondary educators representing a wide range of subject areas and teaching experience. Rooted in the philosophy that one of the most powerful forms of professional development occurs when faculty learn from one another, this seminar offers an unparalleled opportunity to grow as a teacher and learner. The 2019 National Great Teachers Seminar in the Canadian Rockies will be held at the Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta, June 2 to 6, 2019.

To ensure a quality experience, enrollment is limited to 40 persons. Details can be found at https://canadagreatteachers.macewan.ca/home.