The Teaching Commons is a positive and safe space where faculty, graduate students, and staff from across our campuses can engage in professional development activities related to any aspect of teaching and learning. We offer a broad range of learning opportunities including individual workshops and consultations, comprehensive courses, certificates, and research related to teaching. Our team is ready to help you explore best practices and innovative strategies, support program renewals and course design, and offer guidance specific to York institutional priorities. We are here to help connect you to a network of colleagues, scholarly resources and evidence-based practice to explore and develop your teaching in new and unimagined ways.

Here Comes the Sun!

We’re excited to see the sun and enjoy the warmer weather here at the Teaching Commons! The summer season brings with it a time to reflect and renew, while also providing time to dive into new projects. Join us in the Teaching Commons over the summer to share ideas, refresh, and reflect.

Congratulations to the 2019 President’s University-Wide Teaching Award Winners!

Four faculty members were recognized during Spring Convocation ceremonies as recipients of the President’s University-Wide Teaching Award. This award recognizes faculty how have made a significant impact to the community through excellence and innovation in teaching and learning.

The recipients of the 2019 President’s University-Wide Teaching Award are:

- Russ Patrick Alcedo (School of Arts, Media, Performance & Design)
- Nicolette Richardson (Faculty of Health)
- Alistair Mapp (Faculty of Health)
- Mohamed Abdelhamid (Lassonde School of Engineering)

Congratulations from your colleagues at the Teaching Commons!

Here is the link to learn more about the award winners.
An Overview of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

In this workshop, we will discuss the nature of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), which aims to better understand student learning and the teaching practices that affect it. We begin from the standpoint that faculty are often already engaged in many aspects of SoTL, albeit unknowingly, and later provide a framework for a more systematic inquiry into teaching and learning. In doing so, we will highlight a 6-step process to engage in SoTL.

**July 9, 2019 from 10am-12:30pm in room DB 1014**

[Here is the link to register](#)

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Course Design Intensive

This is an intensive workshop to get you started designing or updating your course. We take a hands-on approach as we learn, discover, and discuss principles of course design, assessment and feedback, active learning and engagement strategies, and provide you with the resources you need to design great courses.

All sessions will run from 9:30am to 3:30pm. *We will break for 1 hour for lunch.

Date: July 23, 2019 in room DB 1014

[Here is the link to register](#)

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Designing an Ethical SoTL Study

In this workshop, we will consider the ethical requirements of a SoTL study and discuss how study design can alleviate ethical concerns in situations where one’s students are also their subjects of research. We will explore different research designs in light of what can realistically and ethically be studied within the confines of one’s classroom.

Session to be held on July 30, 2019, from 10am-12:30pm

[Here is the link to register](#)

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Integrating Experiential Education into Your Course

This EE workshop is designed to support faculty who wish to incorporate Experiential Education into their teaching, either in the classroom or in the community. In the first half of the workshop, we will define EE and its three foci in the context of York, discuss the theory informing EE, and consider the critical role of structured reflection in experiential education. In the second half, we will brainstorm ideas for reflective activities and consider how to evaluate experiential learning.

**Thursday, August 1, 2019 | 10am-3pm | DB 1014**

[Here is the link to register](#)
Teaching and Learning in Experiential Education

This is a one semester program offered to course directors as an opportunity to explore the pedagogy and planning involved in designing, facilitating, and assessing experiential education activities in their courses through a peer-based format. Its main purpose is to provide guidance in the development of an experiential education course or an experiential activity as part of a course. At the end of the course, you will have a personalized deliverable action to help you with your current or future experiential education endeavors.

Session Dates (Fall 2019):

- Thursday, September 19 (12-2pm)
- Thursday October 3 (12-3pm)
- Thursday, October 24 (12-3pm)
- Thursday, November 14 (12-3pm)
- Thursday, November 28 (12-2pm)

Here is the link to register

New Faculty Orientation

We are looking forward to welcoming our new faculty to York! We invite you to join us in the 2019 New Faculty Orientation events:

- The “Welcome to York Day” on August 27, 2019 (Day One) at the Second Student Centre, 2nd Floor Convention Centre
- “A Focus on Teaching, Learning and Student Success” on July 25th OR August 28, 2019 (Day Two) at the Second Student Centre, 2nd Floor Convention Centre

Here is the link with more information

Here is the link to register

Teaching Commons Blog

Summer is a perfect time to catch up on reading! From September to May we publish a weekly blog on teaching and learning at York. Each week a different author shares their thoughts on a teaching related topic.

You can explore posts on a variety of themes on our Teaching Commons webpage. We will be back to our regular posting schedule in September.

Here is a link to the blog homepage

If you teach at York and would like to contribute a blog, please contact Geneviève Maheux-Pelletier – gmp@yorku.ca