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.

**Asking Effective Questions to Facilitate Learning**

In this session we will explore the kinds of questions you ask and challenge you to ask new kinds of questions. During this session you can expect to be creating and posing questions for your context with your peers for their feedback.

[Here is the link to register](#)

**Inclusive Design: Building Principles of Equity into Teaching and Learning**

In this one-semester course participants will integrate pedagogical principles of equity and inclusion into their own teaching contexts through a peer-based format. Participants will share, collaborate, and support each other as they work toward applying principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in creating or refining key course components.

[Here is the link to learn more and to register](#)

**Teaching Academy Course**

This blended course is offered in the form of a monthly face to face meeting plus online activity over a period of 4 months (February-May). Using a hands-on and participant-centred, reflective, activity-based approach, participants will investigate the theory and practice of teaching in a Canadian University context.

[Here is the link to register](#)
Distinguished Educational Developer Career Award

Our former Director, Dr. Celia Popovic, has been recognized by the Educational Developers Caucus (EDC) with their Distinguished Educational Developer Career Award. This award recognizes individuals with 15+ years of service in educational development who have made significant and lasting contributions to the field of educational development at the local, provincial and national levels. Congratulations Celia from all your former colleagues in the Teaching Commons!

Here is the link to learn more about Celia and her award

Course: 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 plan to help you with your current or future experiential education endeavors.

Here is the link to register

Experiential Education Symposium – January 21 & 22, 2020

The Experiential Education (EE) Symposium showcases experiential education at York and celebrates the achievements of students and faculty who have participated in EE. This multi-disciplinary, annual event will be held on January 21 and January 22, 2020. All faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend!

Here is the link for more information and to register to attend

Have You Met SCOTAY? Student Consultants on Teaching at York

Our Student Consultants on Teaching at York (SCOTAY) students are undergraduate students with a keen interest in teaching and learning and the enhancement of the student experience. We are inviting instructors from across the institution to participate in the SCOTAY program to help revitalize one aspect of their teaching with the student perspective in mind. 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.

To enroll in the program as an instructor, here is the link to request an observation
Teaching Wheels – Winter 2020

The Teaching Commons will once again offer the Teaching Wheels program in the Winter term. Teaching Wheels are designed to support classroom practice by building community through a non-evaluative process of classroom observation and shared reflection. The focus is what you as a visitor learns from observing your Wheel partners.

Our Winter kick-off meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2020 from 10-11am

Here is the link to register

Reading for Teaching

A collaborative program co-facilitated by the Teaching Commons and York University Libraries, our Reading for Teaching program is an informal, collegial opportunity to engage with colleagues from across campus interested in reading together.

Here is the link to learn more

Academic Innovation Fund (AIF) Call for Proposals

The Call for Proposals for the 2020-2021 year of the Academic Innovation Fund (AIF) is now open! Funds are available in two categories: Category I funding will support academic innovation projects, and Category II funding will support curricular innovation projects.

Looking for help in developing your proposal? Contact us at teaching@yorku.ca

Here is a link to learn more

Teaching Commons Blog

A new year means new blog posts! Catch up on past conversations and be sure to bookmark our blog homepage to keep up with our weekly posts on all things teaching and learning.

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