Fall 2022 TA Workshop Series

Centre for Pedagogical Innovation (CPI)

Open to ALL Brock University Teaching Assistants, Lab Demonstrators, Course Coordinators & Marker-Graders. To increase **flexible access** and model online teaching and learning environments, TA workshop sessions will take place both **synchronously on-campus and through Microsoft Teams** and **asynchronously through Sakai**.

Please feel free to reach out to eddev@brocku.ca with any questions.

ASYNCHRONOUS WORKSHOPS (in Sakai)

Asynchronous workshops can be found in the "TA Program (CPI) 2022-2023" Sakai site.

WORKSHOP	DATE(S): Activities and Discussions will be available throughout the time listed
WHAT TO DO DURING THE FIRST CLASS/WEEK (Certificate or Online Certificate Credit) The first meeting with students is an ideal opportunity to establish a positive learning climate and to build community. We will explore a couple of different strategies (e.g. establishing ground rules, opening activities, and instructional techniques) to support and effective and positive learning environment. **Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI**	Monday, August 22 through Saturday, September 10
PREPARING TO TEACH (Certificate or Online Certificate Credit) New to teaching and/or teaching at Brock? This workshop will provide opportunities to explore the roles and responsibilities of TAs at Brock as well as share information about resources and campus partners who can support your work as a TA. **Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI)**	Monday, August 22 through Saturday, September 10
BUILDING AN ONLINE LEARNING COMMUNITY (Online Certificate Credit) Curious about how you can create a positive learning environment in the online space? In this workshop you will discover and reflect on tools and strategies that you can use to create an online learning community that is productive and supportive. **Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI)**	Monday, September 12 through Friday, September 30

FACILITATING DISCUSSIONS ONLINE (Online Certificate Credit) Facilitating discussions is an important skill for teaching assistants. In this workshop we will explore some ways discussions can be facilitated in the online teaching and learning environment, discuss some important elements of the process of developing points/questions for discussion, and creating/keeping engagement online. Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI)	Monday, September 12 through Friday, September 30
BRIGHTSPACE FOR TAs* (Online Certificate Credit) In this workshop TAs will get to interact with and explore various tools in the Brightspace environment. The workshop explores the ways that tools within Brightspace support teaching and learning activities such as assessment and evaluation, discussion, and communications with students. Facilitators: Natalie Currie-Patterson and Ibrahim Berrada (CPI) *This workshop will take place in Brightspace.	Saturday, October 1 through Friday, October 31
ACTIVE LEARNING ONLINE(Online Certificate Credit) In this workshop we will explore, discuss, and reflect on active learning strategies employed in the online teaching and learning context. There will be opportunities to explore resources and active learning strategies as well as to share and reflect on experiences with other TAs. Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI)	Saturday, October 1 through Monday, October 31
UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING FOR ONLINE TEACHING ASSISTANTS (Online Certificate Credit) How can we design our teaching and learning experiences, so they are equitable, flexible, and intuitive for all learners? This workshop will explore the what, why, and how of learning using a variety of instructional and assessment strategies. Facilitator: Giulia Forsythe (CPI)	Tuesday, November 1 through Wednesday, November 30
DIGITAL COMMUNICATION FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS (Online Certificate Credit) This workshop is designed to build upon the Universal Design for Learning workshop for Teaching Assistants. The importance of communicating digitally provides teachers the opportunity to disseminate information quickly and efficiently. This workshop discusses the importance of paying attention to issues of accessibility, usability, and perception when creating digital materials for teaching and learning. Facilitator: Giulia Forsythe (CPI)	Tuesday, November 1 through Wednesday, November 30

WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS (In person or via Microsoft Teams)

WORKSHOP	DATE and TIME	Location
Brightspace Basics for TAs (Online Certificate Credit) In this workshop TAs will get to interact with and explore various tools in the Brightspace environment. The workshop explores the ways that tools within Brightspace support teaching and learning activities such as assessment and evaluation, discussion, and communications with students. **Facilitators: Alisa Cunnington and Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI)**	Wednesday, September 12 12:00pm-1:20pm	Online (Teams)
Mental Health Toolbox for TAs (Certificate Credit) In this workshop TAs will consider the connections between mental health and learning and the role of a TA in supporting student mental health. The workshop will discuss tips and suggestions to support student mental health and provide you with information about the resources available to Brock students. Information about other opportunities for you to engage in training to equip you to response to students' mental health needs will also be shared. **Facilitators: Julie Fennell (Student Health Services) and Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI)**	Wednesday, September 21 3:30pm – 4:50pm	WH 327
Growth Mindset (Certificate Credit) This synchronous interactive workshop is designed to help Teaching Assistants utilize the theory and practice of developing a Growth Mindset. The focus will include bringing this framework to both yourself as an educator and your students as learners. **Facilitator: Suzanne Zook-Johnstone (Student Wellness and Accessibility Services)**	Wednesday, October 5 2:00pm - 3:20pm	Online (Teams)
Preparing Students to Give Feedback (Certificate Credit) In this workshop we will explore the why and how(s) of preparing your students to give and receive feedback. We will explore a variety of mediums and methods as well as contexts for giving and receiving feedback in teaching and learning with a focus on cultivating an environment of effective feedback. **Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI)**	Wednesday, November 9 1:00pm-2:20pm	Online (Teams)
Reading Student Feedback (Certificate Credit) Receiving feedback on your teaching can be a challenging experience. In this workshop we will discuss the various ways you might receive student feedback as a TA and explore strategies to approach the reading of this feedback in a way that supports your development as an educator. **Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI)**	Wednesday, November 23 10:00am – 11:20am	ST 103

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS (In person or via Microsoft Teams)

WORKSHOP	DATE and TIME	Location
Teaching and Accessibility (Certificate Credit) Explore ways of facilitating greater access to learning in our seminars, labs, and tutorials. We will explore some of the challenges students with disabilities may experience in learning contexts and discuss ways to address these challenges to foster engagement and learning. Facilitator: Ibrahim Berrada (CPI)	Saturday, Sept 17 9:00am-10:20am	ST103
Building a Classroom Community for Learning (Online Certificate Credit) Cultivating a classroom community for learning is an ongoing process across a course. Join us in this workshop to discuss strategies and approaches to develop and maintain a classroom community that is productive, inclusive, safe, and effective for your learners. Facilitator: Ibrahim Berrada (CPI)	Saturday, Sept 17 10:30am – 11:50am	ST103
Instructional Strategies 101 (Certificate Credit) What on earth are “snowball” and “fishbowl”? While most instructors are familiar with “think-pair-share” for encouraging student participation, there are a wide variety of strategies and techniques one can use to deepen learning. This is an interactive session that will add more tools to your instructional toolbox. Facilitator: Anne Readhead (CPI)	Saturday, October 1 9:00am-10:20am	Online (Teams)
Grading Strategies: Rubrics (Certificate Credit) This interactive workshop will provide an opportunity to think and talk about the benefits, opportunities, and challenges of rubrics as an assessment tool. Participants will create and model a variety of rubric types. Facilitator: Anne Readhead (CPI)	Saturday, October 1 10:30am-11:50am	Online (Teams)
Feedback to Support Teaching and Learning (Certificate Credit) Providing feedback to and receiving feedback from your students is an important part of being a TA. In this workshop we will explore the different types of feedback, consider the various mediums through which you can provide student feedback in the online learning environment, and practice providing feedback that supports student learning. Facilitator: Mac Orlando (CPI)	Saturday, October 22 9:00am-10:20am	ST103

Indigenous Ways of Teaching and Learning (Certificate Credit) This workshop will explore Indigenous concepts of teaching and learning from a place of relational pedagogy. Participants will be asked to reflect on their experiences in education and explore Indigenous ways of teaching/learning to begin developing a holistic approach to being a TA at Brock University. This workshop will be conversational, informative, and open to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants. Facilitator: Mac Orlando (CPI)	Saturday, October 11 10:30am-11:50am	ST103
Preparing Students to Give and Receive Feedback (Certificate Credit) In this workshop, we will explore the why and how(s) of preparing your students to give and receive feedback. We will explore a variety of mediums and methods as well as contexts for giving and receiving feedback in teaching and learning with a focus on cultivating an environment of effective feedback. Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson (CPI)	Saturday, November 5 9:00-10:20am	ST103
Helping Students Prepare for Exams (Online or Certificate Credit) This workshop will focus on strategies for TAs: 1) to set expectations for students in their courses regarding exams 2) to increase students' independence through constructive feedback and exam preparation strategies 3) to broaden their repertoire of exam review techniques Facilitator: Monica Drenth (Learning Services)	Saturday, November 5 10:30am-11:50am	ST103
Grading Strategies for the End of Semester Rush (Online or Certificate Credit) Anticipating a pile of exams to grade? A stack of papers to read and provide feedback on? Join us to discuss grading strategies to help you work through your end of term grading. Facilitators: Giulia Forsythe and Anne Readhead (CPI)	Saturday, November 19 9:00am – 10:20am	ST103
Universal Design for Learning for TAs in the Classroom (Certificate Credit) How can we design our teaching and learning experiences, so they are equitable, flexible, and intuitive for all learners? This in-person workshop will explore the what, why, and how of learning using a variety of instructional and assessment strategies. Facilitators: Giulia Forsythe and Anne Readhead (CPI)	Saturday, November 19 10:30am-11:50am	ST103
Reflecting on a Semester of Teaching (Certificate Credit) After a semester of teaching, what questions do you still have? Have you answered some of the questions you began with? Have your questions changed? Come share your experiences with other TAs. Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson	Saturday, December 3 9:00am-10:20am	Online (Teams)

Reading Student Feedback (Certificate Credit) Receiving feedback on your teaching can be a challenging experience. In this workshop we will discuss the various ways you might receive student feedback as a TA and explore strategies to approach the reading of this feedback in a way that supports your development as an educator. Facilitator: Natalie Currie-Patterson	Saturday, December 3 10:30am-11:50am	Online (Teams)