

# Spring/Summer TA Workshops

## Important Information about the TA Workshops:

The TA workshops will be made available for registrants on **Tuesdays**. Participants will then be able to access workshop contents, participate in discussion, and complete learning activities for **two weeks** following the workshop release. Specific dates for workshops and discussions are listed below.

Discussion is an integral component for the TA workshops. Engaging in discussion with other TAs from various disciplines can support professional learning by allowing the opportunity to actively and critically engage with the information and resources shared within the workshop.

## Drop-in Discussion Sessions:

Join us in our weekly drop-in discussion sessions!

We invite you to bring any questions, concerns, resources, and information about teaching and learning to these discussions. We recognize that the shift online may be presenting unique challenges and opportunities and hope that these drop-in sessions can present opportunities to engage in discussion with us and your TA colleagues as we support and learn from one another during this time!

Drop-in discussions will be taking place weekly every **Tuesday from 1pm to 2pm** and **Friday from 11:30am to 12:30pm** and will use Microsoft Teams. Email [eddev@brocku.ca](mailto:eddev@brocku.ca) for the meeting link!

## Spring/Summer TA Workshop Schedule and Descriptions

### Being an Online TA (2 credit workshop)

We will explore different online tools to facilitate student learning in smaller groups. Many of our students now have a variety of online learning experiences; during this session, you will have the opportunity to experience learning online as a student then practice online facilitation using active learning principles.

**Part One:** Synchronous (we gather online at a set time) via Microsoft Teams, **Tuesday, June 2 at 2:00PM to 3:00PM**

**Part Two:** Asynchronous (you work through activities and material at your own pace) via Sakai, **Part Two: Tuesday, June 2 through Tuesday, June 9**

### Creating an Online Learning Community (1 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, supportive, and positive.

You can access this workshop asynchronously via Sakai on **Tuesday, June 9**. Learning activities and discussion will take place from **Tuesday, June 9 through Tuesday, June 23**.

### Facilitating Discussions Online (1 credit)

Facilitating discussions is an important skill for teaching assistants in both the face-to-face and online classroom. In this workshop we will explore ways discussions can be facilitated by teaching assistants, discuss some important elements of the process of developing discussion questions both in preparation of teaching and during learning activities.

You can access this workshop asynchronously via Sakai on **Tuesday, June 9**. Learning activities and discussion will take place from **Tuesday, June 9 through Tuesday, June 23**.

### Using Feedback to Support Teaching and Learning (1 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 environment, and practice providing feedback that supports student learning.

You can access this workshop asynchronously via Sakai on **Tuesday, June 23**. Learning activities and discussion will take place from **Tuesday, June 23 through Tuesday, July 7**.

### Universal Design for Learning (UDL) for Teaching Assistants (1 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 through a variety of instructional and assessment strategies.

You can access this workshop asynchronously via Sakai on **Tuesday, June 23**. Learning activities and discussion will take place from **Tuesday, June 23 through Tuesday, July 7**.

### Teaching and Accessibility (1 credit)

Explore ways of facilitating greater access to learning in our seminars, labs, and tutorials. Together, 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.

You can access this workshop asynchronously via Sakai on **Tuesday, July 7**. Learning activities and discussion will take place from **Tuesday, July 7 through Tuesday, July 21**.

### Ethical Dilemmas (1 credit)

Many of the decisions we make as educators require an ethical response to a human situation. Join this session to discuss how we can or might respond when faced with challenging situations. In this workshop, particular attention is paid to the ethical dimensions of teaching in the online environment.

You can access this workshop asynchronously via Sakai on **Tuesday, July 7**. Learning activities and discussion will take place from **Tuesday, July 7 through Tuesday, July 21**.

### Grading Strategies for the Online TA (1 credit)

In this workshop we will explore strategies for grading. These strategies will be relevant to helping you in the areas of time management, equity, consistency, grading in Sakai, and more.

You can access this workshop asynchronously via Sakai on **Tuesday, July 21**. Learning activities and discussion will take place from **Tuesday, July 21 through Tuesday, August 4**.

### Grading Strategies: Marking Participation (1 credit)

What does high quality participation look like? How do you assign a grade to participation? How can we provide students with useful feedback on their participation? How do you, as a TA, grade participation (e.g. in Sakai)? In this workshop participants will explore these issues and more in order to gain useful tools to use in your TA role.

You can access this workshop asynchronously via Sakai on **Tuesday, July 21**. Learning activities and discussion will take place from **Tuesday, July 21 through Tuesday, August 4**.

### Course Closures (1 credit)

Have you thought about how you will end your course? In this workshop we will think about the role of course closures, share ideas about how you can approach the end of the course, and engage in reflections on a semester of teaching and learning. Particular attention is paid to what course closures might look like in the online environment.

You can access this workshop asynchronously via Sakai on **Tuesday, August 11**. Learning activities and discussion will take place from **Tuesday, August 11 through Tuesday, August 18**.

### Reflecting on Your Teaching (1 credit)

After a semester of teaching, what questions do you still have? Have you answered some of the questions that you began with? Have your questions changed? Come and share your experiences with other TAs.

Further information about the date and method of delivery for this workshop will be released later in the term!

### QUESTIONS?

You can reach us at [eddev@brocku.ca](mailto:eddev@brocku.ca)