

Holiday Movies and Entertainment

It's finally the day after your last exams! You now have some time to get into the holiday cheer, relax and de-stress. Some of the things that help do all those things at this time of year are working my way through classic holiday movies, listening to music, and reading books that I haven't had a chance to get to! Whether you are taking a day (or a week) after a hectic semester or need to keep busy while you quarantine solo, there are some resources that you can access using your Passport York Account or with your student status.

Did you know that you can watch movies for free using your Passport York Account? All you have to do is type in "[Criterion on Demand](#)" on the York University page or through York Library databases and you will be directed to a page that looks like this:



Here you can watch some of your favourite movies including some Christmas classics and catch up on newer releases you wanted to watch over the semester. This service is provided free to York University students, so definitely use it!



There are so many movies to choose from, so I've suggested some for you to check out:

1. You can't go wrong with Home Alone, a holiday classic where the main character Kevin was forgotten at home by his family during their trip to Florida. Follow his adventures and his plan to save his home from goofball robbery.
2. And if that isn't enough, you can watch Home Alone 2 where Kevin Macallister, once again, forgotten by his family, takes a vacation of a lifetime while also protecting the holiday tradition of giving.
3. For those of you who are young at heart and still believe in the magic of Santa, The Polar Express is for you. Enjoy the Christmas festivities on the train and go visit Santa in the comfort of your home!
4. Elf is a silly movie where Buddy the Elf visits his real dad in New York City and faces troubles of adjusting to the New York ways. Adopted by Santa, he learns about his past while also saving Christmas! Wouldn't we all want to get adopted by Santa?!
5. The Grinch is something you definitely have to check out during the holiday season. The Grinch hates the holidays and lives a solitary life inside a cave on Mt. Crumpet with only his loyal dog, Max, for company. He hatches a plan to ruin the holidays and his journey leads to an unexpected end...Check this movie out to find out what happens!
6. If you're not in the mood for holiday classics, you can watch movies from the Marvel Universe or check out all the Harry Potter films.

Whatever the case and whatever you like, have fun binge-watching some classics, whether they are holiday-related or just some greats!



If you are a book worm, there are many books available online through the library. Again, to access this, all you need to type in the YorkU search is 'York University library' and the link will pop up! You can also create a [Toronto Public Library Digital Access Card](#). As a student in a university located in Toronto, you can get a library card for free! You then have access to an application called "cloud library" and here you can read a lot of books and listen to audiobooks. You can only have these books for 2 weeks so when that time is up, you won't have access to the book anymore, but not to fret, just order it again! You can also get a library card that you need to renew each year.

If you want to listen to podcasts, music or audiobooks, there are a variety of applications you can use. [Spotify](#) is my go to and is available for free or if you get the premium version it's free for three months for students and then only \$4.99 per month after that. Here you can listen to and download music and listen to podcasts.



There are many services available to you as a York student, for free on YouTube and other platforms. Many companies are making their content accessible online for free and so, all you need to do is some research and you will be able to find many more resources available to you!

One final tip before I go, try to reframe solo days as a gift of time to yourself.

Stay safe and happy holidays,

Manvir, YI Engagement Coordinator.