

GPP NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2022

Monthly Global Peer
Program Highlights



IN THIS ISSUE

You got this! You are half-way through the Winter 2022 term! It is so great to have you back on campus. This change might have affected the way you work, learn, and communicate. You may also have upcoming tests, assignments, presentations, etc. However, whenever you feel stressed or feel overwhelmed, take a deep breath and be proud of how much you've already accomplished! Be kind to your mind while seeing the progress in your goals. Remember that your GPP Mentors are always by your side to support you as best we can throughout this academic term.

Here's what's in our March 2022 Newsletter! You will find the most recent updates regarding events, guidelines regarding how to file for taxes and manage your finances, internship programs, club opportunities, and of course your GPP Mentors' experience about their involvement on campus!

No matter where your path leads you, remember the York International community is here to support you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Study Permit Application Webinar for incoming international students

March 1 | 10:00 am

Getting Involved at YorkU

March 1 | 1:00 pm

York International Alumni Panel

March 4 | 12:00 pm

Globally Networked Learning (GNL) Workshop for YorkU Faculty

March 8 | 1:30 pm

Pathways to Permanent Residence

March 9 | 9:00 am

T.A.S.T.E. (Take a Student to Engage) Event

March 11 | 1:00 pm

Pre-Departure Travel Risk Management Training

March 11 | 3:00 pm

GNL Workshop #1: What is GNL & how does it benefit my classroom? (External)

March 16 | 9:00 am

Workshop #2: Building GNL Partnership: strategies and tips

March 17 | 9:00 am

GNL Workshop #3 GNL as Pedagogy: Cases and Tools (External)

March 18 | 9:00 am

OSAP Information for Exchange

March 24 | 11:00 am

https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/calendar/action~month/exact_date~1-3-2022/

How to file for tax:

It's that time of the year when everyone is scratching their heads about finances. Tax season is here and we are here to set you up for success with filing for your tax. As an international student in Canada, you can file your taxes or take advantage of certain tax credits. York University has several amazing resources to help students with their tax file and everyone is welcome to access them. Here are the resources to assist you with your taxes:

- **Tax Forms:** First, we need to know and obtain certain tax forms. Here you can access various tax form and choose according to your eligibility:
<https://sfs.yorku.ca/fees/taxforms>
- **Understanding Tax, Credits, and Benefits:** We all know how confusing and tiring tax filing can get. That's why York International has a session dedicated to understanding Ontario's Personal Income Tax, Credits, and benefits. Go ahead and register for the link on their website.

Managing your Finances:

As a student, financial matters are mostly obscure. Most of the times, we don't keep track of our spending, end up spending way more than intended, and regret later. But fret not. cause we have some tips that will help you manage your finances better:

- **Spreadsheet:** It might be extra work but keeping track of your finances in a spreadsheet will help you manage money better. At the end of the month, you can review your spending on food, clothes, and other things to get an idea of how much you spend on those necessary things.
- **A Realistic Monthly Budget:** Plan a budget in the beginning of every month and think about your expenses realistically so that at the end of the month you don't find your spending outrageously more or less.
- **Savings:** I know that we all love splurging as soon as we get our pay checks. Try this one trick: the next time you get paid, take out a portion and put it in your savings account and pretend that money never existed. That way you are bound to save and manage your money better.

Club Opportunities at York:

York is a huge campus with about 55,000 students. Making friends outside of class can be daunting... Joining a club is a great way to get involved on campus, make friends and try out new activities! York has almost 400 clubs to choose from, ranging from academic, sports and leisure, political to cultural clubs... There is a club for everyone! Joining a club helps to create a sense of teamwork, provides an opportunity to develop leadership and interpersonal skills and develop lasting friendships. It is also a great way to meet new people from different majors and relax from academic stress. So where can you find a list of the clubs at York, their description and contact information? You can find those information by clicking on this link: [Clubs Directory — York Federation of Students \(yfs.ca\)](https://yfs.ca/clubs-directory)

Internship opportunities:

York University offers various program specific internship opportunities. This is a great way to implement what we learn in our courses. You may need to attend an info session before applying and to know all about internship programs, visit LAPS website and Experience York:

<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/internships/>
<https://experience.yorku.ca/home/home.htm>

Peer Mentors' Experiences on Campus

Amy Leung Kei (she/her)



I am in my fourth year, majoring in Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting. In my second year at York, I volunteered with York International. For my last year,

I wanted to try to be as involved on campus as I could before graduating. I am currently part of the LAPS Ambassador Program, volunteering as a Peer Mentor with GPP at York International and working as a PASS leader for ADMS 2510 - Introduction to Managerial Accounting. I am also part of the Dragon Boat Club at York.

Ilknur Ozdemir (She/her)

I am a fourth year student majoring in Psychology. Even though I didn't have much of a role as a volunteer at the university, I attended multiple workshops and gained experience. Since I wanted to share my knowledge with different people in my last year, I started volunteering as a Peer Mentor at GPP at York International. I think it's important to form connections and relationships with people. And York University is the best place for club opportunities!

Sharneela Aarin Inesa (She/her)



Hello everyone! I am a second year Economics major, Peer mentor, and a work/study student. I volunteered for York International in my first year, facilitated VCBs and major events. My work/study position is under the Athletics and Recreation. My work/study position has advanced my practical and observational skills along with time management and communication skills. I feel very comfortable working for the university because I can work around my class schedule. I am also a CR for an elective course under Faculty of Health and that position has improved my presentation and leadership skills. So, people don't be afraid of trying new and exciting things at York as there are a lot of opportunities!