Welcome to York University and GPP. Bienvenu à l’université York et GPP.

You made it! Whether it’s January 31st or February 14th we look forward to meeting you and welcoming you on campus. Be proud and take a moment to reflect upon your journey. It can be overwhelming to start a new chapter of your life in a new country all by yourself, but GPP mentors got you!! No matter how hard things gets, Global Peer Mentors are here to help you at every step of this amazing journey.

In this newsletter, you will find important academic dates, some self love tips, how to spend your valentine’s day and tips and tricks on how to make most of the upcoming reading week at York University.

**Important Dates and Refund Table.**

Important dates including the sessional dates, add and drop deadlines and financial deadlines [here](#). Last dates to get certain refund of your tuition can also be found [here](#). For the refund deadlines, you will have to check according to your faculty. If you are a new international student and have received a study permit refusal you may be eligible for the [New International Students Tuition Refund Process](#).

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **YI Lunar New Year Celebration**
  - Feb 1st | 09:00

- **Study Permit Application**
  - Feb 1st | Time

- **Info Sessions For Exchange**
  - Feb 3rd | 13:00
  - Feb 7th | 10:30
  - Feb 15th | 16:00
  - Feb 25th | 14:00

- **In-Person Coffee Breaks**
  - Feb 4th | 14:00
  - Feb 5th | 11:00
  - Feb 11th | 14:00
  - Feb 16th | 11:00
  - Feb 18th | 14:00
  - Feb 25th | 14:00

- **Drop-in Intl Student Advising**
  - Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00am

- **Virtual Coffee Break**
  - Feb 23rd | 11:00

- **Let’s Talk Academic Advising**
  - Feb 9th | 8:30

- **Learn How To Travel Around Toronto**
  - Feb 11th | 11:00

- **YU Academics Resources Workshop**
  - Feb 22nd | 10:00

- **Globally Networked Learning Workshop**
  - Feb 23rd | 10:00
Ready for the 14th of February? How about making Valentine’s day so special!

Valentine’s Day is all about romance and expressing your love to those you cherish most. By putting forth a little effort and some planning, you’ll not only create a very special day, but you’ll create a day that will be memorable, let’s get started! (if Covid allows!)

✓ Plan a Special Outing or Create a Romantic Setting at Home
Dress up and go out on the town for dinner and dancing, be certain to make dinner reservations well in advance. Contact your florist or the restaurant hostess and have a bouquet of flowers waiting at your table!

✓ Surprise them! Everyone loves surprises on special occasions!
Maybe it’s their favorite perfume or cologne or bottle of wine. Maybe it’s jewelry or a trip to the spa.

✓ Write a Love Letter or a Poem or even a Song!
Put it in your own handwriting rather than typing it out. Put some real thought into it. maybe it really is the last time you get to write, so make it count!

✓ Shower them with flowers, balloons, chocolates or candies
Send flowers to the workplace as you want the recipient to enjoy them all day & you want coworkers to be green with envy!
**Reading Week (15–February–2022 to 25–February–2022)**

**Reading Week** - A time to rejuvenate, enjoy and spend time with your friends. Take this time to prepare for midterms and catch up with your studies! Most importantly, don’t forget to take care of yourself, reach out to your peer mentors and don’t forget to Join York International on February 11th for a virtual event on ways to explore Toronto! Let loose and travel in the streets of Toronto!! :)

- Gagandeep Singh

I would prefer to focus on prioritizing the activities for the reading week:

- **Rest. Relax. Rejuvenate.**
  Even though this week is called reading week, it is important that you take some time out to rest both body and mind to avoid feeling exhausted at a later stage.

- **Arrange for things to do**
  Think about upcoming deadlines and set yourself manageable goals that leave you feeling accomplished and prepared for the next stage.

- Peyman Naeemi

As we approach the reading week you may want to make plans on how to get the most out of it. Most midterms come right after the reading week, so you want to make sure you catch up with your lectures if you are lagging and revise properly before having fun. You may want to have fun around Toronto with friends or maybe alone if that’s your preference. Remember YI got you with the webinar on travelling Toronto. Learning skills services have provided tips on effective ways to study and take notes so remember to check them out during the reading week. Have an amazing reading week ahead! You got this!

- Kudrah Asamu