Pre-Arrival Webinar Series:

York Student 101

13 – DECEMBER - 2023
Land Acknowledgement

York University recognizes that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University.

York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat.

It is now home to many First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.

Centre for Indigenous Student Services: https://aboriginal.info.yorku.ca/about-us/

Native Land Digital: https://native-land.ca/
Zoom Etiquette

Links will be shared in the chat during the presentation

Ask us questions using the Q&A Feature

This webinar is being recorded
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By the end of this webinar, new incoming international students will have more knowledge about:

- Student life in as a York University student in Canada.
- Canadian cultural norms.
- Unique traditions and culture specific to York University students.
Agenda for Today:

The agenda for today’s webinar is:

› Culture and life in Canada
› Things about York University
› Questions and Answers
› Upcoming Pre-Arrival Webinars
Canada
Diversity in Canada extends beyond race and ethnicity but spans language, gender, religious affiliations, sexual orientation, abilities and economic status as well.

Although Canada has two official languages, English and French, more than 200 languages are reported as a home language or mother tongue.

Immigrants represent over 21% of the total Canadian population, one of the highest proportion among G8 countries.

Toronto is the proudly named as the most diverse city in the world with 50% of its population identified as visible minorities.
Facts about Canada

- Second largest in the world
- 10 provinces and 3 territories
- National animal: beaver
Common Things Seen in Canada!
Local Cultures and Norms

- **Restaurant tipping culture**
  - Tipping is expected as a sign of good service
  - No consequence if you decide not to tip

- **Respect for the environment**
  - Care for environment
  - One of the most livable and environmentally sustainable city in the world
  - Care for recycling and environment protections

- **Other norms**
  - Friendly, polite, respectful
  - Follows standard western cultural traditions
  - High awareness in mental health and wellbeing
  - LGBTQ+ friendly
  - Shared beliefs in equality, diversity, and respect for all individual
  - Pet friendly
  - Known as “The New York City of Canada”
**WARM SEASON**

- Lasts 3-5 months (June to mid-September)
- Hottest month of the year in Toronto is July
- Essentials: sunscreen, reusable water bottle

**COLD SEASON**

- Lasts for 3-4 months (December to mid-March)
- Coldest month of the year in Toronto is January
- Essentials: umbrella, layers, winter jacket, boots, winter accessories (scarf, mitten, earmuffs, hat)
TORONTO’S CULTURAL CELEBRATION

- Toronto’s Caribbean Festival (Caribana)
- Lunar New Year Celebration
- Saint Patrick’s Day
- Taste of Little Italy Festival
- Toronto Christmas Market
- Canada Day
Things to do around Toronto!

**INDOOR**
- Ripley’s aquarium
- Cute Cafes and restaurants
- Escape room
- Pottery making class
- Shopping
- Activate
- Museums
- And much more!

**OUTDOOR**
- CN Tower
- Toronto’s Island
- Canada’s National Exhibition (CNE)
- Canada’s Wonderland
- Blue Mountain
- Niagara Falls
- Toronto Zoo
- Sunflower fields
- And much more
FESTIVALS

- Art Festivals
- Music Festivals
- Cultural Festivals (Tate of India, Taste of Middle East, etc.)

HISTORIC

- Royal Ontario Museum
- Art Gallery of Ontario
- Agha Khan Museum
- Casa Loma
Check out Todotoronto, BlogTO and Narcity Toronto to find out about more fun activities!!

Todotoronto: https://www.instagram.com/todotoronto/?hl=en
BlogTO: https://www.blogto.com
Narcity Toronto: https://www.narcity.com/toronto/
Transit around Toronto

- **Toronto Transit Commission (TTC):** The Toronto Transit Commission is the public transport agency that operates bus, subway, streetcar, and paratransit services in Toronto, some of which run into the Peel Region and York Region.

- **Subway stations at York University:**

  - York University Subway Station
  - Pioneer Village Station
GO TRANSIT

GO Transit is the regional public transit service for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.

BIKE SHARE TORONTO

Bike Share Toronto offers 24/7 convenient access to over 9,000+ bikes and 700+ stations across Toronto’s vast biking network.

REGION SPECIFIC OPTIONS:

- York Region Transit (YRT)
- Brampton Transit
- MiWay
Transit Resources

▷ Presto Card App
https://www.prestocard.ca

▷ GO Transit Website
https://www.gotransit.com/en

▷ Transit App
https://transitapp.com/region/toronto
Things YU Should Know
9 Colleges in York University

- Bethune College
- Stong College
- Founders College
- Calumet College
- Glendon College
- McLaughlin College
- New College
- Winter College
- Vanier College

Colleges exist to help make a big university feel small. They are a place to study, hang out, and participate in a smaller, more intimate setting. Every undergraduate student is assigned to a college when they enter York based on either their Faculty and program of study (major) or the residence that they live in.
11 Faculties in York University

› School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design

› Faculty of Education

› Faculty of Environmental & Urban Change

› Glendon College

› Faculty of Graduate Studies

› Faculty of Health

› Lassonde School of Engineering

› Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

› Osgoode Hall Law School

› Schulich School of Business

› Faculty of Science

Faculty: A large academic division of the University that offers programs in related disciplines.
Resources at York University

- **Health and Wellness**
  - Student Counselling Health and Well-being
  - Student Accessibility Services
  - Community Safety

- **Financial and Emergency**
  - Student Financial Services
  - Scholarships, Awards & Bursaries
  - Student Financial Profile

- **Campus Resources**
  - Academic Advising
  - Career Centre

- **Ask for Help!**
  - There are so many people at York who can support you in your university journey (Example: Kiosk at Vari Hall)
Services Offered by York International

Immigration advising

Provides general information about immigration enquiries.
Immigration specialists are available for consultations or assistance with unique immigration related situations.

University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP) advising

Provides support for students seeking answers regarding UHIP coverage, enrollment, extensions, etc.
1:1 appointments can be booked, as well as drop-in advising via QLess.

Programs and events for international students

Global Peer Program
English Conversation Partner Program
Coffee Breaks

Global learning support and advising

Academic Exchange
Summer Programs
Global Internships

Volunteer opportunities

Student Engagement Volunteer
Global Peer Mentors
Global Outreach Volunteers
Orientation Volunteer
Go to Spots in YorkU!

**Places to eat**

- **York Lanes**
  - Chaska
  - Z-teca
  - Qoola Fresh
  - Campus Bubble Tea
  - And so much more!

- **Quad**
  - Osmows
  - Amaya
  - Basil Box
  - And so much more!

- **Others**
  - College Cafeterias
  - Orange Snail
  - Tim Hortons/Starbucks
  - And so much more!

**Study/Entertainment spots**

- Scott Library
- First and Second Student Centers
- Break Room (Arcade Games and Food)
- Bergeron Centre for Engineering excellence
- Schulich School of Business (Bronfman Business Library)
- And so many more!
What's Unique at YorkU

› Names for York University: York U, YU, York

› Holding the door open

› Knowing the YU cheer

› Campus Pride - Wearing red and buying York branded stuff

› Commuting and having a Presto transit card

› Most buildings are connected by tunnels and indoor pathways for convenience in the winter

› There is a shuttle bus that goes between Keele and Glendon campus
Student Discounts

- **Cineplex**
  - Discounted Regular Admission ($12.50)
  - VIP ($15.35)
  - Great Escape ($34.50)

- **YFS Services** - Online Discounts, Printing services, famous spots in Toronto discounts, Dental plan etc

- **SPC Card** allows for discounts in selected stores

- **GO Transit** Student Fare (40% percent off)

- Student discount on **groceries** in stores like METRO, LOBLAWS, BULK BARN, etc.

- Student discount on **TTC monthly pass**
Agenda for Today:

The agenda for today's webinar is:

Enter Agenda Here

Questions & Answers session

Upcoming Webinars
Upcoming Events
Program: YI Meet Up

▷ Date: December 14th, 2023
▷ Time: 10:00am – 11:30am (EST)

YI Meet Up is a virtual social event that provides incoming or deferred students an opportunity to meet new people, make new connections and introduce them to campus life through a variety of activities, conversations and group initiatives. The program aims to ease the transition to York and to Canada and to help find a sense of community before even arriving.
International and Exchange Student Orientation

Join us for an incredible opportunity to meet fellow international students, build community, and to learn all about important resources and services available to you at York University!

› **Date:** January 06, 2024
› **Time:** 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM
YU Thrive is a Post-Orientation Social hosted by the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS) International team. The aim of the social event is to connect new first-year international students to each other while reviewing orientation information from orientation.

- **Date**: Friday, January 12, 2024
- **Time**: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **Registration link**: [https://forms.office.com/r/QQucj1yCpA](https://forms.office.com/r/QQucj1yCpA)
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