

TESNI ELLIS

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Curriculum Vitae August 2026

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EDUCATION

2021–Present	Ph.D. Candidate (ABD), Language, Culture and Teaching Faculty of Education, York University, Toronto Dissertation: “Drawing Alongside Others: Curriculum and Autobiography as Participation”
2014	M.A., Communication and Culture York University / Toronto Metropolitan University Thesis: “Media-Making at Youville Centre: Voicing Young Mothers’ Agency Through Digital Storytelling in the Alternative Classroom”
2012	B.A. Honours, Communication Studies (Minor: Film Studies) Carleton University, Ottawa

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Northern Lakes College, Alberta — Business and Administrative Studies

Business Communications (Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025, Spring 2026, Fall 2026) [Online; blended async/sync]

York University — Faculty of Education

Foundations of Education / Theory into Practice [Tutorial Leader] (Fall/Winter 2022/23, Fall/Winter 2023/24, Fall/Winter 2024/25) [Hybrid]

Research into Practice [Tutorial Leader] (Winter 2022) [Online; async]

Child Development & Health [Tutorial Leader] (Fall 2021) [Online; blended async/sync]

Toronto Metropolitan University — G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education

Academic Success Foundations, Spanning the Gaps (Winter 2019, Fall 2019, Winter 2020, Winter 2021) [In Person and Online]

Promotional Writing Workshop (Winter 2020) [In Person]

Toronto Metropolitan University — Writing Centre

Writing Tutor (Fall/Winter 2013/14) [In Person]

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

2024	Ellis, T. (2024). What drawing can lead us to see: Drawing cartoons with student researchers. In J. Dehart & P. Hash (Eds.) <i>Arts-based research across visual media in education</i> (Vol. 1, pp. 43–57). Routledge.
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Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2025 **Ellis, T.** & Downey, A. M. (2025). Re-listening to Alexisonfire: Duo-currere, adolescence, and the forms of study therewithin. *Currere and Praxis*, 2(1), 13–30.
- 2024 **Ellis, T.** (2024). Somewhere between currere and ficto-currere, with my teacher The Near-Sighted Monkey. *Journal of Curriculum Theorizing*, 39(4), 26–37.
- 2018 Hannah, J. & **Ellis, T.** (2018). The student as artist. *About Campus: Enriching the Student Learning Experience*, 23(2), 11–18.

Book Reviews

- 2026 **Ellis, T.** (2026). Review of *The Figure of the Teacher in Comics: A Psychoanalytic Study of Immaterial and Fragmented Education*. *Philosophical Inquiry in Education*, 33(1), 117–120.

Other Publications

- 2025 **Ellis, T.** (2025). Supposed to see. [Zine]. Early Childhood Pedagogies Collaboratory: Zine Conversation Series.
- 2023 **Ellis, T.** (2023). Fire and floods in our own backyards: Examining climate change displacement and internal migration in Canada. *Climate Change Research Month* (pp. 34–36). York University Centre for Feminist Research.
- 2022 **Ellis, T.** & Martin, Z. (2022). A research-creation co-created zine manifesto. [Zine]. SORCE Collective.
- 2022 Frankowski, A., Johnston, L., D'Andrea, J. & **Ellis, T.** (2022). Returning to RE:. *Pedagogists Network of Ontario*, October 2022.
- 2022 Ali, Y., Bhat, R., Xu, W., Hannah, J. & **Ellis, T.** (2022). *International Students: Stories and Strategies for Academic Success in Postsecondary Education*. [Open Educational Resource]. Academic Success, University of Toronto.
- 2021 **Ellis, T.** & Courneya, J. (2021). Disrupting traditional research methods. [Interview]. Office of Social Innovation, Toronto Metropolitan University.
- 2021 Office of Social Innovation (Eds). (2021). *Flip the Switch Zine*. [Zine Contributor]. Office of Social Innovation, Toronto Metropolitan University.

Other Publications: Research Reports

- 2021 Wright, E., Larocque, S., & **Ellis, T.** (2021). Equity, Access and Inclusion in Global Learning Abroad: Student-Centred Insights Towards Ensuring Increased Participation and Quality Experiences. Toronto Metropolitan University.
- 2021 **Ellis, T.** and the Student Experience Research Team (2021). Student Stories from the Degrees of Debt: Considering the Impact of Debt on

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- Engagement and Well-Being Through an Arts-Informed, Student-Led Inquiry. Student Affairs Storytelling.
- 2020 **Ellis, T.** and the Student Experience Research Team (2020). Continuums and Conundrums of Student Engagement, Person to Person: Introducing Academic "Desirability" to Narratives of Belonging. Student Affairs Storytelling.
- 2019 Hannah, J., **Ellis, T.**, and the Student Experience Research Team (2019). Stuck Narratives and the Student Experience at Ryerson University [sic]: Undergraduate Student Expectations and Lived Realities of Post-Secondary Education as Explored Through an Arts-Based Research Design. Student Affairs Storytelling, Toronto Metropolitan University.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

- 2021–2022 Open Educational Resources Media Developer/Editor
Academic Success, University of Toronto
- 2021 Virtual Student Symposium Facilitator, Global Learning
Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2019 Independent Consultant: Strategic Review
Dalhousie University Student Affairs Communications
- 2018–2020 Creator, Student Experience Research Team
Student Affairs Storytelling, Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2016–2020 Manager, Student Affairs Storytelling
Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2014–2016 Digital Community Facilitator, Student Affairs Storytelling,
Toronto Metropolitan University

HONOURS AND AWARDS

- 2025–2026 Susan Mann Dissertation Scholarship, York University
- 2023 Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award, Annual Conference on Curriculum Theory and Classroom Practice, Journal of Curriculum Theorizing
- 2022 Vernon Oliver Stong Graduate Scholarship, Faculty of Education, York University
- 2019 Make Your Mark Staff Award for Innovation, Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2017 Innovation Award, Canadian Association of College and University Student Services
- 2012 Senate Medal for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Carleton University
- 2012 Rogers Communications Award for Communication Studies, Carleton University

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GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2022–2026 Doctoral Fellowship,
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- 2021–2026 Doctoral Fellowship, Faculty of Graduate Studies, York University
- 2022–2023 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (declined)
- 2013–2014 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Graduate Scholarship,
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- 2013–2014 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (declined)
- 2012–2013 Graduate Scholarship, Faculty of Graduate Studies, York University
- 2008–2012 Academic Scholarship, Carleton University

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Papers Presented

- 2026 **Ellis, T.** The Amateur Drawing Group's Subversive Study Practices and Imaginative Forms of Resistance at the University. American Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies. Online. June 27.
- 2026 **Ellis, T. & Van Berkel, E.** Drawing and the Challenging Practice of Staying in Dialogue, Through a Friendly Sketchbook Exchange. Canadian Society for Studies in Education Conference, University of Winnipeg. June 3.
- 2025 **Ellis, T.** Emerging insights from drawing groups with post-secondary students. Canadian Society for Studies in Education Conference, George Brown College, Toronto. June 4.
- 2025 Teaching Roundtable Discussion: "Inspiring Hope: Education as a Catalyst for Change in Tumultuous Times." York University Faculty of Education Year End Celebration, Toronto, ON. June 5.
- 2024 **Ellis, T.** Meetings with objects of affection in the amateur drawing group. In **Ellis, T., martin, t., Stuart-Hitchcox, H. & D'Andrea, J.,** The world – where we meet and act and speak with each other [Panel]. 44th Annual JCT Conference on Curriculum Theory and Classroom Practice, Dayton, Ohio. October 17.
- 2024 **Ellis, T.** Drawing with the medium between us. In Sandlos, K., Ellis, T., Duss, L.S. & Casemore, B., On the generative possibilities of limits in art and curriculum [Panel]. American Association for Advancement of Curriculum Studies 3rd Annual Online Conference. Virtual. April 26.
- 2023 **Ellis, T.** Somewhere between currere and ficto-currere with my teacher The Near-Sighted Monkey. 43rd Annual JCT Conference on Curriculum Theory and Classroom Practice, Dayton, Ohio. October 13.
- 2023 **Ellis, T.** Seeing 'study' in cartoon self-portraits by undergraduate researchers. 51st Annual Canadian Society for Studies in Education Conference, York University, Toronto. May 28.

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- 2023 **Ellis, T.** Confessions of a former student affairs professional. In Amarasingh, F., Ellis, T., Stuart-Hitchcox, H. & Di Paolantonio, M., Pedagogies of Attention [Panel]. Canadian Society for Studies in Education Conference, York University, Toronto. May 30.
- 2023 **Ellis, T.** An invitation to 'pass time' together in study: The psychedelic syllabus. 10th Biennale Provoking Curriculum Conference, University of Western Ontario. March 25.
- 2022 **Ellis, T.** Seeing 'me as a student': Cartoon self-portraits of 'study' by undergraduate research assistants. 18th Annual York Graduate Students in Education Conference, York University. Virtual. March 24.
- 2021 **Ellis, T.,** Machado, J. & Idrees, A. How an alternative field placement offered students new approaches to social work practice through arts-informed teaching and research methods. Learning and Teaching Conference, Toronto Metropolitan University. Virtual. May.
- 2020 **Ellis, T.,** Hannah, J., Wright, M., Adjei-Manu, E., Lowenstein, C., McIntosh, D. & Webb, G. Inside the student experience research team: Engaging undergraduates in meaningful Student Affairs scholarship. Canadian Association of College and University Student Services Annual Conference. Virtual. June 8.
- 2019 **Ellis, T.,** Hannah, J., Adjei-Manu, E., Bakroun, Z., Churilla, C., Mawdsley, R. & Tulloch, M. Interactive gallery by the Student Experience Research Team. [Installation]. Faculty of Arts ARTeries Undergraduate Research Conference, Toronto Metropolitan University. March.
- 2018 **Ellis, T. &** Msosa, Y. Feminist Hour comes to CACUSS/ARUCC. [Workshop]. Canadian Association of College and University Student Services Annual Conference, Charlottetown, PEI. June.
- 2017 **Ellis, T.,** Parnell, B., D'Souza, L., Wickiam, V., Willis, D. & Hannah, J. Design Thinking in Student Affairs: A new way to frame our practice. [Workshop]. Canadian Association of College and University Student Services Annual Conference, Winnipeg, MB. June.
- 2017 **Ellis, T.,** Parnell, B. & D'Souza, L. Design thinking in student affairs. 15th Annual Student Affairs Conference, New York University. February.
- 2014 **Ellis, T.** Media-making at Youville Centre. Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. Spring.
- 2014 **Ellis, T.** Thinking, feeling, media-making at Youville Centre. Thinking|Feeling, Graduate Program in Communication and Culture Annual Conference, York University / Toronto Metropolitan University. Spring.
- 2014 **Ellis, T.** (No)Words. [Short film screening]. Thinking|Feeling, Graduate Program in Communication and Culture Annual Conference. Spring.
- 2014 **Ellis, T.** Future communications and media-making at Youville Centre. Annual Future Communications Conference, York University. Spring.

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Workshops Facilitated

- 2026 **Ellis, T.** Drawing-Based Conversations. Public Education Exchange Network Preconference Event, Winnipeg, MB. June.
- 2025 **Ellis, T.** Drawing out our practice. Arts Researchers and Teachers Society Pre-Conference, CSSE 2025, Toronto Metropolitan University. May 31.
- 2025 **Ellis, T.** Drawing Out the Shared Shape of Hiraeth. Trent Arts Research Group Annual Colloquium, Trent University, Peterborough, ON. May 9.
- 2025 **Ellis, T.,** Veselka, M. & Tesfaye, Y. Drawn to the Waves: Introducing con-currents. 21st Annual York Graduate Students in Education Conference, Toronto. February 19.
- 2022 **Ellis, T. & Martin, Z.** Zine-making in research-creation. SORCE Collective Unconference, Toronto Metropolitan University. November 10.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2024–2025 Research Assistant: Zine Conversation Series
Early Childhood Pedagogies Collaboratory
- 2024–2025 Conference Coordinator (Elected Position)
York Graduate Students in Education, Faculty of Education, York University
- 2022 Research Consultant, Possibility Seeds Research and Advocacy
- 2021 Research and Engagement Facilitator, Office of Social Innovation
Toronto Metropolitan University

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

- 2024–Pres. Member: Trent Arts Research Group (TARG), Trent University
- 2022–Pres. Association Member: Canadian Society for Studies in Education
(Canadian Association for Curriculum Studies; Canadian Association for Foundations of Education; Arts Researchers and Teachers Society)
- 2021–Pres. Copy Editor (2021–2022) and Reviewer (2026), YU-Write: Journal of Graduate Student Research in Education, York University.
- 2025 Reviewer, Journal of Curriculum Theorizing
- 2023–2024 Mentor, Grad Mentorship Program, Faculty of Education, York University
- 2022 Reviewer, Arts-Based Research Across Visual Media in Education
(Routledge, 2024)
- 2021–2022 Digital Gallery Creator and Conference Committee Member,
York Graduate Students in Education, Faculty of Education,
York University