

Trade Union Education for All

Ideas and Methods



Context

Many unions are encouraging members to educate others to strengthen workplace organisation.

This course is designed to assist those undertaking such training at being even more effective at it. Passing on knowledge and inspiring others is something that can be improved by learned techniques.

As Doug has said 'Education is embedded in the very core of trade union work. Becoming a better educator means becoming a better trade unionist' (Nicholls, 2017). Yet much trade union education is technical and class room bound, with the tutor as the teacher and the students as the learners, ignoring the wealth of knowledge and experience participants bring. This needs to change.

Intended Audience and Course aims

Aimed not just at trainers but every union member, these courses will develop new skills to help you persuade, recruit, inform, negotiate, educate and inspire learners, creating opportunities for people to change their lives, and the lives of those they work with.

This course will enable you to communicate ideas and information more effectively and develop more

of a role in supporting learning and activism in your Union using the traditions of popular education, which are at the core of youth and community work and informal education.

Over the duration of this course, we will explore opportunities for effective learning, from canteen discussions to formal training sessions. The course will also explore teaching in the post pandemic reality. Blended learning will be foregrounded.

Course structure

The course will initially be delivered as an overnighter, from early evening to lunch time the next day, at Quorn Grange Hotel, followed by online support to develop your ideas, and a further day the following month. There are no exams or formal assessment, although we would like participants to present their learning from the course through the presentation of a real or intended learning event on the follow up day.

It would there be helpful if participants came with an idea for an educational project in mind, which we will all help you develop.

This course is facilitated by:

Alan Smith.

Alan is a Principal Lecturer in Youth and Community Work at Leeds Beckett University, Vice Chair of the National Youth Agency Education and Training Standards Committee and Co-Chair of the Joint Education and Training Standards Committee. He was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship for his transformational teaching.

Alan has written extensively on popular education and taught for 30 years.

Sarah Woolley

Sarah is General Secretary of the Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union. She became a member at 16 when she started working for Greggs.

Sarah sits on the GFTU executive council. In addition, she helped with organising the Youth festival and has taught on other trade union education courses.

Professor Mike Seal

Mike is a consultant National Officer of the Professional Association of Lecturers in Youth and Community Workers and a Visiting Professor at Newman University.

He is a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a National Teaching Fellow. He co-edited 'Trade Union Education: Transforming the World', has written or edited 14 other books on education, and taught for 30 years.

Venue

Quorn Grange Hotel
88 Wood Lane
Quorn
Leicestershire
LE12 8DB

Dates

Wednesday 5th April – Thursday 6th April 2023 (overnighter)

Follow-up Thursday 4th May – Friday 5th May 2023 (overnighter)

Thursday 27th April – Friday 28th April 2023 (overnighter)

Follow-up Thursday 25th May – Friday 26th May 2023 (overnighter)

Fees

These courses are free of charge to GFTU Affiliated Unions. GFTU will cover one accommodation, breakfast and dinner for those courses involving an overnighter.

For further information, please contact Mike Seal on 07773 781810.

For course and Quorn Grange Hotel bookings, please contact Mark Robinson via markr@gftu.org.uk.

Deadline for booking is 14 days before the course start date.

Application Form

Part A to be completed by delegate and Part B to be completed by Union Officer.

All fields below are mandatory. Applications will be referred back if any element of the form is not completed.

Please note: Course nomination forms **must** be returned to Mark Robinson at markr@gftu.org.uk

Part A

Course Code: N/A		Course Date:	
Course Title: GFTU Trade Union Education for All: Ideas & Methods 2023			
Title (please circle): Mr / Mrs / Ms / Miss / Dr	Forename:		Surname:
Address:		Home Tel No:	
Postcode:		Work Tel No:	
Date of Birth:		Email:	
Union:		Ethnicity:	
Union Section (if any):		Union Position:	
Time in Union Posts:			
Employer/Company:			
Special Requirements (e.g. large print, tape, braille, disabled access, etc. For child care please phone our Education Trust team on 01509 410977 to discuss) :			
Dietary Requirements (please tick): <input type="checkbox"/> Vegan <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Non-vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state):			
Accommodation Required (please tick): <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Terms and Conditions for Applicants Please insert an X in the boxes to add to your preferences and declarations			
<input type="checkbox"/> Opt out of marketing emails regarding upcoming courses		<input type="checkbox"/> Opt out of GFTU monthly newsletter	
Signed:		Date:	

Part B

The Nomination Form must be approved by the Union's General Secretary or a senior official having responsibility for making nominations.

Approved by:	
Position:	
Signed:	Date: