

GFTU's Education Programme 2023

Keep an eye on our [website](#) for more courses coming soon...

Bite Size Sessions

For new union activists or union members thinking about getting more involved – these modules will form the GFTU's "Passport to Activism". The programme will run over 4 sessions on consecutive days with recordings available after each session.

1. What is a good rep?

1st Run: 22nd May, 12:30pm.

2nd Run: 10th July

3rd Run: 16th October

2. Building Solidarity

1st Run: 23rd May, 12:30pm.

2nd Run: 11th July

3rd Run: 17th October

3. The Union Difference

1st Run: 24th May, 12:30pm.

2nd Run: 12th July

3rd Run: 18th October

4. Getting More Involved - Where Next?

1st Run: 25th May, 12:30pm.

2nd Run: 13th July

3rd Run: 19th October

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Standing up for a better workplace

Venue: GFTU Quorn Grange

Residential Course: May 31st - June 1st 2023

Online Follow-on Sessions: 6th, 13th, 20th - 6pm

The course is residential for two days followed by three online 90 minute sessions.

What do you think when you see employers sacking workers so they can reduce pay and conditions?

How do you feel when employers ride roughshod over workers' rights and mistreat their workforce?

Do you want to make a stand for a better world of work?

Any workplace rep who wants to explore more about their role and how they can answer these questions and get greater support in being effective in the workplace should attend this course.

It is suitable for new and more experienced reps who want to see the bigger picture about the challenges faced by workers in the UK and how unions, through their workplace reps, can become stronger.

We will be looking at the importance of the role of the rep in the workplace in defending workers' contracts of employment and ensuring that rights at work are enforced. We will explore where our rights at work come from and the battles fought to secure them and the skills necessary to be organised in supporting members and agreements.

Each rep attending the course will be encouraged to build their own action plan to build back worker power in their workplace and will be supported after the residential course to do so.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Please note: The deadline for applications is Wednesday 17th May.

Introduction to Health and Safety

The course is residential for two days with online 90 minute sessions the following week and 6 weeks later.

If you are a new health and safety representative or thinking about becoming one, then this course is for you.

You'll finish the course understanding your rights as a health and safety representative and how you and other reps can use health and safety to build your union in your workplace.

Participants will be encouraged to build their own action plan and online follow sessions will focus on supporting delivery of these action plans.

Venue: GFTU Quorn Grange

Residential Course: 23rd-24th May 2023

Online Follow-on Sessions: 30th May - 6pm & 11th July - 6pm

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Please note: The deadline for applications is Tuesday 9th May.

Venue: GFTU Quorn Grange

Residential Course: 12th-13th June 2023

Online Follow-on Sessions: 19th June - 6pm & 24th July - 6pm

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Please note: The deadline for applications is Monday 29th May.

A Better Future - GFTU Summer School

Venue: GFTU Quorn Grange

Residential Course: 25th - 27th July 2023

Online Follow-on Sessions: 5th September - 6pm & 10th October - 6pm

The course is residential for three days with online 90 minute sessions later in the year for participants to share progress made on their action plans.

How does the Trade Union Movement move forward and what is the role of workers' leaders in doing so?

The last year has seen an increase in union members standing up for better conditions at work and to oppose austerity. Many of those unions who have organised action have seen an increase in worker power and also in union membership.

The old challenges remain however. Whilst some unions continue to grow, others are in decline. And real wages are falling as pay deals fail to match inflation.

We have good grounds for optimism as we start to win what have been significant battles. And we should celebrate that we have been able to mobilise and organise workers.

This course will look at where we go next and is aimed at union leaders who may be experienced, more senior workplace activists or may be full time officers. We will be developing our understanding of the challenges that face us and how we address them.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Please note: The deadline for applications is Tuesday 11th July.

Understanding Trade Unions

Venue: GFTU Quorn Grange

Residential Course: 21st June 2023 (11am-3pm)

Online Follow-on Sessions: 28th June - 1pm

This short course is aimed at union employees who may not have a background in trade unions who want to understand more about trade unions and how they function.

We will look at what makes trade unions different as an employer, what we aim to achieve with and behalf of members and how we go about doing so. It will cover what we mean by the organising approach, the challenges that face us and how we can overcome them.

The online follow-on session will help answer questions and support participants in delivering their action plans.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Please note: The deadline for applications is Wednesday 7th June.

Train the Trainer

Venue: GFTU Quorn Grange

Residential Course: 2nd-3rd August 2023

Online Follow-on Sessions: 12th September - 6pm

This course is aimed at any activist or officer who delivers training for union activists. The aims of this introductory course are to equip participants to be able to run training sessions and to explore ways in which they can make sessions lively and interactive.

The broad outline of the course is:

- how adults learn and learning styles
- making group work
- variety of learning methods
- using a scheme of work
- assessment and evaluation
- dealing with difficult situations

At least one follow on session will be held online to support participants in planning and delivering their own session.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Please note: The deadline for applications is Wednesday 19th July.

We have some more courses to follow later in 2023. This will include; further bitesize sessions, industrial action, union representative stage 1 and 2 + safety representative stage 1 and 2, tackling sexual harassment, lessons in organising, roots of racism, digital organising and engagement, understanding the political economy, working class history and bigger picture online seminars and a T.U.L.I.P programme.