



Member Learning
2022
January-April



Dear Member,

Our Education Programme continues to offer our members a range of personal and professional development opportunities this quarter.

We are excited to return some of our programme to the physical classroom. In order to do this, we have completed risk assessments and made changes to how we normally deliver courses to ensure we create an environment that is as safe and comfortable as possible. That said we will closely monitor the situation during the pandemic, and we may need to make changes as regulations or circumstances dictate.

For this reason, we have marked our physical courses with Venue TBC. This allows us the flexibility to book larger venues for social distancing and to revert to virtual learning if we need to. Any course marked venue TBC will indicate which town or city it will be held in, and we will contact participants in advance of the course with venue details, and health and safety guidance.

Early in the New Year we will offer e learning licenses for a range of education providers. We will keep our website and social media platforms updated with application details.

To book any of our courses please email educationni@unison.co.uk with your name course name and your membership number If you know it, and or Nat. Ins. Number and home postcode. We will then send you an e mail confirmation.

English OET/ ILETS preparation classes

UNISON offers weekly classes to those who want to prepare for a IELTS exam (International English Test System) and a preparation class for the OET (Occupational English Test) for doctor and nurses.

The IELTS Level 2 class is for those who require a Level 7 in IELTS typically for NMC or GMC registration. You need to score at least five at the assessment to attend. Classes are also open to asylum seekers and refugees as part of UNISON's commitment to supporting inclusion. The class is delivered by Susan Good .

Classes currently run as one-to-one sessions and will return to the classroom on Thursdays in March.

Excel and spreadsheets Intermediate - Virtual

This course is designed to expand your Excel skills. To not just create column, bar and pie charts but to edit their background and designs and link them to Word document. Practice using more complex formulae like: IF, THEN, OR, AND, ELSE, cell referencing and extracting data from sorts and filters.

Course Aim

To build on skills from the introduction course or for those already using Excel for basic charts, formulae, sorts and filters. This course involves more complex formulae, charts, sorts and filters and how to extract data into other documents.

12, 19 & 26 Jan. (3 Wednesdays), 6pm-8pm

Attachment in the Early Years - Virtual

This workshop is aimed at support staff working in early years settings. The workshop will:

- examine different attachment classifications and how these are assessed
- look at some of the features of caregiving at home and within an early years' setting that can influence attachment
- reflect on the significance of attachment across the life span
- discuss the adaptive nature of the attachment system across different transitions in a child's life

Tues. 8 February - 9.30am

Makaton Level 1- Virtual

Level 1, training provides a practical introduction to the Makaton Language Programme. Sessions include discussing commonly asked questions, hints and tips for effective signing and symbol use and how to start using Makaton in everyday situations at home or work.

Wed. 16 & Thurs. 17 Feb. - 9.30am - 12.30am

Made in Dagenham Film Night – Physical TBC

In 1968, the women at the Ford auto plant in Dagenham, England go on strike. Their efforts help create equal pay legislation. After the film we will have a panel discussion with the women from our Union who have fought seemingly unwinnable fights for equal pay and against privatisation.

We will reserve places for women activist and members.

Thurs. 24 Feb. 2022 6.30pm

Microsoft Word Course - Virtual 2, 9 & 16 March - 3 Wednesdays, 6pm-8pm

Conflict in the Workplace - Tues. 8 March - 9.30am - 1.30pm

Physical Belfast - Venue TBC

This course provides practical tools and techniques for workers in health and social care to support them in managing their own wellbeing and that of clients and colleagues at work.

Green Issues

Green Issues provides a platform to find out more about the environment and climate change and how to get involved in positive change and activism through your union and on a personal basis.

You will find out more about why environmental problems have developed over time and be able to apply the knowledge gained from the course to your own situation and create a greener life for you, your family, community, and workplace.

This will be facilitated by the WEA (Workers Educ. Authority)

15, 22 & 29 March & 5 & 12 April – 5 Tuesdays – Virtual

Autism Awareness - Virtual

This session is designed for carers and service providers in their engagement with autistic service users as part of a cross disciplinary health and education sector team. It will provide a basic understanding of the impact of autism and how to work effectively with and develop effective supports for the autistic service user.

Tues. 5 April - 9.30am - 1.30pm

Communicating from the Inside Out - Physical Belfast TBC

This highly practical, interactive and engaging one day course will provide an insight into communication styles, behaviour and personality traits and develop an understanding of how and why people behave and communicate the way they do.

You will learn how to connect with others on a one to one or group basis using a range of techniques around language, physiology and voice.

This workshop can support you to engage more effectively with those you work with and those you support in your personal or professional life.

The tutor is Gerry Kelly, trainer of NLP

Wed. 6 April - 10am - 3pm

Makaton Level 2 - Virtual

The course will provide an extension from the Level 1 course offering further details about Makaton and combines a practical approach with theory and technical information.

You will learn more about how to use signs and symbols in everyday situations.

Thurs. 7 & Fri. 8 April - 9.30am - 12.30pm

Interview Skills (OU Nursing) – Virtual

Over the past number of years UNISON has been supporting members to access the Open University pre-reg nursing initiative through the provision of the K102 health and social care module and our workshop programme.

This workshop will help members prepare for the OU pre-reg nursing interview which is very competitive. It will help applicants identify relevant skills and convey them in an interview setting.

Dates dependant on applicants interview dates. Please only apply once you get your interview dates.

Pathways Into UNISON – Physical Slieve Donard Hotel

UNISON relies on hundreds of local reps in workplaces across Northern Ireland. These are people who want to play a role in standing up for colleagues and the service they work for.

85% of UNISON members are women, many of whom work part time or in more than one job.

However as in society, that proportion of women are not reflected in the activist base or decision-making structures within branches.

For women members who are interested in stepping forward and becoming a workplace rep we run an overnight residential workshop to find out how the union works and how you can become more active.

Fri. 6 & Sat. 7 May – 12.30pm Fri. - 3pm Sat.

Supporting those Bereaved by Suicide - Virtual

Understand the experience of those bereavement by suicide. Gain knowledge about how different factors affect grief and the models and theories that may be helpful.

Learn how to support those bereaved by suicide.

Develop confidence when talking about difficult and sensitive topics

The course is delivered by Cruise Bereavement.

Tues. 10 May - 10.15am - 1.00pm