

OPEN UNIVERSITY AND UNISON PARTNERSHIP

“UNISON in conjunction with the Open University have helped me to regain my confidence in learning new skills.”

At the end of 2010, the UNISON/Open University (OU) Partnership was recognised as the Widening Participation Initiative of the Year at the Times Higher Education Awards.

This Award reflects the hard work which has taken place over many years to build an effective and lasting learning partnership.

The benefits of this partnership include:

- discounts for UNISON members on OU courses.
- a new, dedicated OU/UNISON website.
- workplace provision of OU courses as part of a UNISON/OU employer learning partnership.

DISCOUNTS FOR UNISON MEMBERS

Under the UNISON/Open University Partnership, members are entitled to a **10% fee discount** on many OU Health and Social Care, Science and Business, Education and Language courses at any level.

In addition, the OU offers the same discount on many other level 1 courses for new OU students as part of their general offer to union members. Visit www.open.ac.uk/choose/unison or phone 0845 300 60 90 and quote 'UNION' to find out more.

Remember to ask for your discount when registering with the OU.

NEW OU/UNISON WEBSITE

A new OU/UNISON website has been launched which provides useful information on:

- funding – outlines the financial support available for students by the OU.

- Learning Zone – access to current OU learning materials and resources.

The new website can be found at www.unison.open.ac.uk/choose/unison

Free Courses for Unison Members Include:

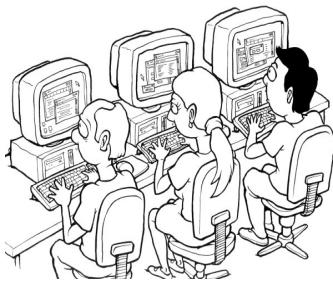
Return to Learn
Womens Lives Course
Coping with Change
Develop your Job Skills
Confidence Building and Assertiveness for Womens Members
Black & Ethnic Minority Members into Management Workshop
Disabled Members into Management Workshop
English for You (ESOL)

UNISON Stewards, Health and Safety Reps and Lifelong Learning Representatives

Free training courses for all activists and time off facility agreement

Do you want to help others to return to learning?

Become a Union Learning Rep (ULR)



What is a Union Learning Rep?

- Gives advice to people at work about how education can help
- Provides information about courses
- Supports people who are nervous about going back to learning
- Finds out what learning needs there are in the workplace
- Talks to the employer about training needs

Training to be a ULR will take place over five days but **new laws mean that you will get paid time-off to attend.**

More courses are added all the time so please contact us for more information

So if you are keen to find out more information contact the Lifelong Learning Co-ordinator in your branch or:

Gavin McCann – Regional Office

Tel: 0115 8475446

E-Mail – g.mccann@unison.co.uk

Skills for Life

Skills for life are the ability to read, write and speak in English, and to use maths in everyday activities.

The Council is working with Unison and Loughborough College to provide skills for life courses for employees who would like to develop their skills in English or maths.

These courses can be delivered in the workplace, and support everyday work activities. It is possible to achieve a National Certificate in Adult Literacy or Numeracy.

Contacts

If you would like to find out more please contact:

- **e-mail:** carolyn.blackshaw@loucoll.ac.uk
tel: 01509 618246