|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ucu_colour **AN INFORMATION BULLETIN FOR REPS** TRAINNG NEWSLETTER WINTER 2017/18  |  |

## **Welcome to the new edition of the Newsletter**

You will be pleased to know that our UCU reps training programme goes from strength to strength. We work hard with our college based trade union education teams to provide reps with the skills and knowledge they need to effectively represent their members.

This edition of our UCU Reps Training newsletter features articles which will be of general interest to all reps, and specifically to branch union learning reps. If your branch does not have a union learning rep we would strongly encourage you to find out more about the role and elect one – more information including info on facility time for ULRs can be found on the training home page at <https://www.ucu.org.uk/ulr>

We hope you enjoy the information in this short newsletter, please share it with your members and feel free to contact us at training@ucu.org.uk if there is anything you would like us to feature in further newsletters.

**Open Learn -** [**Free Learning from
The Open University**](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/)

 [**Get inspired**](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/latest-from-openlearn) **-** Watch, listen, discuss and play: exciting ways to understand the world around you. (See the latest: <http://www.open.edu/openlearn/latest-from-openlearn>)

[**Explore subjects**](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/subject-information) **-** Browse subject categories to explore new topics or look for reference material for a course you are already studying. (<http://www.open.edu/openlearn/subject-information>)

[**Study free courses**](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/all-our-free-courses)

From 1 to 100 hours of learning - discover hundreds of free courses to inspire and inform everyone. (<http://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue>)

[**Brush up on skills**](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/skills-for-work)

Improve your study and employability skills, with our expertly created courses and resources. (<http://www.open.edu/openlearn/skills-for-work>)

[**Earn while you learn**](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/advantages-signing-on-free-course)

Earn a free digital badge or Statement of Participation as evidence of your learning to share with employers, friends and family. (<http://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/advantages-signing-on-free-course>)

**Get the most out of OpenLearn**

Anyone can learn for free on OpenLearn but creating an account lets you set up a personal learning profile which tracks your course progress and gives you access to Statements of Participation and digital badges you earn along the way. Sign up for free: <https://www.open.ac.uk/account/createaccount?URL=http://www.open.edu/openlearn/openlearn-the-open-university>

**DID YOU KNOW?**

That trade union members can get up to **10% discount** on certain courses at **Birkbeck University**.

**Wolverhampton University also offer 10% discount on tuition fees**

For more information go to the Unionlearn page and use the link to the universities fees page <https://www.unionlearn.org.uk/higher-education-discounts-trade-union-members>



Not a member yet?
Here’s how to join: <http://join.ucu.org.uk>

Learning at Work Week

Learning at Work Week is an annual event in May organised by the **Campaign for Learning** since 1999. It aims to put a spotlight on the importance and benefits of learning and development at work (<https://www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk/Pages/News/Category/learning-at-work-week>)

**Learning at Work Week** takes place **14th - 20th May 2018**.

<https://www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk/news/about-learning-at-work-week>

To find out **how your organisation can get involved** in the biggest festival of workplace learning follow the link below: <https://www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk/news/national-activities-and-special-offers>

## [**Plan your Learning at Work Week event**](https://www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk/news/resources-to-learning-at-work-week)

Ideas and inspiration for planning brilliant activities

<https://www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk/news/resources-to-learning-at-work-week>

## [**Graphics and posters**](https://www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk/news/download-your-graphics-and-posters)

Create great promotional materials and download posters for your week <https://www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk/news/download-your-graphics-and-posters>



**Union Learning Reps (ULRs)**

If union members want to become ULRs, they should first discuss it with their local UCU branch, or their full-time officer. Then contact the UCU training team at training@ucu.org.uk to discuss their training options.

For more information follow the link: <https://www.ucu.org.uk/ulr> or the Unionlearn website at <https://www.unionlearn.org.uk/union-learning-reps-ulrs>

**The next UCU Union Learning reps course will be 19th to 21st February 2018 – click here to find out more <https://www.ucu.org.uk/article/4926/UCU-learning-reps>**

 **Time off for training – info & FAQs**

Did you know that elected branch reps are entitled to time off for training under the Trade union and labour relations act?

To find out more about time off for training please see the full article on the training section of the website here:

<https://www.ucu.org.uk/article/4903/Facilities-and-time-off-for-UCU-reps>

  Future Learn

<https://www.futurelearn.com/>

Try high quality online education – enjoy free online courses from top universities and specialist organisations.

[**Join now**](https://www.futurelearn.com/register)

[**https://www.futurelearn.com/register**](https://www.futurelearn.com/register)

**Popular online course categories**

[Business & Management](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/categories/business-and-management-courses)

[Health & Psychology](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/categories/health-and-psychology-courses)

[Tech & Coding](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/categories/tech-and-coding-courses)

[Teaching](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/categories/teaching-courses)

**View all course categories:**

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/categories>