

## Welcome to Unifor- McMaster Labour Studies!

Unifor-McMaster Labour Studies courses are designed specifically for Unifor members. Education has an important role in building a knowledgeable membership and workplace leadership. Our program will develop members capacities for critical thinking. The learning process is built upon a commitment to participants that translates into respect for prior experience, skill and activism.

The certificate is an in-depth credit program designed to be completed at your own pace. Courses are offered locally in your community. Classes are held at various times during the day, evening or weekend, allowing the maximum number of workers to take advantage. Courses are designed by experts in the field to give you knowledge and practical information you need to succeed and understand the working world of today. Courses are set to serve individuals who want to pursue learning and career goals in a flexible setting.

Whether looking for career advancement, job change, working towards a degree or interested in learning for self-development and enrichment, we can help.

## Contact Us!

For more information, contact Madisson Lambert at 905.525.9140 Ext. 24015 or by email at [lambem5@mcmaster.ca](mailto:lambem5@mcmaster.ca) Visit our website at Unifor-McMaster Labour Studies Certificate program for detailed information and to download our current schedule:

Join our Facebook Page to keep up to date on what's happening



# Unifor- McMaster Labour Studies Certificate

## Winter 2020 Schedule



# Program Details

## Requirements for Completing the Labour Studies Certificate

Students are required to complete **36 units** in order to be eligible to graduate. Courses are worth 1 to 9 units each, and are delivered through a combination of face-to-face instruction, online learning, and video conferencing. **24 units** of courses from the following list:

- History of the Canadian Auto Workers Union (4 units)
- Current Challenges to the Labour Movement (4 units)
- Introduction to Workplace Issues (4 units)
- Globalization and Democracy (4 units)
- Making Work: Factors Shaping Today's Workplace (4 units)
- Wal-Mart: Driving a New Brand of Capitalism (4 units)
- Government, Labour Regulation and the Workplace (4 units)
- Solutions to Global Warming (4 units)
- Labour and Media (4 units)
- Labour in Film (4 units)
- Labour in Documentary Film (4 units)
- Film and Ideology (4 units)
- Photo Essay Project: Social Justice through Photographs (4 units)
- Labour History as Told Through Music (4 units)
- Art, Labour Activism and Change (4 units)
- Introduction to Politics (online) (9 units)
- Working Class Life (4 units)
- Who are the 1% (4 units)
- Food, the Environment and Workers Power (4 units)
- Understanding Mexico: The Struggle for Social Change (4 units)
- Unions and Society (4 units)
- The Cooperative Alternative (4 units)

To obtain the certificate, students are required to take **12 additional units** of optional courses.

**Registration:** Unifor members employed at Ford, GM, and Chrysler can continue to enroll in courses at no direct cost. Simply inform your area Unifor-McMaster Coordinator (listed on the right) that you are interested in enrolling in a course. All necessary

# Area Coordinators

**Brampton:** Local 1285 **Bill Turner** 905-799-5135, wt14@chrysler.com

## **Hamilton McMaster University**

**Anthony Tambureno** 647-927-6825, tambur@mcmaster.ca

**Ingersoll:** Local 88 **Justin Spurgeon**, Justin.spugeon6@gmail.com, 519-520-2517, or Joe Graves, 519-425-0952

**St. Catharine's:** Local 199 **Peter Scott** 905-682-2611 ext. 238, education@unifor199.org

**Oakville:** local 707 **Bryce Thompson**, 226-802-1914, bnwt94@gmail.com or 905-844-9451, or uniforlocal707@uniforlocal707.ca

**Oshawa:** **John MacDonald** Local 222 johndmacd@rogers.com, 905-424-2776

**Windsor:** **Rick LaBonte** Local 444, 519-890-9809,

local444environmentcommittee@gmail.com

register early at the local 1855 Turner Rd, 519-258-6400 Ext. 0,

Local 200 **Darryl Charron** 519 817 9330, darrylcharron81@gmail.com

# Winter 2020 In-Class Course Descriptions

## The Co-op Alternative

Canadian workers have a long history of worker owned and run co-operative businesses', farms, stores and other enterprises. How do these actually work? What are the pros and cons? What challenges do they face? Can they improve workers lives? **4 Units**

## Who are the 1%?

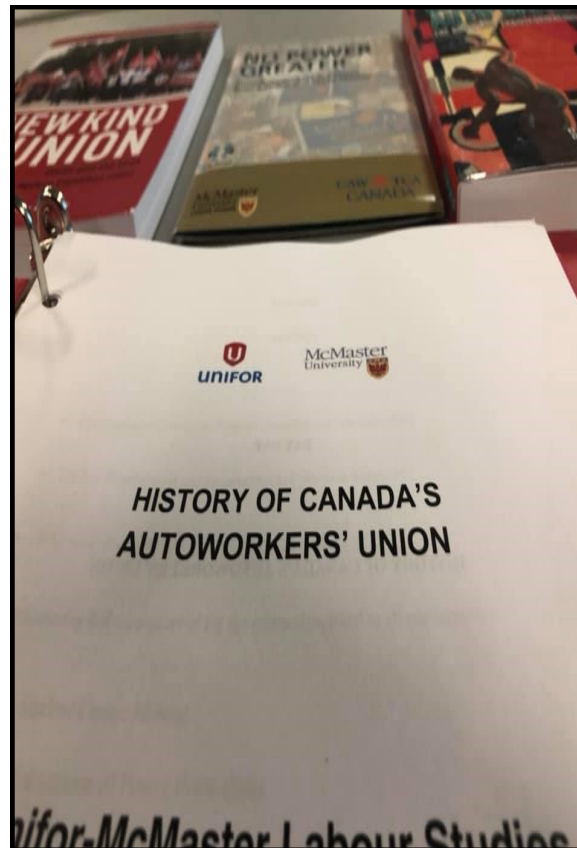
Wealth inequality has been hitting all time highs. But does 1% of the population really own most of the wealth? What ways do the wealthy use politics, the economy, media, laws, and the education system to give themselves unfair advantages over working people? **4 Units**

## Labour History told through Music

Learn about the struggles of working class people past and present to improve their lives through music! This course is taught by musician Kevin Wycraft who plays live in the class to tell about the victories and defeats of workers! **4 Units**

## Unions and Society

What role do labour unions play in society? Can they democratize the workplace? Do they improve the lives of working people? Is there a 'cold war' against unions? This course will discuss these and other questions and debate what the role of unions are, and what they should be in our society. **4 units**



## ONLINE COURSES:

These self-paced courses allow students to work at their own pace from the comfort of home, and view online presentations, complete readings and submit exercises to an instructor via email. Students will have access to the facilitator thorough email.

## Labour and Politics

This course looks at the history of the Canadian working class's involvement with politics, both historically and today. What are the different philosophies unions have had regarding members involvement in politics? What is the difference between Canadian and US unions views on politics? Why have many unions supported the NDP? What current and future political issues do working people face? **9 Units**

"Labor studies courses allow you to see the big picture on labor related issues. It has been an educational experience I will treasure for the rest of my life! I Hope more workers engage in this journey."

**2019 Graduate Elisa Zeldon**

# Advanced Certificate in Labour Studies

The objective of the Advanced Certificate is to deepen understanding of issues relevant to Canadian workers, provide them with a core set of research skills, and to use these skills in carrying out a research project. The Advanced Certificates are only open to students who have completed the Unifor-McMaster Labour Studies Certificate.

To qualify for the Advanced Certificate students will be asked to complete 5 full additional courses (20 units).

## **The requirements are as follows:**

A) 5 full courses (20 units) made up of a maximum of 3 full video conferencing courses (12 units) plus at least two regular full courses (8 units).

B) If students have not taken Introduction to Economics or Labour and Politics as part of their first certificate they must include one of these online courses in the 20 units.

In addition students must complete, or have completed as part of their first certificate, the following two courses:

- a) Tools for Further Study  
(No. 860)
- b) Computer Skills for Activists (No. 838)

## **Certificate In Basic Research Skills**

This Certificate includes the Research Methods, and Research Project Courses. Students are permitted to take the Advanced Certificate without taking the Certificate in Basic Research Skills. Those taking the Certificate in Basic Research Skills will need to complete the Advanced Certificate, or be working towards completion.

Students must complete the Tools for Further Study course (Course No. 860- formerly called Tools for Success at University) before they start the Research Skills course. We offer a prior learning assessment for those who feel they have already acquired the skills taught in this course.

## **Course requirements for the Certificate in Basic Research Skills are as follows:**

A) Research Methods (Course No. 815)  
(Open only to students who have completed the first certificate)

B) Research Project– Independent Study (Course 839A). This course will be offered in the Winter 2012 term and is open only to students who have completed the first certificate.

## **Credit Toward a University Degree**

### **Extra Credit in the UNIFOR-MAC Program**

McMaster University Senate has approved the Unifor-McMaster University, Labour Studies Certificate Program for advanced credit towards degree studies. Advanced credit is possible only after successful completion of the Certificate Program. Once completed, students are eligible to received 15 units of level one undergraduate credit towards a degree. Credit in this certificate program has also been recognized at Athabasca University and the University of Windsor.

### **HAVE YOU COMPLETED PEL - 4 WEEK BASIC TRAINING PROGRAM?**

If so, you are eligible to receive extra credit towards your completion of the Unifor-McMaster Certificate. Please send us a copy of your Basic Training PEL Certificate along with your name and student number. Upon receipt of your documentation, 8 additional units will be added to your student record.

Contact the program office for further information.

# Winter 2020 In-Class Course Schedule

Course	Oakville 5-8pm  5-8 pm	Oshawa 4-7pm  *Contact John for Location*	Windsor 6:30-9:30pm	Ingersoll 5:00-8:00pm	Brampton 4:30-7:30pm	St. Catharines	Hamilton McMaster
<b>Unions and Society</b> <b>4 Units</b>	Jan 22, 29, Feb 19, 26			March 4, 11, April 1, 8		<b>Video Conference and Online Courses</b>	<b>Video Conference and Online Courses</b>
<b>The Cooperative Alternative</b> <b>4 Units</b>	March 4, 11, April 1, 8	March 3, 10, April 2, 9	April 14, 21, May 12, 19				
<b>Who are the 1%?</b> <b>4 Units</b>			March 3, 10, 31, April 7				
<b>Labour History Told Through Music</b> <b>4 Units</b>					Feb 25, March 3, 24, 31		

<p><b>Labour and Politics</b> <b>(online)</b> 9 Units</p>	<p><b>Self-paced online course, available in all locations. Contact Madisson Lambert at <a href="mailto:lambem5@mcmaster.ca">lambem5@mcmaster.ca</a> or 905-525-9140 Ext. 24015 to register</b></p>
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# Winter 2020 Video Conference Courses

## **What's Happening with the US Auto Industry?      1 Course Unit**

How has the US auto industry changed overtime and what is the current state it is in today? What trends have been occurring, and how is Canadian Auto affected? What does the future hold for the US auto industry? **Monday February 24, 6:30-9:30 pm**

## **Union Organizing in the 'Gig' Economy      1 Course Unit**

The 'Gig' economy is characterized by precarious jobs, with low pay, insecurity, and lack of benefits. A worker-activist in the gig-economy will tell us about what working in this sector is like and the possibility of organizing these workers to improve their conditions. **Monday March 23, 6:30-9:30 pm**

## **How do we Build Cross Border Solidarity?      2 Course Units**

Employers increasingly pit workers in different countries against each other in a global race to the bottom. This two session course will discuss Unifor, and other unions attempts to create cross border worker solidarity to combat this trend.

**Monday March 30, and April 6, 6:30-9:30 pm**