

UNISON West Midlands

Education Programme 2025

Courses Spring Term 2025

Course name	Description	Format	Date and time
The Organising Steward	All the basics new stewards and workplace reps need to know.	Online	Five Tuesday mornings, 14 Jan – 11 Feb, 10am – 12pm
TUC Union Representatives Stage 1	All the basics new stewards and workplace reps need, including representing members.	Online	Ten Wednesday mornings, 15 Jan – 26 Mar, (except 26 Feb) 10am – 12pm
Introduction to Health and Safety	Essential starting point for new health and safety reps.	Online	Five Thursday mornings, 16 Jan – 13 Feb, 10am – 12pm
Further Representational Skills (Grievance and Disciplinary)	Follow-on course for stewards preparing grievance, disciplinary and capability cases.	Online	Tuesday 21 & Wednesday 22 Jan, 10am – 4pm
Sickness Absence Reviews	Follow-on course looking at sickness absence reviews.	In person	Tuesday 4 Feb, 10am – 4pm
The Organising Steward	All the basics new stewards and workplace reps need to know.	In person	Five Tuesdays, 4 Mar – 1 Apr, 10am – 4pm
ERA Refresher	For ERA-accredited reps who need to update their accreditation.	In person	Wednesday 5 Mar, 10am – 4pm

Course name	Description	Format	Date and time
Introduction to Health and Safety	Essential starting point for new health and safety reps.	In person	Five Thursdays, 6 Mar – 3 Apr, 10am – 4pm
Maternity and Parental Rights	Follow-on course exploring the law on maternity and parental rights.	Online	Tuesday 11 Mar, 10am – 4pm
Introduction to Employment Law	Overview of employment law, focussing on unfair dismissal, redundancy and discrimination.	In person	Tuesday 25 Mar 10am – 4pm
Understanding Social Media for UNISON Stewards	How branches can use social media as an organising tool and respond to inappropriate use of social media at work.	Online	Tuesday 1 Apr, 10am – 1pm

To apply for any of these courses log into your My UNISON account



Courses Summer Term 2025

Course name	Description	Format	Date and time
The Organising Steward	All the basics new stewards and workplace reps need to know.	Online	Five Tuesday mornings, 29 Apr – 3 Jun (except 27 May), 10am – 12pm
ERA Refresher	For ERA-accredited reps who need to update their accreditation.	In person	Tuesday 6 May, 10am – 4pm
TUC Union Representatives Stage 1	All the basics new stewards and workplace reps need, including representing members.	Online	Ten Wednesday mornings, 7 May – 16 July (except 28 May) 10am – 12pm
Introduction to Health and Safety	Essential starting point for new health and safety reps.	Online	Five Thursday mornings, 1 May – 5 Jun (except 29 May), 10am – 12pm
Further Representational Skills (Grievance and Disciplinary)	Follow-on course for stewards preparing grievance, disciplinary and capability cases.	In person	Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 May, 10am – 4pm
Menopause in the Workplace	Examines menopause as a collective issue for organising in the branch and with employers.	In person	Tuesday 20 May, 10am – 4pm
Making Equality Central to Your Union Practice	Follow-on course exploring equality law and tools for reps.	In person	Thursday 22 May, 10am – 4pm
Sickness Absence Reviews	Follow-on course looking at sickness absence reviews.	Online	Tuesday 3 Jun, 10am – 4pm

Course name	Description	Format	Date and time
The Organising Steward	All the basics new stewards and workplace reps need to know for their roles.	In person	Five Tuesdays, 10 Jun – 8 Jul, 10am – 4pm
ERA Refresher	For ERA-accredited reps who need to update their accreditation.	Online	Wednesday 11 Jun, 10am – 4pm
Introduction to Health and Safety	Essential starting point for new health and safety reps.	In person	Five Thursdays, 12 Jun – 10 Jul, 10am – 4pm
Bargaining and Negotiating Skills	Follow-on course examining the process of bargaining and negotiating to identify good practice.	In person	Tuesday 24 & Wednesday 25 Jun, 10am – 4pm
Dealing with Capability Cases	Follow-on course covering all aspects of capability cases.	In person	Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 Jul, 10am – 4pm
Understanding Sex Discrimination	Follow-on course on using the law to challenge sex discrimination at work.	Online	Tuesday 8 Jul, 10am – 4pm

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Courses Autumn Term 2025

Course name	Description	Format	Date and time
Further Representational Skills (Grievance and Disciplinary)	Follow-on course for stewards preparing grievance, disciplinary and capability cases.	Online	Tuesday 9 & Wednesday 10 Sep, 10am – 4pm
Introduction to Employment Law	Overview of employment law, focussing on unfair dismissal, redundancy and discrimination.	Online	Tuesday 16 Sep, 10am – 4pm
The Organising Steward	All the basics new stewards and workplace reps need to know.	In person	Five Tuesdays, 16 Sep – 14 Oct, 10am – 4pm
TUC Union Representatives Stage 1	All the basics new stewards and workplace reps need, including representing members.	Online	Ten Wednesday mornings, 17 Sep – 26 Nov, (except 29 Oct) 10am – 12pm
Introduction to Health and Safety	Essential starting point for new health and safety reps.	In person	Five Thursdays, 18 Sep – 16 Oct, 10am – 4pm
Maternity and Parental Rights	Follow-on course exploring the law on maternity and parental rights.	In person	Tuesday 30 Sep, 10am – 4pm
Sickness Absence Reviews	Follow-on course looking at sickness absence reviews.	In person	Tuesday 14 Oct, 10am – 4pm
ERA Refresher	For ERA-accredited reps who need to update their accreditation.	In person	Thursday 23 Oct, 10am – 4pm

Course name	Description	Format	Date and time
Understanding and Challenging Sexual Harassment	Follow-on course to help tackle sexual harassment.	Online	Tuesday 4 Nov, 10am – 4pm
The Organising Steward	All the basics new stewards and workplace reps need to know.	Online	Five Tuesday mornings, 4 Nov – 2 Dec, 10am – 12pm
Introduction to Health and Safety	Essential starting point for new health and safety reps.	Online	Five Thursday mornings, 6 Nov – 4 Dec, 10am – 12pm
Making Equality Central to Your Union Practice	Follow-on course exploring equality law and tools for reps.	Online	Wednesday 12 Nov, 10am – 4pm
Bargaining and Negotiating Skills	Follow-on course examining the process of bargaining and negotiating to identify good practice.	Online	Tuesday 18 & Wednesday 19 Nov, 10am – 4pm
Dealing with Capability Cases	Follow-on course covering all aspects of capability cases.	Online	Tuesday 25 & Wednesday 26 Nov, 10am – 4pm

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Full course descriptions are on:

 <https://westmidlands.unison.org.uk/education-and-training-2/>

Registration is via your account on My UNISON:
www.unison.org.uk/my-unison/

Contact the West Midlands Education Team:

 wmeducationteam@unison.co.uk

 0121 685 3104