

## Welcome to the CAW-McMaster Labour Studies Program

CAW-MAC Labour Studies courses are designed specifically for CAW members. Courses are offered locally in your community. Education has an important role in building a knowledgeable membership and workplace leadership. An educational 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 program is an in-depth credit program designed to be completed at your own pace. 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 you are looking for career advancement, job change, working towards a degree or interested in learning for self-development and enrichment, we can help.

## Program Update

Recent changes to your collective agreements have resulted in changes to your tuition refund benefit and has created some confusion regarding its implications for the CAW/McMaster Certificates. The Certificates are a unique education program jointly delivered by the CAW and McMaster University and are governed by separate letters of understanding attached to the collective agreements.

We are pleased to announce that an understanding has been reached with Ford, Chrysler and GM to allow this program to continue. You can continue to enroll in courses in the CAW-McMaster Certificate programs at no direct cost to you.

You are no longer required to obtain employer pre-approval before enrolling in courses. Simply inform your area CAW-McMaster Coordinator (listed on reverse) that you are interested in enrolling in a course. All necessary registration forms are completed in the first class. We look forward to seeing you in class.

### CAW- McMaster School of Labour Studies Certificate Contact information

For more information please contact Shelley Omand at 905.525.9140 Ext. 24015 or by email [omand@mcmaster.ca](mailto:omand@mcmaster.ca)

You can also visit our website for detailed program information and to download our current course schedule:

[www.labourstudies.mcmaster.ca/caw-mac-certificate](http://www.labourstudies.mcmaster.ca/caw-mac-certificate) OR



Under "CAW-MAC Certificate Program"



## CAW-McMaster Labour Studies



FALL 2011

Worker Friendly Education

## PROGRAM DETAILS

### How to Complete the Labour Studies Certificate Program

Students are required to complete 36 units in order to be eligible to graduate. Depending on the course, unit values range from 1 to 4 unit courses. Course descriptions in the calendar include the unit value. Courses are delivered by a combination of face-to-face instruction, computer, online learning, video conferencing and learning via the Internet.

### Registration and Payment Procedures

If you need more information or assistance about tuition application procedures, please speak to your area coordinator as listed in this brochure or feel free to contact the CAW-McMaster Certificate Program office @ 905-525-9140 Ext. 24015.

### Course Cancellation

CAW-MAC reserves the right to cancel courses due to insufficient registration, inclement weather or other unavoidable factors. In the event of a cancellation, we will attempt to contact all students via telephone and/or email.

### Further Information

Official Income Tax receipts (T2202A) are made available to students toward the end of February each year for the previous academic year. Students must access this receipt through MUGSI on-line and then print it off. Student ID cards are issued to new students approx. six weeks after completion of their first course. Current students will receive a sticker for their student card.

## Advanced Credit Toward a University Degree

McMaster University Senate has approved the CAW-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 receive 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.

### Extra Credit in the CAW-MAC Program

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

If so, you are eligible to receive extra credit towards your completion of the CAW-MAC 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.



## Area Coordinators and Contact Information

### Brampton

Bill Turner (Local 1285) 905-451-8310 (messages)  
Or Gail Luyben-Powers 905-451-2691 or Tuesdays  
905-799-5114  
gailwind50@gmail.com

### Etobicoke

Kris Mueller (Local 1459) (416)253-2392  
K2swim@rogers.com

### Hamilton (McMaster University)

Sam Vrankulj (Local 555) 905-525-9140 ext. 27781  
vrankus@mcmaster.ca

### London Area

Electra-Motive -  
Frank Ware (Local 27) 519- 461-0732  
Frank.Ware@emdiesels.com

General Dynamics -  
Dereck Berry (Local 27) dereck.berry@sympatico.ca  
519-425-0952

### Ingersoll

Dan Borthwick (Local 88) 519-425-0952  
Dan.borthwick@bell.net

### St Catharines

Peter Scott (Local 199) 905-682-2611 ext. 238

### Oakville

Call Local 707 905-844-9451 to register

### Oshawa

Jeff Spence 905-644- 2373  
Jeff.spence@gm.com

### Windsor

Rick LaBonté (Local 444) 519-258-6400 to register  
or 519-890-9809 for questions  
Local 200 519-256-3453

## Fall 2011 Courses

### CAW-McMaster Photo Essay Project: Social Justice through Photographs

Public perception of workers is often manipulated by politicized portrayals of unions as a threat. This is especially true in photographic images, videos, and other graphic representations of workers we see daily on television, newspapers, and in other media. The power balance of photography is typically with the person who holds the camera over the subject in the viewfinder. The photographer uses a camera to “capture”, “shoot”, and “take”, someone else’s image in a fraction of a second and “frame” it from a particular point of view. This hands-on course provides you with the tools to tell a story in images from your own perspective through the use of photographs and text to create a narrative photo essay. Bring a digital camera and a favourite image of yourself to the first class!

Course No. 838A, Unit:4

### Film and Ideology

Films carry social values and ideas about how the world is or should be seen. A film’s production is also embedded within media institutions and produced within a particular ideological framework. In this course, students will develop active viewership skills through an introduction to the basic story and technical elements of filmmaking, such as narrative structure, visual composition and the use of sound and editing, as well as an analysis of the politics of media production. Students will screen and discuss a different film each week. Films will be selected around a different theme each term, and will include shorts, documentaries and scripted feature formats. This term’s theme: Capitalism and Resistance

Course No. 841A, Unit:4

### Labour History as Told Through Music

This course provides insight into the history of the labour movement through a review of the songs and songwriters that gave voice to its ideals and struggles, triumphs and defeats. Students will explore the evolution of working class music and develop an appreciation of the links between working class struggle and the music and lyrics that emerged out of and accompanied this struggle. The focus of this course is North American music, but will reference international influences. The instructor for this course will be an accomplished musician/vocalist and performances will be part of each session

Course No. 837A, Unit:4

### History of the CAW

This revised and updated course explores the history of the CAW. Topics include the origins of the labour movement in Canada, the birth of the CAW, building the union, the split from the UAW, the changing nature and composition of the CAW, and an exploration of the challenges faced by the CAW and the rest of the labour movement. The course uses videos, internet quizzes and discussions as well as interactive classroom exercises.

Course No. 846, Unit:4

### Introduction to Economics (Online)

How did our economic system evolve? What is GDP? How are wages determined? Is competition good for workers? These and other questions will be addressed in this course. This is an on-line course featuring mini lectures by Jim Stanford, videos and animations describing how the economy works, readings from Jim Stanford’s Economics for Everyone, and online quizzes. This is a self-paced course in which students will

view online presentations, complete readings and submit exercises to an instructor via email. Students will have access to a course facilitator thorough email. Please contact us for more details regarding this course.

Course No. 853, Unit:4

### Research Methods

The objective of this mixed format course is to introduce students to basic research skills. These including the following:

- Understanding core research concepts and principles.
- Assessing the strengths and limitations of selected research methods.
- Selecting and utilizing appropriate research methods

Students will explore and gain practice in the research process through working collaboratively on a research project that is determined by the group. Topics covered include how to develop a research plan, conduct a research interview, create and post an online survey, analyse research data, write a research report, and present research findings. This course is only open to students who have completed the CAW-McMaster Certificate. This is a mixed format course with occasional in-person sessions (dates determined by class) supplemented with regular Skype and teleconference meetings, and online components. This course starts with an opening session scheduled for Saturday November 12 (9:00-3:00) at McMaster University. You must apply in writing by submitting a brief summary outlining your interest in participating in this course. Please contact Sam Vrankulj at [vrankus@mcmaster.ca](mailto:vrankus@mcmaster.ca) for more details. Please note this is an 8 unit course and will span two terms in length.

Course No. 815, Unit:8

## Advanced Certificates in Labour Studies

The objective of the Advanced Certificates 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 CAW-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 the online Introduction to Economics ( No. 853) course as part of their first certificate they must include this 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 Success at University (No. 860)
- b) Computer Skills for Activists (No. 838)

## Certificate In Basic Research Skills

The Certificate in Basic Research Skills includes the Research Methods course and the Research Project Course. Students will be permitted to take the Advanced Certificate without taking the Certificate in Basic Research Skills. Students taking the Certificate in Basic Research Skills will need to either have completed the Advanced Certificate, or be working towards it. Students must complete the Tools for Success at University course before they start the Research Skills course. We will offer a prior learning assessment for people who feel they have already acquired the skills taught in this course.

### The 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.

## What our students are saying about the CAW-McMaster Labour Studies Program

*“The video-conferencing was great. A lot of good things came up in the discussion. The guest speakers are awesome.”*

*“This course is really an eye opener for the younger people.”*

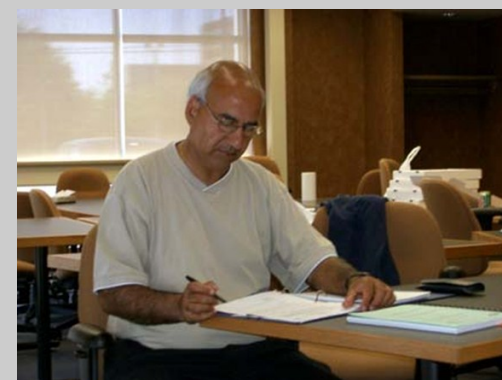
*“The Professors are very approachable and respect the opinions and experiences of their students and treat them as equals”*

*“After being out of high school for 18 years, I found myself finally enrolled in a University program. Thank you CAW.”*

*“Our union has much to be proud of and have contributed to the betterment of society`*

*`The course was great. The instructors made the class fun and interesting.”*

*“This program gave me the confidence to move forward and start on my degree.”*



# COURSE SCHEDULE

All course scheduled from 6:30– 9:30 unless otherwise noted

Course	Oakville	Etobicoke	Ingersoll	Windsor	Brampton	Niagara	Oshawa	Hamilton	
Photo Essay Project: Social Justice Through Photography	Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 25, and Nov. 22		Video Conference and Online Courses Only		In-Class Courses TBA	Nov. 7, 21, 28 & Dec. 12			
Film and Ideology	Oct. 11, 18, Nov. 8, and Dec. 13	Nov. 7, 21, 28, and Dec. 12		Oct. 26, Nov. 2, 23, and 30				Nov. 7, 21, 28, and Dec. 12	
History of the CAW								Tuesdays Sept 27 & Nov. 1, 22, 29	
Labour History as Told Through Music				Oct. 12, 19, Nov. 9 and Dec. 7					
Research Methods	<b>Opening Session Saturday Nov. 12 at McMaster 9:00-3:00</b>								
Introduction to Economics	<b>This self-paced online course is available in all locations. Contact us for details. Start date for next session is November 1</b>								

## Video Conferences in all Locations

**The Libyan Uprising: Canada`s Role and What this Says About the Future of Canadian Foreign Policy**

**Mondays October 3 and 24**

**The Global Financial Crisis What it Means for Canadian Workers- Monday October 17**

**Harper`s Canada: and an Alternative Vision Mondays November 14 and December 5**



## Fall 2011 Video Conference Courses

### **The Libyan Uprising: Canada`s Role and What this Says About the Future of Canadian Foreign Policy**

A revolutionary wave of demonstrations and uprisings has swept Arab countries since December 2010 and resulted in significant changes in many states. Libya is currently in the midst of a civil war and the establishment of a new government to replace the longstanding Gadhafi regime. Canada has been an active member of the UN backed military coalition deployed to support the rebellion. This two session course will explore Canada`s involvement in the Libyan insurgency and why Canada and other coalition members chose to become militarily involved in Libya`s uprising and not others in the region. The first session is being given by **Atif Kubursi** who will be focusing on what is going on in Libya and in particular identifying the groups attempting to gain power and what this is likely to mean within Libya and more broadly the Middle East region. The second session presented by **Peter Langille** of McMaster University will focus on why Canada is taking part in a military campaign in Libya, and in particular what this reflects about the Harper government`s foreign policy priorities more generally moving forward.

Course No. 857A, Unit: 2

### **The Global Financial Crisis and What it Means for Canadian Workers**

We are in the midst of another serious global financial crisis. This one precipitated by a growing national debt crisis in the US and Europe, and a weaker than expected recovery from the last global financial meltdown in 2008. What is the basis of the current financial crisis? How should the Canadian government respond to the current crisis? What do ongoing global financial instability and the current crisis mean for Canadian workers? Are there alternatives to the current global financial system? Are there opportunities moving forward to develop an alternative model of global economic organization? Join **Jim Stanford** for this one session video conference course that will explore these questions and provide students with a better understanding of the causes and possible implications of what is taking place in the global economy.

Course No. 858A, Unit: 1

### **Harper`s Canada and an Alternative Vision**

In May of this year, Stephen Harper`s conservatives were elected to a majority government on a platform of economic austerity, tax cuts, and social conservatism. Many fear Harper will use his majority to impose a right wing legislative agenda aimed at cutting social programs, eroding civil rights, liberalizing trade and adopting a more interventionist orientation toward Canada`s foreign policy. Why was Harper elected? Is there a shift to the right occurring in Canadian politics? What are the implications of a Harper majority for progressive political and social groups in Canada? The first session of this two session course will examine Harper`s vision of Canada and the implications of this vision for Canadian society. Session two by **Judy Rebick** will explore alternative visions and opportunities for progressive alternatives to emerge under a majority conservative government.

Course No. 859A, Unit:2