

### **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Online Credit Program**

#### **What is an online class?**

Online undergraduate credit courses are offered by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations. These are University of Illinois credit courses that can be applied toward a UIUC degree or transferred to another university. Anyone can take online classes: we encourage unionists, UIUC, UIC, and UIS students to enroll. Course materials are on the internet including lectures, exams, reading, videos and discussion forums. Courses are essentially online seminars. The instructor poses questions and students then engage in lively discussions and debates in discussion forums. You do not have to be logged on at any specific time and there are no classroom meetings.

#### **What do online classes cost?**

The tuition rates for University of Illinois students or anyone other than UIUC students is \$933 per course. State employees can apply for a tuition waiver. Unionists can apply for a Eugene V. Debs Scholarship. It offers tuition for unionists and labor activists of \$706 per course in 2008–2009. This is a 20% reduction off the standard off-campus tuition rate and 37% reduction off the tuition paid by on-campus UIUC students.

#### **How: anywhere anytime**

All course material is on the web including lectures, exams, web-based reading, web-based videos and discussion forums. The instructor poses questions and students then engage in lively discussions and debates in the discussion forums. There are not classroom meetings. You do not have to log in at a specific time. You can take the course from anywhere.

#### **How do I register?**

*University of Illinois Students*

Register the same way you would for other on campus courses.

*Unionists and NLC Students*

Contact Academic Outreach, Office of Continuing Education

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

302 East John Street, Suite 1406

Champaign, IL 61820

Registration: (217) 333-3060

Phone: (217) 333-3061

Toll-free: (800) 252-1360

Email: outreachinfo@uiuc.edu

Web: www.continuinged.uiuc.edu/outreach

#### **For more information:**

Contact: Professor Steven K. Ashby

Email: skashby@illinois.edu

Phone: (312) 996-8733

Web: www.illinoislabored.org

### **Courses offered**

*(3 credit hours each)*

#### **Summer 2008**

100 Introduction to Labor Studies

110 Labor and Social Movements

#### **Fall 2008**

100 Introduction to Labor Studies

110 Labor and Social Movements

200 Globalization and Workers

250 Grievance Representation

320 Gender, Race, Class, and Work

#### **Coming in 2009**

120 Contemporary Labor Problems

210 U.S. Working Class & Labor History

260 Union Organizing

300 Workers, Unions, and Politics

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Can I earn a degree online in Labor Studies?**

In the future we anticipate applying for of a new B.A. degree in "Global Labor Studies" where all labor studies courses can be taken online. In addition, a certificate program as well as a minor in Global Labor Studies is presently being developed.

#### **What about books? Is there other reading besides the assigned texts?**

You buy assigned books through the UIUC bookstore just as you would for a face-to-face course, or through an online bookstore. Each course will also include some Web-based reading: articles, Web sites, book chapters, and journal articles on the UIUC library electronic reserves. All Web-based reading is easily accessible.

#### **What computer hardware and software do I need to take online courses?**

You can take online courses using an internet browser such as Internet Explorer or Mozilla/Firefox on a modern PC or Macintosh computer with internet access. Successful students should be comfortable typing using basic word processing and be able to get on the internet. The faster your internet connection (DSL or cable) the easier it will be for you to move quickly through the material on Compass. Downloadable lectures are written in Microsoft Word.

#### **For more information:**

Contact: Professor Steven K. Ashby

Email: skashby@illinois.edu

Phone: (312) 996-8733

Web: www.illinoislabored.org

### **Bachelor of Arts in Labor Studies**

The National Labor College (NLC) Bachelor of Arts Degree in Labor Studies is a degree completion program that results in a Bachelor of Arts in Labor Studies. It is designed for working union members and staff. We are working in partnership with the NLC to offer this program in Illinois. As with all BA programs, you will need to complete the equivalent of four years of college or 120 credit hours. These hours can be accomplished through a combination of previous college classes, current college classes, and life experience credit for such things as apprenticeships, military or specialized training.

The program requires that you complete at least 30 hours of Labor Studies classes while enrolled through the NLC. The University of Illinois Labor Education Program will offer one of the five required courses, Educational Planning (see below for description), on campus at different times during the year.

In addition, beginning in January 2008 UIUC credit classes offered by LEP will be taught online and listed every semester under the “Online Courses” page of our Web site. These online classes will be offered on a full semester basis and in a compressed 8-week basis. Credits earned through these online classes will be accepted by the NLC towards the required number for graduation. Students will have to enroll with the NLC and submit all transcripts to them for consideration. If you need electives to complete 120 hours, those can also be taken through us, or through an accredited community college.

*The NLC was awarded accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education on March 3, 2004.*

#### **Educational Planning LBCR 4500**

This required course is designed to help students identify and clarify their educational goals. By preparing a portfolio, students will be able to identify and categorize prior college-level learning. The process will enable students to earn appropriate college credit as well as identify major course of study. A written, individualized plan will be drafted, along with a personal mission statement. It is followed by required jumpstart sessions; 2 hours per month for 4 months. (3 semester credits)

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **How is the University of Illinois involved?**

In an effort to make Bachelor’s degrees more accessible, the National Labor College is continually working to establish partnerships with other postsecondary institutions that share its mission and goals. The University of Illinois is proud to be one such partner. Some of the courses traditionally offered as in-residence courses in the NLC curriculum are available in Illinois.

#### **Do I need to be a member of a Union?**

The NLC degree programs are open to all students who wish to increase their knowledge of the American labor movement. However, to receive the tuition listed below, you must be a union member. You will be asked to verify your union membership upon application to the College.

#### **Where are classes located?**

*Chicago:*  
Labor Education Program  
815 West Van Buren, Suite 110  
Chicago, IL 60607  
(312) 996-2623

*Champaign-Urbana:*  
Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations  
504 East Armory  
Champaign, IL 61820  
(217) 333-0980

*Classes in Central or Southern Illinois can be arranged if five people or more are interested. Call our office for more information.*

#### **What are the costs involved?**

The University of Illinois tuition for each course is \$490.00. This degree program qualifies for many employer sponsored or joint union-management educational programs. Additional fees payable to the NLC may apply.

#### **How do I apply to the National Labor College?**

Download an application form at [www.georgemeany.org](http://www.georgemeany.org) or call (301) 431-6400.

#### **To apply:**

National Labor College  
10000 New Hampshire Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD  
Phone: (301) 431-6400  
Fax: (301) 431-5411  
Web: [www.georgemeany.org](http://www.georgemeany.org)

#### **To register for classes:**

Labor Education Program  
Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations  
815 West Van Buren, Suite 110  
Chicago, IL 60607  
24 hr. voicemail: (312) 996-2623  
Fax: (312) 413-2997  
Email: [illinoislabored@illinois.edu](mailto:illinoislabored@illinois.edu)  
Web: [www.illinoislabored.org](http://www.illinoislabored.org)

**In cooperation with the Chicago Federation of Labor and Illinois AFL-CIO**

**A partnership between the National Labor College and the University of Illinois**



## **Bachelor in Labor Studies & Online Credit Program**

**2008–2009**



**Labor Education Program**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN  
Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations  
504 East Armory, Room 223  
Champaign, IL 61820

815 West Van Buren, Suite 110  
Chicago, IL 60607