



Foto: Andrea Katheder

“Social justice requires innovative ideas and joint action by the labor movement and other activists. The GLU brings together the world of academia and activism to support social change for inclusive societies.”

Maria Helena André, Director, ILO-ACTRAV

LABOUR IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY

Women and men in informal and formal employment are facing the challenges of rapid economic and social change. The current form of globalisation undermines the social fabric of many societies, without providing an adequate regulatory and protective framework.

The Global Labour University (GLU) is a network of universities, international and national trade unions, civil society organisations and the International Labour Organization (ILO) to provide academic qualification programmes for trade unionists, labour activists and experts. This unique global network offers students a wide range of academic and practical expertise.

A global network

The GLU encourages research and debate on coherent social and economic policies in order to promote a socially and environmentally sustainable model of globalisation.



Foto: Andrea Katheder

ONLINE PROGRAMMES

The GLU is a pioneer in cross-country online education for trade union and social activists. Some are conceptualized as blended online courses combining both online and residential training.

MOOCs

Massive Open Online Course (MOOCs) on topics such as Workers’ Rights in the Global Economy and Labour Rights in Global Supply Chains are offered as online courses over a 6-weeks period twice per year. Most MOOCs are offered both in the free audit track and in the verified and paid certificate track.

Tutoring Programme

In the tutoring programme, trade union and social activists are qualified online to become certified GLU tutors on labour-related subjects. This enables participants to conduct workshops in their local contexts or online.



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RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMMES

Masters Programmes

The GLU offers Masters Programmes in Brazil, Germany, India, the USA and South Africa. Internships with Global Unions, the ILO and trade union organisations provide practical insights into policies and initiatives for the advancement of labour rights worldwide. All programmes are multidisciplinary, combining sociology, economics, political science, labour law, and history.

ENGAGE Programme

At the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, the GLU offers an eight weeks certificate leadership training programme consisting of five one-week modules and a two-week practical group research.

Something for you?

Are you interested in critical research and policy development to advance the social dimension of globalization?

Are you experienced in trade union work or other social justice initiatives and have a working level of English?

Then the Global Labour University offers the right programmes for you. You can apply for a GLU scholarship to cover some of the programme costs.

Supported by



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GLOBAL LABOUR UNIVERSITY

INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATION PROGRAMMES ON LABOUR AND GLOBALISATION



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MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF GLOBALISATION



Brazil | Germany | India | USA | South Africa

Brazil

UNIVERSIDADE ESTADUAL DE CAMPINAS



The State University of Campinas (UNICAMP), located in the State of Sao Paulo, is one of the most distinguished Brazilian academic institutions. It seeks to contribute to the solution of social problems through education and research.

The Masters programme in “Social Economy and Labour” utilizes a comparative perspective to focus on development economics, the role of multinational corporations in the Global South and labour strategies against inequality and poverty.



The partnership with the Central Unica dos Trabalhadores (CUT) links the programme with a key organization of the vibrant Brazilian civil society that initiated the World Social Forum as the global gathering to discuss and mobilise for an alternative globalisation.

Application Deadline: 1 September
Start of Course: February
Contact: iecoglu@unicamp.br

Germany

UNIVERSITÄT KASSEL / HWR BERLIN

U N I K A S S E L
V E R S I T Ä T



The Masters programme in Germany is jointly offered by the University of Kassel and the Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR); two German academic institutions with special expertise on global governance, macroeconomics, and trade union strategies.

The focus of the Masters programme in “Labour Policies and Globalisation” is on the challenges for labour posed by corporate decisions on investments across nations, by predominantly supply-side oriented macroeconomics, and by neo-liberal rules for trade and finance at a global level. Discussion of alternative policies for labour is a central element of the programme.



Close cooperation with German trade union federation (DGB), and European trade unions provides insights into the practice of social dialogue, collective bargaining, and co-determination in the German and European context.

Application deadline: 1 March
Start of Course: 1 October
Contact: glu.germany@uni-kassel.de

India

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY



The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi is ranked among the best public universities of India. The Masters programme in “Development and Labour Studies” at the Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies focuses on labour processes and working conditions in the informal sector.

The programme provides an interdisciplinary perspective on the contemporary themes and issues on informality and labour and provides theoretical and empirical training to undertake in depth analysis of the structural changes and public policy challenges that confront workers in the informal sector in the contemporary world.

Internships with Indian trade unions offer opportunities to gain insights into the challenges and pioneering work of different trade unions and other membership based organisations to organize and represent informal workers.

Application deadline: 25 March
Start of course: July
Contact: glu.jnu@gmail.com

USA

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY



Penn State University (PSU) is a public university with a long history of teaching and research. The programme at PSU is offered through the School of Labor and Employment Relations of the Pennsylvania State University. This Masters in Professional Studies program focuses on “Labor and Global Workers’ Rights”

The core curriculum of the programme covers international labour standards, strategic corporate research and campaigns, comparative employment relations, gender and race relations at work, globalization and transnational labour activism. Students participate in internships and write a capstone project.



The Penn State program works in close co-operation with the AFL-CIO, the umbrella federation for U.S. unions, with 56 unions representing 12.5 million workers.

Application deadline: 1 March
Start of course: August
Contact: lgwr@psu.edu

South Africa

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND



The University of the Witwatersrand (WITS) is one of the most distinguished universities in South Africa with a long history of critical engagement through teaching and research. Wits exemplifies higher education’s role as a key driver of social change and development for people, communities, social institutions and democracy. Located within the continent’s leading School of Social Sciences, the GLU programme has a special focus on “Labour and Development” and aims to build critical capacity and competence for trade unions and labour organizations to engage our complex world in order to improve the position of working people and society.



The cooperation with the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) as well as all major federations in the country provides the unique opportunity for students to engage with labour organisations in a country where organised labour decisively contributed to the end of apartheid, through a form of “social movement unionism” that contributed to building democracy and social dialogue.

Application deadline: 31 July
Start of course: January
Contact: glu.southafrica@wits.ac.za