

Why are City of Glasgow College Lecturers Going on Strike?

Your lecturers at City of Glasgow College are taking industrial action, including strike action throughout September, to preserve the quality of education and ensure students are fully supported in their educational journey at City of Glasgow College.

Industrial action is a last resort

Over the last academic year EIS-FELA (the trade union which represents your lecturers) has tried very hard to encourage College management to engage in meaningful negotiations about the cuts and changes they have implemented in the College. These cuts and changes affect students and lecturers and if College management continue with more cuts this will be harmful to the quality and provision of education in the College.

What are the cuts and changes?

Local EIS-FELA representatives met on the 3rd of May with members of City of Glasgow College senior management to be told that the college workforce will be reduced by up to 100 through the use of compulsory redundancies. The majority of these are teaching posts. Cuts have also been made to teaching time which has meant that lecturers have less time with students and are given extra classes to teach which means an increase in lecturers' workload. More cuts to teaching time are planned for the next academic year. The College has lost nearly all Learning Support Lecturers who provide valuable and bespoke expertise for students with additional learning support needs.

Why are lecturers taking industrial action?

Lecturing and support staff are above all else committed to students, but College management have been making it more difficult to provide the quality of learning, teaching and support that is necessary for students to complete their learning journey and prepare for whatever learning and/or career goals they have.

The loss of potentially hundreds of lecturers through redundancy and cuts means that valuable skills and expertise in subject areas will be gone and some courses will be cut. This could have a devastating impact on the ability of the College to provide further education for the people of Glasgow and surrounding areas.

Lecturers have tried to get senior management to listen to their views for a number of months. However, senior management are intent on implementing these cuts. That is why lecturers are left with no choice but to take industrial action.



**City of Glasgow
College Branch**

Learning Support

It is important to point out that management intend to eradicate individual contextualised learning support. This cannot be provided by the subject lecturer, nor can alternative assessment arrangements. The new model is to have general workshops and outsource other learning support to a private company. This clearly has serious implications for all students with Personal Learning Support Plans (PLSPs).

What is the industrial action?

Lecturers will be on strike on 5-8th; 11-14th; 19-21st; and 26th-29th September 2023. A strike means that lecturers will not attend work on those days but will 'picket' outside the College buildings in the mornings in order to ask that no lecturer attends work that day. We will be there to provide further information to students too.

On the days when we are not on strike we will be carrying out 'action short of strike' which means working no more than our contracted hours. This means that preparation of classes, and marking, will only be done within lecturer's contracted time and no work will be undertaken beyond these hours/at home. It also means, due to previous cuts to delivery time of courses, where some lecturers have been made redundant, lecturers who have had additional courses added to their timetable are no longer required to deliver these courses. Lecturers will continue to deliver your subjects for 3 hours per week. You may find that you are without a lecturer for some of your subjects. Lecturers will not be using VLE platforms such as Canvas or online teaching. Lecturers will also not be resulting work.

Does this mean I will not get a qualification?

Your lecturer will keep you informed of your progress and will let you know when you have passed. However, as part of the industrial action, no results will be entered on Enquirer until the dispute is resolved. When the dispute is resolved, you will get a qualification – and worthy of the certificate it is printed on, and also ensure that students who follow you will get the same.

Is there anything I can do to support my lecturers?

Yes! We need your support to stop the plans for cutting staff, courses and teaching time. You can support your lecturers by complaining to College management to stop the cuts to staff, teaching time, courses, and learning support.

You can complain here:

complaint@cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk / www.cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk/complaint-form

It would be helpful if you copied in the lecturers' union:

EIS.Officebearers@cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk and the

Student's Association: **citysa@cityofglasgowcollege.ac.uk**

**Please also stop by the picket lines
and hear from lecturers directly about
why they are taking industrial action.
You will be very welcome!**

Further Information

