

Dear Students,

You are probably aware that members of the University and College Union (UCU) at Manchester have voted for strike action on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October. More details can be found here <https://www.ucu.org.uk/article/8960/Staff-at-University-of-Manchester-vote-yes-to-strike-action-over-proposed-140-job-losses>.

While it is not appropriate for me to comment on the details of the strike here – you can make your own mind up about its merits – I wish to inform you that:

1. The strike is supported by the University of Manchester Students Union, 83% of whose Senate has voted to support UCU with a “Save our Staff” campaign.
2. Over 1000 UCU members took part in the recent ballot on industrial action, with 87% voting for strike action and 93% for action short of a strike to stop compulsory redundancies.
3. Union guidance is clear – UCU members should cancel teaching rather than postpone it.
4. I am responsible for all aspects of the course, including the tutorials. Please raise any concerns with me.
5. Please feel free to send your feedback to my bosses, the Head of Division/Department, [NAME], the Head of School, [NAME], the Dean of the Faculty, [NAME], and the Vice Chancellor, Dame Nancy Rothwell. Email addresses of these persons can be found on-line.
6. The rooms for your classes are still booked; you can use the rooms if you so choose to. Alternatively you may wish to show solidarity with the action by joining lecturers on their picket lines.
7. Industrial action will continue after the strike with UCU members working to contract and undertaking no voluntary activities. This could further impact on the course.

Decisions to take strike action are never taken lightly and it is really unfortunate that your studies will be affected by this. We can all hope that these issues are resolved soon.

Best wishes