

Dear Students,

The chances are that you're feeling confused or angry (or both) at the prospect of further disruption to your studies. For our part, we'd much rather be teaching you than standing here on a picket line. So why are we in this situation?

Take a look at the reasons why we're taking strike action. You'll see that they're all in response to problems which affect the quality of *your education* as well as *our working lives*.

1) PRECARITY

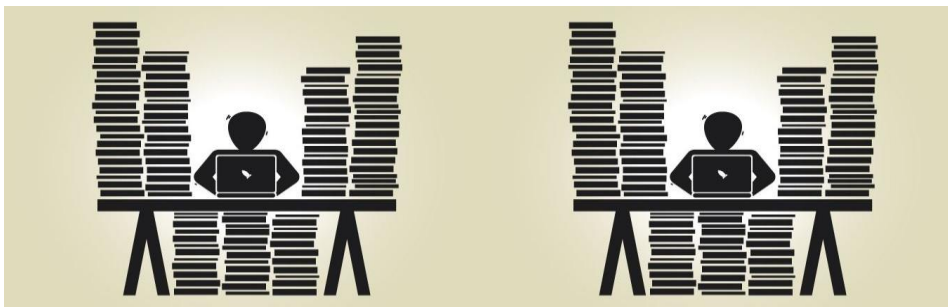


Too many of your tutors are on insecure contracts. Too many are not properly paid for the work they do.

Do you think your education would be enhanced if you were taught by tutors who are not worrying about whether they'll have a job in a few months time or whether they can afford to pay the bills?

- If the answer's "YES" - then support our strike.

2) WORKLOAD



Too many colleagues are overworked - evening and weekend working is now the norm for many of your tutors. Overwork affects our ability to prepare seminars and lectures - so it has a direct effect on your education.

Do you think your education would be improved if your tutors had more time to prepare their classes?

- If the answer's "YES" - then support our strike.

3) PAY

Lecturers are underpaid relative to their training (at least 7 years) and their skill set. Moreover our pay has fallen by 20% in real terms over the past decade. Poor pay demoralises and discourages any workforce.

Do you think your educational experience is improved by having a demoralised and discouraged workforce?

- If the answer's "NO" - then support our strike.

4) GENDER & ETHNIC PAY GAPS

Too many of our female and BAME colleagues are paid less for their work than their white, male counterparts.

Do you think lecturers should be fairly paid regardless of their sex and ethnicity?

- If the answer's "YES" - then support our strike.

Who do you think cares more about your education?

Your tutors, who devise courses, deliver lectures and seminars, assess and give feedback on your work, or the Senior Leadership Teams across Higher Education whose intransigence has forced us to take further strike action?

If the answer's "MY TUTORS" - then support our strike.

*You deserve better. We deserve better.
Please support our strike!*

Three ways you can support the strike:

- 1) E-mail President Rothwell stating your support for your tutors and calling on her to use her influence to help bring about a negotiated settlement of this dispute.
president@manchester.ac.uk
- 2) E-mail Patrick Hackett stating your support for your tutors and calling on him to use his influence to help bring about a negotiated settlement of this dispute.
Patrick.hackett-REGISTRAR@manchester.ac.uk
- 3) Tweet your support #ISupportMyTutors and let us know @UM_UCU