

UMassAmherst

Labor Center

MASTERS IN LABOR STUDIES

1-YEAR ACCELERATED RESIDENTIAL DEGREE
2.5-YEAR LIMITED-RESIDENCY DEGREE



Apply to a labor-side graduate program

The UMass Labor Center is now accepting applications to join the incoming class of our residential and limited residency Master's programs. Scholarships are available, and women and people of color are especially encouraged to apply.

Since our founding in 1964, we have taught the building blocks of union leadership from labor law and history to strategic research and organizing. We equip labor activists with a critical awareness of the past and a broad view of the tactical innovations that light our future.

Confront power using an intersectional approach

That future includes an intersectional vision of labor solidarity that sees the struggle for economic justice as inseparable from the struggles of allied social justice movements.

At the Labor Center we do the hard work of engaging issues and debates around race, gender, and immigration in the labor movement.



Join a long-standing community of labor leaders

For over fifty years, we have built one of the premier graduate programs in Labor Studies in the United States. Today, we continue and renew that mission by bringing together the hands-on skills that activists need with an inclusive approach to movement-building and social justice.

Our graduates join over 1,000 alumni in key positions throughout the labor movement, from lead organizers, worker center directors, and local union presidents to state federation leaders and top AFL operatives.



LEARN MORE | WWW.UMASS.EDU/LRRC/GRADUATE



ACCELERATED RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 1

The residential program combines a progressive labor-side curriculum with a traditional graduate school experience. Students join the UMass and Five College community and have access to all courses on offer.

WHY DO THE RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM?

- A traditional graduate school experience
- Designed for those who can take time off for intensive study
- Full-time residency for one year

Students enroll in seven required courses: Labor Law, Labor Research, Labor History, Labor Economics, Organizing, Collective Bargaining, and the Final Paper. The remaining two courses are electives; examples include Race, Gender, Labor, and Immigration, and Issues and Debates in the Contemporary Labor Movement.

Because residential students are at UMass year-round, they can work for the university as teaching assistants or for partner unions as interns. Those who are awarded assistantships and internships become members of UAW Local 2322 and are paid a monthly stipend, a tuition waiver, and health insurance.

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College of Social
& Behavioral Sciences
Labor Center

CONTACT US

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UNION LEADERSHIP & ACTIVISM PROGRAM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 8

In 1996, the Labor Center created the Union Leadership and Activism (ULA) program for labor leaders, staff, and rank-and-file union members. It is the only limited residency graduate program of its kind. Like residential Master's students, ULA students graduate with an MS in Labor Studies.

Designed for people who work full-time, ULA courses are offered in ten-day residencies in January and July at UMass Amherst. Students enroll in two courses per residency and complete writing assignments upon returning home.

WHAT SETS THE ULA PROGRAM APART?

- The only limited residency labor-side graduate program in the country
- Designed for labor activists who work full-time
- Part-time residency for two and a half years

Join other labor leaders, staff, and rank-and-file members and explore the labor movement in a vibrant tight-knit community setting. Scholarships are available for first-session ULA students so apply early if you are interested in being considered for those awards.

STAY CONNECTED

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