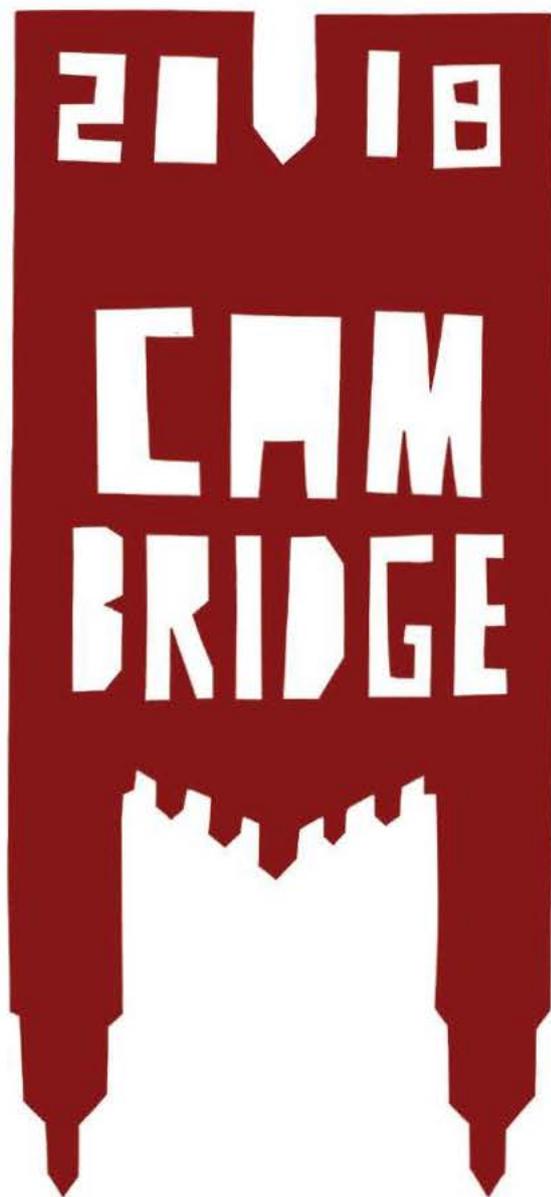


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GUIDE

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Y C A B M E I D R G O F H R Y S I N E U

- 1) everything is not alright, despite what they're telling you;
- 2) if you think everything is not alright, you're not alone;
- 3) this is where you can find those of us who refuse to accept the status quo and will work to change it.

Cambridge is disconcerting, and feeling out of place or angry at it is pretty reasonable. We encourage you to dig deeper into the problems here, below the PR-smoothed surface and glorious global rankings. You're in a situation in which you're treated as a 'customer' for the privilege of purchasing the 'commodity' that is your education. You might realise the role of the colleges in housing inequalities in Cambridge. Depending on your department, you might end up working for fossil fuel corporations, arms companies, nuclear weapons providers. You might discover more of the ways that the University is harmful to the world outside it and the people within it. You might even want to do something about that.

To that end, the Guide aims to introduce you to political activism in Cambridge - beyond 'politics' as just political parties. Politics for us is about power: who has it, what they use it for, how it is contested. We hope that the Guide will provide a sense of the possibilities for change that activism entails, how this change can be achieved, and why we push for it.

For those who have already been around for a while, we hope that this helps you connect more with other campaigns. It is intended to archive the work of organisers so that it's not lost amidst the high turnover of students, and to share skills and knowledge that enable people to navigate and organise better in this space. It is, of course, meant to be disorienting. It is meant to disrupt the usual conversations and activities that normalise university fees and rent, to challenge who is 'supposed' to be where and how, and to politicise the conditions taken for granted in the university, the city, and beyond. It is meant to open up questions about what we are oriented towards, as individuals, communities, and institutions - and to encourage us to think about what we could and should be oriented towards instead.

There are plenty of people who wrote, edited, designed, and contributed in other ways to this Guide. We are mostly students (past and present) at Cambridge University, but we come from across the world, Global North and South, and we've been involved in activism and campaigning, locally and internationally, in various groups - working on democratising education, fighting climate change, opposing fascism and capitalism, pushing for decolonisation, demilitarisation, fair housing, feminist struggles and more. We come from all over and have done all sorts and see this guide as part of an attempt to get us all to work together.

From our various backgrounds, we found a moment of unity during the UCU pensions strike in Feb/Mar 2018. Out of this, in attempting to imagine a better university in a better world and to archive the efforts of those already working towards it, we formed an editorial group, *12 Pints Press*.

We don't have the answers, but this guide should give you a sense of some of the political history of Cambridge, where we're at today and what the major problems are; why acting *here* and *now* matters, and what better possibilities we could create towards a collective future.

What we do know is that to get there from here, we need to build student power.

We hope you'll find this useful, and we can contribute towards creating a better world together.

- 12 Pints Press x0

PS:

We aim to be accountable to each other and the communities with and in which we work, but it's also possible that we've messed up somewhere, or that we've done a bad job - whether that's because we've said something harmful, because our graphic design skills aren't quite on point, or we've just got something wrong. You can help us do better subsequently, so if you're unhappy with anything you see here, please get in touch:
camradhistoryarchives@gmail.com // @12PintsPress // fb.com/12PintsPress

* WE NICKED THIS FROM THE NEW INQUIRY.

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TOWARDS THE COMMON UNIVERSITY...

The university - along with the police - is central to preserving capitalism as the dominant economic system. Producing a steady stream of graduates, rendered compliant and hard-working from three years of exam pressures and study drugs, the university ensures the continuation of economic production and environmental destruction is undertaken with maximal efficiency. While the student - a "Cambridge scholar!" - believes they are being educated in the enlightenment values espoused in the marketing brochure, the reality of 'research-led teaching' is that your studies are directed by corporate finance. Across the university, professorships are created at the behest of industries wanting to use your work for their profits - you need look no further than the BP Institute or the Shell Professor of Engineering to understand how Corporation Cambridge is open for business.

If the university's research is shaping the future of our world, then it is prioritising our future destruction. As the summer heatwave triggered desperate warnings of impending climate catastrophe; Cambridge University continued to enhance techniques for oil recovery - while the fields around it caught fire. This university once educated priests, but the Economics Faculty and Business School house today's acolytes, whose faith in neoliberalism remains unshaken - despite the inconvenience of the 2008 Financial Crisis. While the crash and subsequent austerity measures have plunged millions into dire poverty - and tripled student fees - these disciples of high finance demand the intensification of an economic system dependent on accelerating climate change.

We can save the planet or save capitalism, but we cannot save both.

Whether researching the next generation of financial algorithms, management techniques or weapons systems, the student is already a worker - one whose salary has been simply been deferred for three years while they pay for their own training. While the student labours to reproduce a capitalist future, their own prospects are increasingly bleak. Weighed down by unpayable debt and extortionate rents, the student endures their poverty - only to graduate into the same world of bad wages and worsening living standards as everyone else. The less imaginative Cambridge student likes to think their supposedly privileged status exempts them from this reality. They trade their political agency for passive compliance in the hope their CV is dumped slightly higher in the recruiter's pile.

But when it comes down to it, the rising sea levels will not give a fuck about degree classifications.

When, as now, the crisis of capitalism transcends all of society, narrow calls for a 'student movement' only reinforce the notion our concerns are somehow separate from all those who struggle for a better world. Instead, we should consider ourselves as part of a workers' movement, based on a shared understanding of our relationship to capital and our desire to transcend it. The issues which are coming to define our generation - including debt, precarious work, low-wages, state violence, the housing crisis, mental health issues and discrimination - are not specific to students, but amount to a generalised 'social crisis'.

These are the results of an economic system which values profits over people.



in this context, demanding free education without demanding a free society is little more than advocating for a reading room in a prison. If we truly desire an emancipatory, collaborative education centred on addressing social issues as opposed to 'market needs', we must build links with struggles beyond the university's walls. In Cambridge, precarious workers have organised as part of the McStrike movement to demand better wages and working conditions. When badly paid, zero-hour contract work in the service sector is commonplace for many of us, with some students working two, even three jobs to survive - why would we see this as an issue separate to our concerns? Let's help our friends - and ourselves - win better wages by helping to build the strikes: collect for the strike fund in the college bar, hand out leaflets in the town and join the picket lines when they form. In Montreal Square, just off Mill Road, residents are fighting the demolition of their homes and community. This violent process of displacement has become the norm in cities, as

A TIMELINE OF [CAMBRIDGE]

1758: Francis Williams becomes the first black student to attend Cambridge University, but does not appear in the university's records

*"Alike the master and the slave shall see
Their neck reliv'd, the yoke unbound by thee."
- Ode to [Governor] George Haldane*

1825-1856: Cambridge University sets up a private police force to control student behaviour

1869: Women first admitted to study in Cambridge (but couldn't graduate)

1945: Gloria Claire Carpenter becomes the first black woman known to have matriculated from a Cambridge college (Girton)

1947: Women are admitted to full membership of the university, after votes in 1887, 1897 and 1921 were defeated because special trains were laid on from London to bring thousands to vote

60's

The Free University Movement is started by students at King's College; they hold classes at the 'Arts Lab' on Mill Road, where teaching consists of discussions, seminars, talks and film showings with members of the public invited to participate

Rent strikes are organised, primarily at New Hall (now Murray Edwards), assisted by CUSU

1961-62: Ban the Bomb demonstrations continue

1964: About 50 Emmanuel students delay paying their college bill as a protest at the cost of food

June 1965: A banner attacking American involvement in Vietnam is suspended from the spires of King's College Chapel

November 1967: 300 protesters prevent the departure of the US Ambassador from Churchill College by hosting a sit-in on the road in a stand against the Vietnam War

1910 1920

1940

1950

1960

November 1968: Demonstration outside the Cambridge Union against visiting speaker Enoch Powell, and Cambridge students joined anti-Powell protests in London

1968: Founding of the Shilling Paper, a left-wing alternative to Varsity

Anti-apartheid protests took place throughout the 1950s. Branches of Barclays Bank were regularly picketed due to their investment in South African assets, which many JCRs felt were indirectly supporting the Apartheid regime.

1959: Ban the Bomb rally on Midsummer Common

Ban the Bomb Rally, Midsummer Common, 1959



Newnham students carrying the Cambridge Alumnae suffrage banner

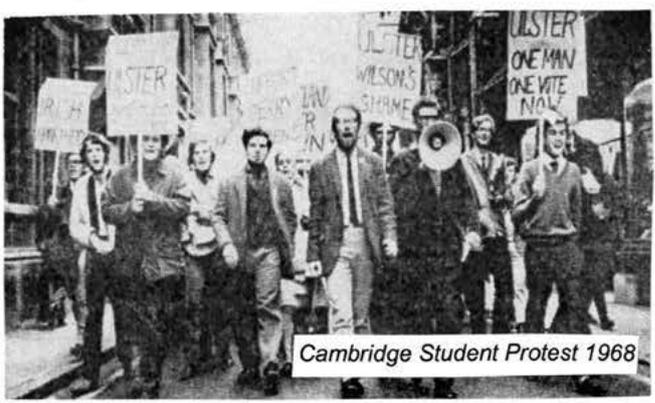


1916: Bertrand Russell is expelled from Trinity College for opposition to WWI

*"Behind the rulers, in whom pride has
destroyed humanity, stand the patient
populations, who suffer and die."*

1921: Women win the right to graduate with a full degree, but because they are awarded diplomas which "conferred the Title of the Degree of Bachelor of Arts", rather than being "admitted to the Degree of Bachelor of Arts", they are excluded from the governing of the university

GE] [STUDENT] ACTIVISM



Cambridge Student Protest 1968

June 1975: Nursery Action Group (NAG) occupy Senate House over the refusal of the University to provide nursery care for full time students. Although police and proctors locked the doors, 1,600 students managed to occupy the building by climbing in through side windows



Students entering Senate House for NAG occupation 1975

January 1969: Occupation of a Mill Lane Lecture room and the Grad Pad to show solidarity with the LSE sit-in; protesters then marched to the Old Schools and occupied the Council Room. They issued a statement demanding local changes such as gate hour reform and the end to University representation on the City Council.
February 1969: 200 campaigners from the Cambridge University South Africa Committee (CUSAC) marched on Trinity College in objection to the Dryden Society's planned tour of the country.

February 1973: Sit-ins at Lady Mitchell Hall and at the Faculty of Economics after the rejection of examination reforms to the economics tripos; followed by a march of 1,500 students to Senate House, where they handed in a petition with more than 3,000 signatures calling for the start of negotiations for reform in all faculties

1970

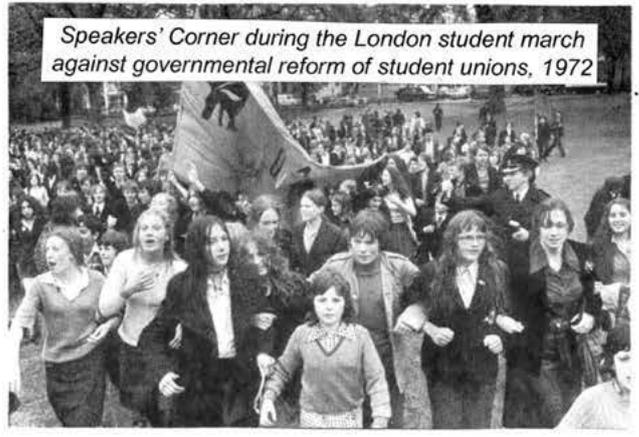
1975



Garden House riot, 1970

Jan 1972: Protests against the government's plans to reform student unions; around 600 march to deliver an anti-government petition to Shire Hall.
The biggest student demonstration yet takes place in London: 35,000 students, including a Cambridge contingent of 700. The pressure put on the government prevented Margaret Thatcher, then Education Secretary, from carrying out the reforms

May 1970: "The Garden House Riot" - actions against the right-wing military regime in Greece (occupation of Abbott's Travel Agency, and the picketing of a dinner celebrating the conclusion of Greek Week which ended in a riot when police appeared)
October 1970: Picket of over 800 students outside the Senate House demanding reforms to the disciplinary system at Cambridge, attracting a heavy police presence



Speakers' Corner during the London student march against governmental reform of student unions, 1972

Protest graffiti from the Kite area in the 1980's



Campaign to save The Kite: an area now gentrified & turned into the Grafton Centre – the campaign included occupations, squats, setting up anarchist bookshops, DIY stores and community centres

1986: "Nelson's Picket": a four-year anti-apartheid picket in Trafalgar Square, London

2010: Students protest against fee increases and EMA Cuts; Cambridge Defend Education & Critical Theory and Practice founded

26th Nov. 2010: Cambridge students occupy Senate House

Nov. 2011: Protest by students against Universities Minister, David Willetts at Lady Mitchell Hall. One student subjected to disciplinary proceedings after reading a poem at Willetts' speech

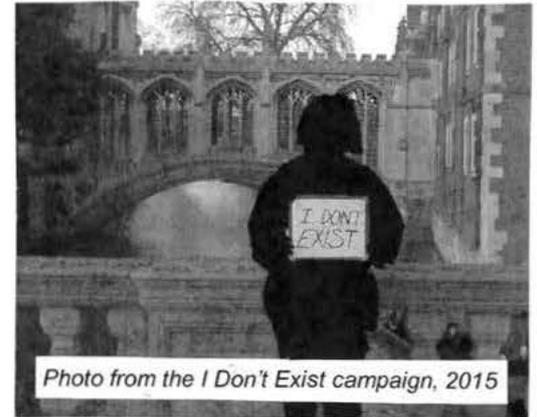


Photo from the I Don't Exist campaign, 2015

1980

1990-2010

In the late 70s students campaign against College kitchen fixed charges

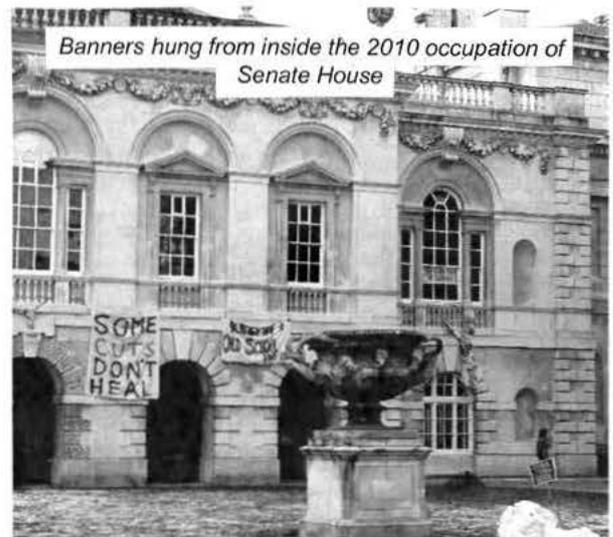
1978: CUSU pass motion to "disinvest from South Africa" to oppose apartheid

The Kite Coordinating Committee plus Student Community Action plan to refurbish Kite properties. The KCC were planning gradual renewal via community self-help, fighting the planning blight

1990: Cambridge Palestine Solidarity Campaign founded

2003: Cambridge Students oppose the invasion of Iraq; write a petition to the PM and set up Coalition of Universities Against War

Banners hung from inside the 2010 occupation of Senate House



2014: Talk by UKIP leader Nigel Farage cancelled as students threatened to stage a protest alongside non-student groups. The protest still takes place

PalSoc picket against the Israeli ambassador, Daniel Taub, who was speaking at the Union days after an open letter condemning Israel's actions in Gaza was released, signed by leading Cambridge academics

June 24th: Cambridge in solidarity with Greece against austerity

Sept 25th: "Hands Off Addenbrooke's" rally against cuts to the NHS and privatisation

Oct 10th: #RefugeesWelcome demonstration

Oct 18th: Solidarity Vigil in response to Ankara bombing against Kurdish activists

Nov 4th: Cambridge goes to the National Demo for Free Education and Living Grants

Nov 14th: Demonstration for affordable homes in Cambridge

Nov 28th: Protest in Cambridge against the bombing of Syria by the UK

Nov 30th: Protest against Israeli apartheid at Cambridge Union

Dec 1st: Students go to London for anti -bomb protest outside parliament

2015

2016

2017

2018...

TO BE
CONTINUED

Cambridge Action website launched to bring together left struggles in the city and university

Jan 21st: Teach-in: Resist the Rise of the Right, followed by fundraiser night in Clare Cellars

Feb 9th: #LiberateMyDegree Week: a week of talks, discussions and action questioning how power shapes the way academic knowledge is created, disseminated and (de)legitimised

May: Critical Pakistan Research Cluster founded, with a focus on decolonising research

May 13th: Cambridge students join protest at Yarl's Wood detention centre

October 31st: Cambridge Rally for Decolonisation

Nov 16th: Decolonisation Assembly

Campaign for a Community Space in Central Cambridge starts

Protests against Jesus College's owning of the Benin Bronzes and calls for repatriation

First Decolonisation Assembly

Feb: CUSU LGBT+ "I Don't Exist" Campaign started, calling for legal recognition of non-binary gender identities in the UK

April: Preventing Prevent / Students Not Suspects group founded opposing the government's Prevent duty

June 30th: UCU Strike against de facto pay cuts, gender pay inequality and increasing casualisation of academic jobs

November 19th: Students attend national demo: United for Education



Feb-Mar: UCU Strike against pension cuts

Students rally and occupy Old Schools / Senate House in support

May: Occupation of Greenwich House (uni finance and administration buildings) in support of Fossil Fuel Divestment

July 21st: Antifascist counter-protest against march for Tommy Robinson in Cambridge

July 30th: Solidarity campaign organised for Cambridge PhD student and political activist detained by South Sudanese government

Oct: Publication of the 'Disorientation Guide' by 12 Pints Press

CAMBRIDGE ZERO CARBON

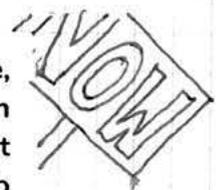
SOCIETY



We are a climate justice group working to make the University remove its £377 million investment in fossil fuels. This is known as 'divestment', part of a global movement that has seen funds worth over \$6 trillion do the same so far. Divestment strips fossil fuel companies of their 'social license' to operate, shifting public opinion to make it a pariah industry & fostering policy change.

The Zero Carbon campaign has been organising for three years, in which time we have exhausted the democratic routes to divestment. We've won votes in Regent House, the University's governing body, passed unanimous motions in the Undergraduate and Graduate student unions, yet the University hasn't listened. We've gathered thousands of signatures on petitions, had leading public intellectuals and politicians speak out for Cambridge divestment, like John McDonnell, Diane Abbott and Caroline Lucas, and appeared in national press countless times, yet the University hasn't listened. In the face of such disregard for democracy, we've taken radical direct action, occupying the University's biggest administrative building for an entire week, chalkspraying the Senate House, dropping a banner at the Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race, and continuously engaging in colourful, creative, performative, and disruptive protest.

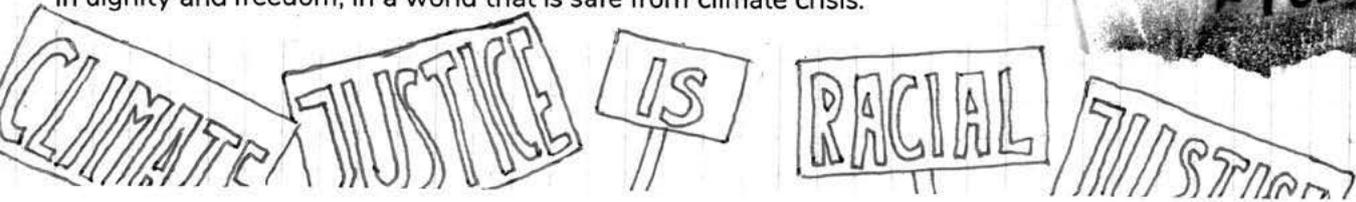
The University has shown itself to be opaque, undemocratic, and unaccountable, resisting mass pressure from staff, students, the public, politicians - even its own Councillors. It is wedded to profit and big oil, and has been willing to use the most base means of suppressing dissent, caving in to threats from BP executive Bob Dudley, and even using police force to quell protest.



CAMBRIDGE #COME CLEAN

Whether you want to help us research the University's financial dealings, plan creative direct actions or communicate our message in the press and on social media - climate change affects us all: it's our shared future; there's a role for everyone in our movement!

We believe in climate justice as urgent, necessary action. Climate change is an existential crisis which we're swiftly running out of time to curb. The fossil fuel industry has ravaged the Global South for decades, and climate change disproportionately affects people of colour. As such, Zero Carbon is committed to racial justice & decolonisation. Climate change ruins the economic independence of women across the world, who have the greatest burden of labour in natural disasters. As such, Zero Carbon is committed to gender justice & equality. A just energy transition will require a labour transition, and as such Zero Carbon is committed to economic justice & workers' liberation. Fundamentally, we are committed to democracy, and the idea that people shouldn't be controlled by financial executives, but should be able to control their own lives and live in dignity and freedom, in a world that is safe from climate crisis.



DECOLONISATION

// One perspective, coauthored & edited by various students who have been involved

What is the problem decolonisation is trying to tackle?

Over the last five centuries, colonisation brought untold destruction and harm to people around the world, for the benefit of a few. The institution of the university has been complicit in this: academia has had an intimate relationship with the forces of military domination and economic exploitation. Academic knowledge has been used to justify and legitimise the foundations of colonial domination, and itself relied in part on the colonial system to operate.

Academia reinforced the colonisation of people's minds, claiming knowledge from the coloniser as superior and pushing the colonised to believe in their supposed inferiority. Slaveholders funded departments and wrote political philosophies of 'freedom'. Anthropologists justified racism and taught colonial administrators how to control colonised peoples. The histories of black, indigenous, and other people of colour were erased, rewritten, distorted, and ignored - which was then used to justify violence against 'uncivilised' people with 'no history'. Medicine and evolutionary theories were twisted into eugenics, duly put into practice in committing genocide against 'undesirable' populations. Engineers turn scientific technologies into weapons used to subdue and kill people across the world.

How does this relate to what's happening in the university today?

Cambridge University, specifically, has been at the heart of the British colonial enterprise for centuries and continues to foster these same dynamics of power and exploitation across the university. It has active and extensive research collaborations and investments with arms manufacturers and fossil fuel companies that harm people, especially across Africa, Asia and Latin America. We often teach, all too uncritically, a curriculum centering the work of eurocentric, white, male authors. Our curricula assume - or assert - that eurocentric analyses hold true across the world. They neglect significant bodies of work which engage critically with these thinkers, particularly produced by people of colour, those who are indigenous, queer, part of a diaspora. For too many marginalised students, academia is often a hostile environment, whether because they are denied the opportunity to examine their own experiences, or because even getting here involves being treated as a suspect through visa conditions, border policing, or Prevent legislation.



What does decolonisation involve?

At a minimum, decolonisation involves a *critical* reflection on what counts as knowledge, who produces it, how it is produced, and what we use it for. The decolonisation movement aims to identify, critique, and dismantle the ways in which the university, historically and presently, enables colonial forms of domination. It involves hiring academics who deal with these questions; promoting research opportunities and funding for those that want to pursue decolonial knowledge; ensuring such research reaches lectures and seminars, and further into the public sphere. Decolonisation involves asking what the role is of the university in society, shaped as it is by histories of colonialism, and acting towards a future liberated from this oppression and exploitation.

How can you get involved?

Practically, you might try some of the following:

- Provide/look for alternative reading lists to decenter & critique eurocentric themes & thinkers,
- Demand supervision and supervisors on subjects that your department refuses to teach,
- Ask how our knowledge is entangled in histories of colonisation, migration, and globalisation. Try starting local: how were Cambridge graduates involved in the transatlantic slave trade? What was Churchill's role in the Bengal Famine (and what do we commemorate with a college named after him)? What artwork and artifacts do we have and why (e.g. the Benin Bronze in Jesus College)? What are the assumptions behind what we're taught? Who profits from our work? Where do we look for work after we graduate?
- Work with others to look for ways to dismantle the neocolonial links between university research, the state, and industries responsible for the arms trade, climate change, natural resource extraction, and global impoverishment.
- Learn from and share effective tactics with activists through the **Decolonise Cambridge Network** (see overleaf), and more widely through initiatives like *Why Is My Curriculum White?* at UCL, *Decolonising our Minds* at SOAS, and *Rhodes Must Fall* in Oxford, and collaborating with university-based and wider movements for decolonisation beyond Britain; in South Africa, Canada, the United States, Australia, the Netherlands, Bolivia and more.



CAMBRIDGE DECOLONISATION NETWORK

We are a collective dedicated to supporting and coordinating various decolonising efforts under one campaign. The collective arose out of dialogue between the CUSU BME Campaign and activists organising around causes ranging from decolonising the curriculum (through Working Groups within faculties and departments) to decolonising university structures (e.g. the campaign for the University to end partnerships with the arms trade).

What emerged from this dialogue was the need for a coordinated effort. There's a lot of interest and momentum, but little agreement or clarity on what decolonisation means, or looks like. A coordinated effort can try to define a collective vision. There's also uneven level of engagement among the student body with decolonisation. Much of the work has so far been concentrated in a handful of faculties and departments, whilst in others student organisers struggle to gain enough active support to get a Working Group up and running.

We're split into three organising groups. PUBLICITY is working on bringing in new student organisers to the movement, voicing a coherent and unifying manifesto, and ensuring all organisers are aware of the various meetings that occur. LIAISON will be working with the various Working Groups and other activist groups to make sure resources are being shared, whilst INSTITUTIONAL MEMORY will be creating a platform in which these are stored to ensure future organisers have access to what has already been done. While we're committed to a horizontal political structure, we chose to adopt the organising strategy of breaking up into smaller groups in order to keep track of tasks being completed, hold organisers accountable, and ensure that the burden of labour is shared by everyone.

The Assembly is the space where the various groups gather to share their experiences and knowledge of best practices, and set plans and targets for the year ahead. It's the body to which we're all accountable, where decisions are made on behalf of the broader movement as a whole, and actions delegated. There is a power of veto reserved for students of colour, to ensure that their voices are at the forefront of our activism.

Our movement needs you. If you share in our vision of a liberated university, find us on Facebook for information on how you can get involved, or message us!

PREVENTING PREVENT AT CAMBRIDGE

What is Prevent?

- Prevent is a legal duty, part of the Conservative government's counter-terror strategy, placed on public institutions (including this University) to monitor individuals' behaviour and political speech for signs of 'radicalisation' or 'extremism'.
- As part of Prevent, **Cambridge's lecturers and admin staff have been trained to consider mainstream political positions such as opposition to British foreign policy and support for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination as potentially "extreme", and to "risk assess and monitor" events where they are expressed.**

What's wrong with it?

- ✓ Threatens fundamental human rights, including those to freedom of expression and freedom from discrimination
- ✓ Targets, profiles and surveils Muslims
- ✓ Imperils academic freedom

“Government... measures [have] negatively impacted the exercise of the rights to freedom of association and freedom of peaceful assembly, and in general, are **resulting in the closing of space for civil society**”
- UNITED NATIONS (UN) SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR, 2016

1/3 → **43%**

OF MUSLIM STUDENTS NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY PREVENT...

OF THESE STUDENTS FEEL UNABLE TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS BECAUSE OF PREVENT (NUS SURVEY, 2018)

“We are indeed bound by the Prevent duty but that doesn't stop us from arguing vociferously that **the Prevent duty is inconsistent with free speech**” - GRAHAM VIRGO, CAMBRIDGE UNI PRO-VICE CHANCELLOR (MAY 2018)

Preventing Prevent at Cambridge is a broad-based coalition of academics and student campaign groups working to oppose the implementation of the duty at Cambridge and protect our democratic rights. Get involved!

 [facebook.com/PreventingPrevent](https://www.facebook.com/PreventingPrevent)

SCRAP PREVENT
STUDENTS = SUSPICIOUS
END RACIAL PROFILING

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PALESTINE SOCIETY

(PALSOC)

We are a student led group campaigning in solidarity with & raising awareness of the Palestinian struggle for freedom. In the past year we have hosted discussions with figures such as BDS co-founder Omar Barghouti, Israeli historian Ilan Pappé, and the rapper Lowkey. Most recently, we organised an emergency demonstration of over 200 against Israel's massacre in Gaza, and coordinated a statement calling on the University to end partnership with companies complicit in Israeli and Turkish war crimes.



Palestine: colonial past, colonial present

After thirty years of British colonial rule, Israel was founded in 1948 on the systematic ethnic cleansing of over half of Palestine's indigenous population. Today, around 1/3 of Palestinians live under military occupation in the West Bank & Gaza, where Palestinian villages continue to be destroyed; a smaller number reside inside Israel as second-class citizens, subject to racial discrimination by over 50 laws; and over half of Palestinians live outside Palestine as refugees. Israel's Law of Return allows Jewish people anywhere in the world to settle in historic Palestine whilst denying this right to indigenous Palestinians, for no reason other than their ethnic origin.

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facebook.com/palcambridge



Solidarity: why campaign for Palestine?

The 'international community' has failed for decades to hold Israel to account, and the support of Western states and corporations is instrumental to the continuation of its regime of oppression - this includes our university, which maintains active links with Israeli arms manufacturers. The European gaze tends to cast colonised peoples either as threats or passive victims, but the Palestinian people have a rich history of anti-colonial struggle; they are agents of their own liberation, and we must stand proudly in solidarity with them if decolonisation is to mean anything on university campuses.

KURDSOC & KURDISH & SOLIDARITY

Cambridge Kurdistan Solidarity (CKS) is a collective of people, based in or around of Cambridge, committed to supporting progressive, democratic and humanitarian struggles in Kurdistan. It aims to raise awareness through grassroots political action in Cambridge. CKS works closely with Cambridge University Kurdish Society (CUKurdSoc).

Kurds are a native people of the Middle East region with a population exceeding 40 million. They have historically mainly inhabited the mountainous regions of Mesopotamia. Kurdistan was divided into four parts after World War I and the collapse of the Ottoman Empire with the infamous British-French Sykes-Picot agreement, which marked the birth of nation-states in that region. The four regions are currently occupied by Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria. Over the last century, countless Kurdish rebellions and popular uprisings have been crushed by these states with the help of global and regional powers. During that period, the Kurds have been subjected to numerous genocides, ethnic cleansing campaigns, forced assimilation and displacements. Recently, in 2014, the peaceful Kurdish Yazidi community of Southern Kurdistan (Iraqi-occupied Kurdistan) were subjected to a brutal genocide campaign by the so-called Islamic State, where thousands were massacred and forced to flee. Thousands of young girls were kidnapped and forced into sex slavery, whilst the whole world watched idly and unsympathetically. The fate of most of these girls are still unknown. Most recently in January 2018, Turkish-backed mercenaries illegally attacked and invaded the Afrin canton of Rojava (Syrian-occupied Kurdistan), which had been the most stable part of Syria, untouched and protected by the local majority Kurdish community, from the civil war ravaging Syria.

CamKS.info@gmail.com

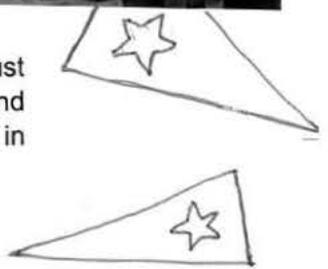
FB /CUKurdSoc

FB/CambridgeKurdistanSolidarity

As the situation of the Middle East in general, and in Kurdistan in particular, deteriorates further into ever more chaos and destruction, it is nevertheless possible to see struggles of hope and same region. Especially the Democratic Federation of Northern Syria (DFNS) as a radical attempt at creating a secular, democratic, multi-ethnic, multi-religious, gender-egalitarian, and ecological society is seen by the local populations as an alternative to religious extremism, authoritarian nation-statism, and patriarchal violence.



Our aim is to express our solidarity not only in words, but also in practice. Beyond just spreading information on the situation in Kurdistan, we also promote direct action and political intervention. Our campaign methods include informational events, participation in protests or peaceful direct action.





Cambridge was founded in 1209, but its first black student didn't even matriculate until 1849. This uni is a difficult place for anyone to navigate, but for students of colour, there's the added pressure of being in a predominantly white space that wasn't built for them. From facing a whitewashed curriculum to being surveilled under Prevent to experiencing constant racial profiling at college gates, being a student of colour here can be incredibly exhausting and alienating.

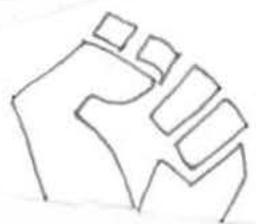


BME

BLACK AND MINORITY
ETHNIC CAMPAIGN



We work to **support, represent, and empower** all students of colour at Cambridge. We are a space for both socialising and organising, it is where we get together as a community, and where we mobilise against all forms of racial discrimination in the university.



Find us on Facebook and other social media! We'll be sharing information on there about our events, including mingles and panel discussions.



FUSE is a network and forum for queer students of colour. It was set up as a safe space by queer students of colour who found the experience of navigating the white homonormativity of wider queer spaces here to be quite isolating, and wanted to create a sense of community in order to tackle this. Like FLY, we run a public page on Facebook where we share news stories and events, in addition to a secret group where people can freely share their experiences and ask for advice.

FUSE.

facebook.com/
fusecambridge

We are a fairly new group but are quickly expanding and have a lot of exciting stuff planned for the year ahead (e.g. film screenings, mingle events, pre-drinks, welfare drop-in sessions), so do give our page a like! And if you would like to be added to the secret group, please message our public page.

Facebook: FLY Cambridge

Twitter: @CambridgeFLY

"Caring for myself is not self-indulgence, it is self-preservation, and that is an act of political warfare."
Audre Lorde

Sometimes Cambridge can feel like a space for an exclusive group of people, but with the existence of FLY, we want to reclaim this university as our own. FLY means **Freedom. Love. You.** It is a network and forum for **women and non-binary people of colour** at the University of Cambridge. By people of colour, we mean BAME people (those of African, Caribbean, Middle-Eastern and Asian ancestry). This space meets weekly, where you can be free from judgement and the questioning of your experiences.

Email: flygirlsofcambridge@gmail.com

This new academic year you can look forward to a number of events, including special forums on non-binary identity, mixed-race identity as well as a collaboration event with FUSE and the Women's Campaign, offering an introduction to intersectionality. We launch a zine each year and have an online blog, flygirlsofcambridge.com, offering a platform specifically for women and non-binary people of colour to try their hand at writing and other creative art forms.

Facilitator:

Rashidat
Animashaun,

ra526@cam.ac.uk



Women and non-binary people of colour often experience the devaluation of our histories, ideas and sometimes existence due to the historic and disproportionate privileging of rich, white and male narratives above all others in this institution. In order to combat this, we, as a space, offer a chance to discuss our experiences, ask for advice, draw strength from each other, and widen our friendships and networks beyond our colleges. A huge network of inspirational women and non-binary alumni came before us, and our growing campaign presence through Decolonise and other projects, ensures that we craft an institution for future female and nb students of colour to flourish long after us.

CUSU

WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN

"Some activist spaces you feel policed and that you're not ideologically pure enough and don't do enough and a space where you feel like you can learn and make mistakes is incredibly valuable."

– Sian Creely, Women's Campaign committee 2017-8

This university isn't just an Old Boys Club, it pretty much invented them. This institution was not designed for women, especially not women of colour, trans women, non-binary people, poor women, disabled women, queer women, mentally ill women, and anyone else who does not closely resemble the kind of person you will see in portraits in college halls.

These differences make us stronger in calling for radical change to the university. The Women's Campaign is the autonomous organisation of women and non-binary people in the university. It was set up in 1970s with a consciousness raising group, a reading group of feminist theory and a weekly meeting to plan campaigns. In 1993, a paid sabbatical women's officer was created following the resignation of the student officers over unpaid labour. The Women's Officer runs the Women's Campaign as one of the six sabbatical officers at Cambridge University Students' Union (CUSU), but their mandate comes from the women and non-binary people at the university rather than centralised policy.

Forum is where we shape the Women's Campaign through consensus-based decision making. It happens every Thursday in full term for all undergraduate and graduate women and non-binary people. This includes all self-identifying women and non-binary people, anyone whose gender identity includes woman and those who feel they experience misogyny. We are trans-inclusive and anti-racist. Alongside forum, the Women's Campaign runs skill-sharing and consciousness-raising events throughout the year, curates a termly zine called Gender Agenda, and politically organises for changes to the institution.

The Women's Campaign has campaigned for compulsory consent workshops, organises the annual Reclaim the Night march, raises funds for important feminist causes, such as sending people back to Ireland to vote in the Repeal the 8th referendum, and keeps pressure on the university to change its attitude to systemic sexual misconduct. Through forums and events, we provide a community of women and non-binary people who offer each other solidarity and support in fighting for liberation both inside and outside of the university.

If you are a woman or non-binary person, come to our start of term social in October and forum every Thursday. You can attend as many or as few meetings as you feel able to. The Women's Officer for this year is Claire Sosienski Smith: follow her on @CUSUWO, email her at womens@cusu.cam.ac.uk, and like the CUSU Womcam Facebook page for updates.

With love and solidarity,
The Women's Campaign



01223 245888 - HELPLINE

WED + THU | SAT + SUN
7 PM - 10 AM -
9:30 PM - 12:30 PM

Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre (CRCC) was set up in 1982 by a small group of local women to provide a supportive and safe space for women who have experienced any form of sexual violence. Through their helpline, email support service, counselling provision, Independent Sexual Violence Advocate, and guidance for those who support survivors of sexual violence, the centre continues to provide valuable resources for all women. In 2008, the Centre was in danger of closing and the Women's Campaign volunteered to keep the phone lines open and raise necessary funds. CRCC have a connection with the university through this history of ongoing support, whilst being community-based group completely autonomous from the institution.

As a student, staff member or visitor at the University of Cambridge or to the city, you can access CRCC (www.cambridgerapecrisis.org.uk) for support or the university's Breaking the Silence reporting procedure (www.breakingthesilence.cam.ac.uk). These services foreground the autonomy of the person accessing support and what feels most appropriate for them. Rape Crisis Centres are vital parts of our communities and we support them by telling people about their work, using their services, volunteering our time (CRCC looks for volunteers for their phone and email support services) and protecting them from cuts to their services. We resist political regimes which care more about economic gain than the welfare of those who have experienced sexual violence.


Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre

EMAIL SUPPORT: support@cambridgerapecrisis.org.uk

findsupportcam.com

Student Minds Cambridge (SMC) is a non-profit campaign group affiliated with national charity Student Minds. Run entirely by students, we campaign for better mental health support by putting pressure on the university and colleges to prioritise student welfare and create real change. We run awareness campaigns throughout the year to platform student voices and help break down the stigma surrounding mental health. We also share information and advice about managing your mental health at university, where to find support, and more.

There are so many ways to get involved, from student writing to liking our page for updates - join our community now!

CAMPAINING

BLOGGING

EVENTS

STUDENT MINDS CAMBRIDGE

MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY GROUP

FB: @STUDENTMINDSBRIDGE
STUDENTMINDSCAMBRIDGE.CO.UK
STUDENTMINDSCAMBRIDGE@GMAIL.COM

Cambridge can be a hostile and uncomfortable place for queer students. It can also be a place for immense personal growth, solidarity with fellow queers and a force for positive change in the world. This institution was not made for LGBT+ people, but as a campaign, we work consistently to carve out space for queers in Cambridge, and have some fun while we're at it.

As one of CUSU's autonomous campaigns, CUSU LGBT+ provides support, welfare and advocacy for students, informs the student/staff population about LGBT+ issues, and works to effect positive change. We aim to represent Cambridge's LGBT+ community in all its diversity, with representative officers for a vast array of members of our community, who make sure our programme of events caters to everyone, and whom you can approach for specific support.

Why Gender Neutral?

Last term, CUSU LGBT+ launched the Why Gender-Neutral? campaign, which aims to make space for non-binary people within the university. The campaign advocates some simple policies to accommodate gender diversity within university administration and services, in the provision of gender-neutral bathrooms, admin services and dress codes.

We've published guides on the implementation of these policies, which are available on our website and we're in direct contact with university staff and decision-makers to push for change. But you can help too! You can visit our campaign page at facebook.com/WhyGenderNeutral and attend next term's discussion groups to learn more



CUSU LGBT+

*facebook.com/
LGBT_CUSU*

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

or contribute your ideas, ask your JCR or MCR to get involved, and fill out the Gender Recognition Act consultation before the October 19th deadline, and request legal recognition of non-binary identities - you can find guidance for filling out the consultation on our campaign page.

Queer Minds

This year we're collaborating with Student Minds to improve services for LGBT+ welfare in the university. We'll be campaigning for better training in LGBT+ issues among college nurses and counsellors, writing best-practice guidance based on student experiences, raising awareness about what services are already available, and trialling some student-led support for LGBT+ individuals.

Check out what events are on in our **two Facebook groups** (one public, one secret). Come to our first **open meeting** on October 20th. We also have a **magazine**, Get Real, which puts out regular print editions if you want to give your queer creative energy an outlet. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to our community, doing our best to make each day in this uni gay as heck.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

CARE WORK IS ACTIVIST WORK

Activist spaces are not immune to the same racist, sexist, (dis)ableist structures that exist in our communities. We must constantly challenge our ideas about how we value labour within movements and who we expect to do this labour.

Do you...

- favour speakers in meetings who say things assertively rather than with substance?
- assume women and non-binary people know less than you do?
- refuse to engage with any theory or practice from people who are not white?
- write off criticism as being about identity politics and/or as a distraction?

If this sounds like your movement, then the same oppressions we come to activism in order to escape are being reproduced by people within those spaces.

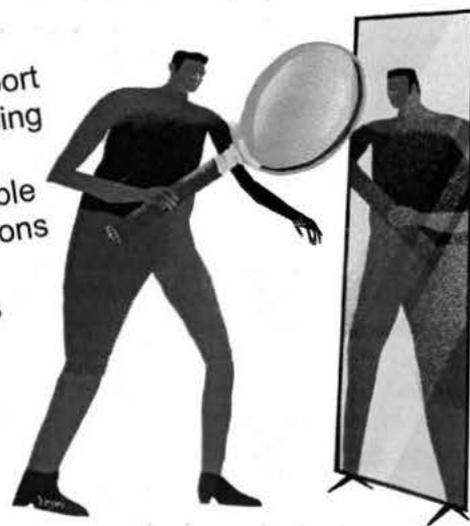
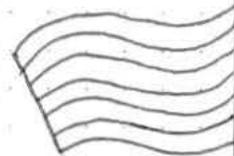
Imagining the possibility of a radically different society begins with our actions. Build in time for self and community reflection, educate yourself on caring work, feminist anti-racist theory, and volunteer for administrative labour which is not just "photo-opportunity" activism.

Changing our assumptions of who does what kinds of work does not stop at asking more men or white people to volunteer for taking minutes. We must reconstruct our ideas of value and importance in political spaces to include the forms of work which have traditionally fallen on women and non-binary people, especially women and non-binary people of colour.

Labour that prioritises emotional and physical wellbeing are the tools of transformative justice work which enable us to take up space and organise. We must acknowledge that our successes are built on the caring work of certain people within our movements, making sure that those people who choose to perform this work feel appreciated for their efforts.

Practical Tips:

- try to attend other rallies, events, discussions outside of your main organising group
- ask what can be done to lighten other people's load and share the burden
- collaborate with other groups as much as possible
- encourage group members to educate themselves about relating topics
- emphasise that our struggles are interconnected, and people need to look beyond the groups/activist spaces that got them into organising in the first place
- introduce yourself to new members in your group and offer them support
- reciprocate caring work when you can and ensure that you are not using someone solely for your emotional offloading
- make your activism accessible: hold meetings in wheelchair-accessible venues, build in breaks to long meetings and quiet times to occupations
- recognise that people have different needs and abilities
- understand that we all have something to learn from activist spaces

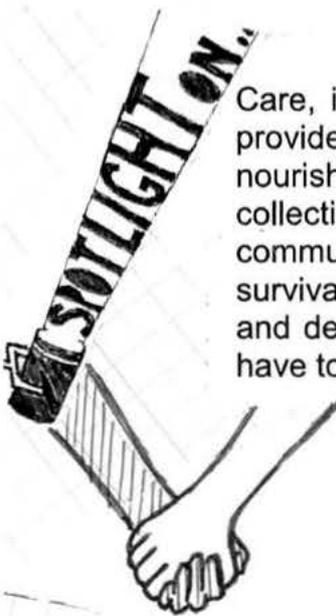


COMMUNITY
RADICAL
SELF-
ACTIVIST
POLITICAL

CARE



The idea of self-care as "political warfare" (Audre Lorde) is routinely decontextualised and bastardised by capitalism (for profit) and by liberalism (to shift the responsibility for care away from the structural and towards the individual).



Care, in traditions of Black feminism especially, is about a radical coming-together to provide what society and the state withholds from us as marginalised people - healthcare, nourishment, welfare, community, compassion. "Self" care is always at least partly collective; our needs may differ, but none of us is genuinely 'independent'. Fostering communities of mutual, collective care is part of what makes society (and this university) survivable, and what keeps our organising sustainable. More than this - it's about learning and developing practices together that reflect the values of what we're fighting for. We have to build the world we want to live in wherever we can, on whatever scale is possible.

I'm not a robot



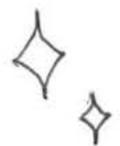
care is NOT...

care is ...

- * ABOUT RADICAL AUTONOMY AND RADICAL INTER-DEPENDENCE.
- * HONOURING YOUR OWN & OTHERS' NEEDS.
- * UNDERSTANDING & STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH EACH OTHERS' EXPERIENCES OF MARGINALISATION.
- * ENGAGING WITH FELLOW ORGANISERS IN GOOD FAITH.
- * COMPASSION FOR IMPERFECTION, INCLUDING YOURS.

- * APOLITICAL.
- * A LUXURY.
- * SOMETHING THAT CARRIES A PRICE TAG.
- * INDIVIDUALISED, MARKETISED, CORPORATE, NEOLIBERAL BULLSHIT.
- * A RESPONSIBILITY THAT SHOULD BE FALLING DISPROPORTIONATELY UPON THOSE OF WHOM IT IS TRADITIONALLY MOST EXPECTED (PARTICULARLY WOMEN & PEOPLE OF COLOUR).

OVER-PRICED BATH BOMBS AREN'T "RADICAL SELF-CARE" !



DISABILITY IS POLITICAL

This university was not built for us - literally (count the lifts), figuratively (count the hours they expect you to be working every week). You're not alone or wrong or broken. What disables us is a university without built-in flexibility; without universal step-free access; without inclusive teaching formats. What disables us is "a three-hour written exam is the only way to assess student attainment." What disables us is "have this in my pidge at the faculty by 9am on monday morning."

WHAT? WHO? IS THE DSC?

The CUSU Disabled Students' Campaign was founded in 2010 and rebooted in 2015. In February 2016 we forced a referendum that broke the record of student voting numbers and secured us a paid, full-time CUSU officer. There's a committee of campaign officers elected in Easter every year. We have Forum twice a term, where we chat, vent, make decisions, report, consult, eat a lot of biscuits. We run a bunch of fab events. We make a zine at least once a year. This 'we' is an open one. If you're disabled and you're a student, congrats, you're one of us (and if not, there's lots on that's open to non-disabled people, so come along!).

facebook.com/CUSUdisabledstudents

Emrys (facebook.com/cusudisabled)

disabled@cusu.cam.ac.uk

CUSU

dsc

DISABLED STUDENTS' CAMPAIGN

AM *I* DISABLED?

If you're asking yourself the question, then **yes, probably.** Mental health issues count. ADHD, dyslexia, and dyspraxia count. Chronic illnesses count. PCOS counts. Sleep issues, like narcolepsy, count. Eating disorders count. IBS counts. Anxiety counts. Depression counts. Autism counts. Visual, hearing, mobility impairments count. It all counts, if you want it to. (Self-questioning and self-diagnosis is valid as h*ck.) Come join the party, we've got comfy sofas and snacks.

WHAT'S ON THIS TERM...

- ★ DSC Forum
- ★ 'Defiant Lives' screening
- ★ Reasonable Adjustments survey
- ★ Intermission social groups
- ★ Welfare is Political event series
- ★ Disabled Students' Officers' training
- ★ Focus group: disability in activism

CAMBRIDGE STUDENT COMMUNITY ACTION

We connect students with local volunteering projects in Cambridge, including mentoring vulnerable children, helping teach children who are having difficulty with their academic work, and supporting vulnerable adults in the community with their daily routine.

If you would like to start volunteering, or to have a chat about which of our projects might be for you, pop into our office at 17 Mill Lane.

[facebook.com/cambridgesca](https://www.facebook.com/cambridgesca)

www.cambridgesca.org.uk



Set up in 2017, Class Act aims to represent students who identify with one or more of the following:

- Working Class
- State Comp
- Low Income
- Care Leavers
- First Generation
- Estranged

Whilst there is a lot of work going on to help get students to Cambridge, we feel that not enough is being done for post-admission access and student experience, where our social, economic or educational backgrounds might disadvantage us.



Last year we began to develop and unite a community of students from across the university, from a buddy scheme matching freshers to older students, to social events and discussions, culminating in a dinner with over 100 students from almost every college!

Over this next year we will continue to make this university our space, opening up conversation around issues of class, and growing our network of students to provide a supportive community.

If you identify with any of the strands of Class Act, come and meet the committee at the first social of term in October! We welcome students of any level of study, staff, UK, EU and international students from across the University.



CLASS ACT

classactcambridge@gmail.com

[@classactcamb](https://www.instagram.com/classactcamb)

[facebook.com/CUSUCLASSACT](https://www.facebook.com/CUSUCLASSACT)

Our campaign is developing a network and safety net of support for identifying students, providing a space for us to freely talk about our experiences among others who understand. We want to ensure students don't feel isolated or alienated in a university that was never meant for those outside of the elite in society. We believe we should stand tall, celebrate and be proud of each of the individual routes we have taken and challenges we have overcome to get here.





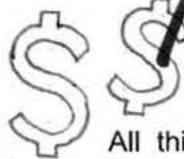
SPOTLIGHT ON...

MARKETISATION

Marketisation is the process by which the logic of markets is imposed on an organisation. In higher education, this has meant a concerted attempt by successive governments to turn universities, which were previously (for all their flaws) public institutions, into private corporations competing to provide a product. The marketised university competes to provide a product (degrees and other qualifications) to its customers (students).

The marketisation drive is largely pushed along by changes to universities' funding model. Ever since the introduction of the first tuition fees (capped at £1000 with means-tested exceptions in 1998) the proportion of funding for teaching that comes from government has declined, and the amount that universities depend on student fees has gone up. The starkest change came in 2010, when the coalition government tripled fees to £9000 and cut government funding for teaching dramatically, and left arts, humanities and social science programs completely without direct public support. The need to extract money from students (under a regime where fees are capped) is also behind the massive rent increases of the last few years, and the increasingly lucrative market in student accommodation.

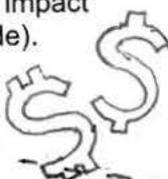
To keep their funding, universities now need to attract students who are willing to pay their fees, and who see their education as delivering 'value for money'. To do this they must create marketing departments with large budgets, focus increasingly on graduate careers and earnings, and build shiny glass buildings to grace the covers of prospectuses. (Speculative capital expenditure is easier now that public funding has been replaced by fee income, which is an asset you can borrow against). Those that succeed will expand, perhaps take over other institutions, and branch out with satellite campuses elsewhere in the UK and overseas. Others that do less well in the market will have to cut costs and downsize; some will even go bust. This 'market exit' is to be seen as evidence that the system is working, since underperformers are being weeded out and replaced by more efficient providers (the impact on local areas or current students left aside).



All this affects how we see education too. It leads staff and students alike into an understanding of education that is a commodified, skin-deep approximation of what it could and should be. The only things that matter about teaching or learning to the higher education market are those things that can be measured, whether on a balance sheet or on a league table. The transformative and unquantifiable role of education (and all its radical potential) is of no interest to the managers of the post-2010 university. Instead what matters is 'student satisfaction' - as in, "would you spend money here again?". The Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), through which the market regulator, the Office for Students, officially grades universities' undergraduate teaching, is based mostly on metrics with no relation to teaching.



For most academics, these metrics have become targets which dominate their everyday work and damage the teaching they're able to deliver. Working conditions have suffered across the board too, with stagnating pay for a decade, repeated attempts to slash pensions and increasing casualisation for academics leading to the biggest universities strike in decades in 2018. Non-academic staff have suffered too, as universities outsource cleaning, maintenance, catering, and administrative work to cost-cutting external corporations.



The Porter's Log @theporterslog - Mar 16
 Toope retorts that he has outlined how to tackle marketisation, and that his answer is in a pamphlet available at Heffers for only £17.99 #ToopeAssembly



CONT'D →

CONTINUED...

To see the full programme of Cambridge action, visit: www.cambridgeaction.wordpress.com



Cambridge University is in many ways protected from the most obvious symptoms of this national picture: the feudalism of our governance structures is still strong enough to fend off some neoliberal onslaught. The university's long-held wealth and sturdier reputation reduces the pressure that government policies can place on it, and the collegiate structure slows the spread of financial power through the capillaries of the institution. Marketisation in Cambridge happens more subtly, hidden behind the face of tradition, but it happens all the same. We still have sky-high debts and a mental health crisis, while some colleges charge extortionate rents to students who can barely afford to study here. Our university still places its financial gain above its ethical obligations, and we're more closely tied up with corporations for research and funding than most.

Most of all, Cambridge demonstrates that the response to marketisation must not be to hark back to an imaginary golden age of the state-funded university. The opposite of private is public, and universities (Cambridge especially) have never really been public at all. Cambridge has been excluding and harming those outside of its walls (physical walls, online paywalls and figurative financial barriers all included) for a long time, and its changing nature should not obscure that. To oppose marketisation, we must demand the opening-up of the university. We should demand democratic governance, open access, and free education for all. We should demand that the university distributes its wealth, resources and prestige widely and for the benefit of everyone. The true opposite of private is public, so the true opposite of marketisation is democratisation.

TEACH-OUT

TUE 13 M

HOW TO MAKE A PLACARD!

MON 26 Feb

2-4pm

Want to be featured on the front page of the Daily Mail with your killer banner? Here are our tips on how to make a splash with your sign.

- Keep it short and pithy! Nobody wants to read a soliloquy on your sign.
- Everybody loves a pun. Or a joke. Or a Star Wars reference. Keep it witty.
- Don't make it too heavy. You have to carry this thing around with you all day. This is not a bicep workout. Make your sign out of light cardboard or Styrofoam, and use a light pole – an old broomstick always does the trick.
- Keep it simple! Glitter looks great but a shiny sign is hard to read (and environmentally crap, unless your glitter's biodegradable). Use simple contrasting colours. We recommend red and black.
- Use big letters. And get your spacing right. You don't want lots of tiny words squished in at the end.
- Think about how it will look in a photo. We need photos of our fab signs; make sure yours will pop out and be LEGIBLE. If you can't read it, don't make it.
- And if you feel like being nice, put a funny picture or a nice message on the back of your sign so that the protestors behind you get a smile on their face.
- If you're so inclined, make yourself a book bloc shield*.

*https://www.vam.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/242803/VA_DO_How-to_Book.pdf

For more information visit: www.cambridgeaction.wordpress.com



LEGAL ADVICE - ARREST

Say "NO COMMENT" to all questions from police, even during interviews and casual chats. Police often need more evidence and may try to deceive and pressure you into incriminating yourself.

You have the right to **free legal advice** at the police station.

Duty solicitors often give bad advice to protestors. Instead call GBC to get the best solicitor for you:

Irvine Thanvi Natas (ITTN): 020 8522 7707
Hodge Jones Allen (HJA): 07659 111 192

Blindmans: 020 7305 5638

Kellys (outside London): 01273 674 898

You have the right to have someone informed of your arrest and an interpreter if English is not your first language. If you appear under 18 an appropriate adult should be called.

If you witness an arrest or want support contact the

GBC legal hotline: 07946 541 511

Stand up and march!

STOP
WARS

BUST CARD
(for if you get
busted!)

HOW TO GO ON A PROTEST !!

Want to go on a protest? Feeling a bit unsure about how? Follow our Protest Basics to make your protesting fun, safe and effective.

- GO! Don't let fear or laziness overwhelm you! Protesting is exciting and **important**. So step one is to just get off the sofa and GO!
- DON'T bring knives or weapons - it's a recipe for more than you bargained for, and if you're caught with them by the cops you're in big trouble.
- DON'T bring ID. The pigs don't need to know who you are.
- Go with FRIENDS! Friends make protesting fun, and they keep you safe. If your friends aren't keen, make sure someone at least knows you're going.
- Always bring WATER - all that shouting and sign-carrying is thirsty work. Cereal bars and other non-bruisable food is a good idea too.
- Plan a safe route home, and leave with others! You don't want to bump into some nasty fascists on your way home.
- KNOW YOUR RIGHTS - bring the bustcard on this page with you!
- Write an emergency contact number on your body. Phones get lost.
- Don't get drunk or otherwise intoxicated! At least not until *after* the protest. Then feel free to get drunk. This is why you brought your friends.
- Bring something (a scarf/mask) to cover your face. Big brother is watching you.
- Wear comfy shoes. Walking is hard work. Running away is hard work. Running away in high-heels is extra hard work.

And always remember to wear sunscreen!

MADINGLEY ROAD

GREENWICH HOUSE

2018 occupation for divestment - forcibly evicted

CAMBRIDGE UNION

Many fascists invited to speak - and met with protests: Oswald Mosely (1960), Enoch Powell (1968), David Willets (2011), Jacob Rees-Mogg (2018)

CND graffiti opposite Sainsbury's

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Archive of letters and papers detailing slave trade

SIDNEY ST. TRAVEL AGENCY

1970s: former Abbott's Travel occupied by students protesting Greece's military dictators

TRINITY COLLEGE

1916: Bertrand Russell dismissed for opposition to WW1

1969: Anti-Apartheid march contests Dryden theatre society performing in segregated South Africa

McDonald's strike 2018

CHRIST CHURCH

Indian Nobel Prize admitted to read

Jan Smuts given an

OLD SCHOOLS

Occupy!

GREAT ST. MARY'S CHURCH

THE GRAND ARCADE

KING'S COLLEGE

Alan Turing (mathematician imprisoned for being gay) attended from 1931

Involvement of King's Bursar in cutting pensions, UCU Pensions Strike 2018

THE EAGLE PUB

Rosalind Franklin's name added (in graffiti) to blue plaque commemorating Crick and Watson and discovery of DNA

A1134

GATES ROOM

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL

Formerly Garden House Hotel - riot 1970

THE FITZWILLIAM

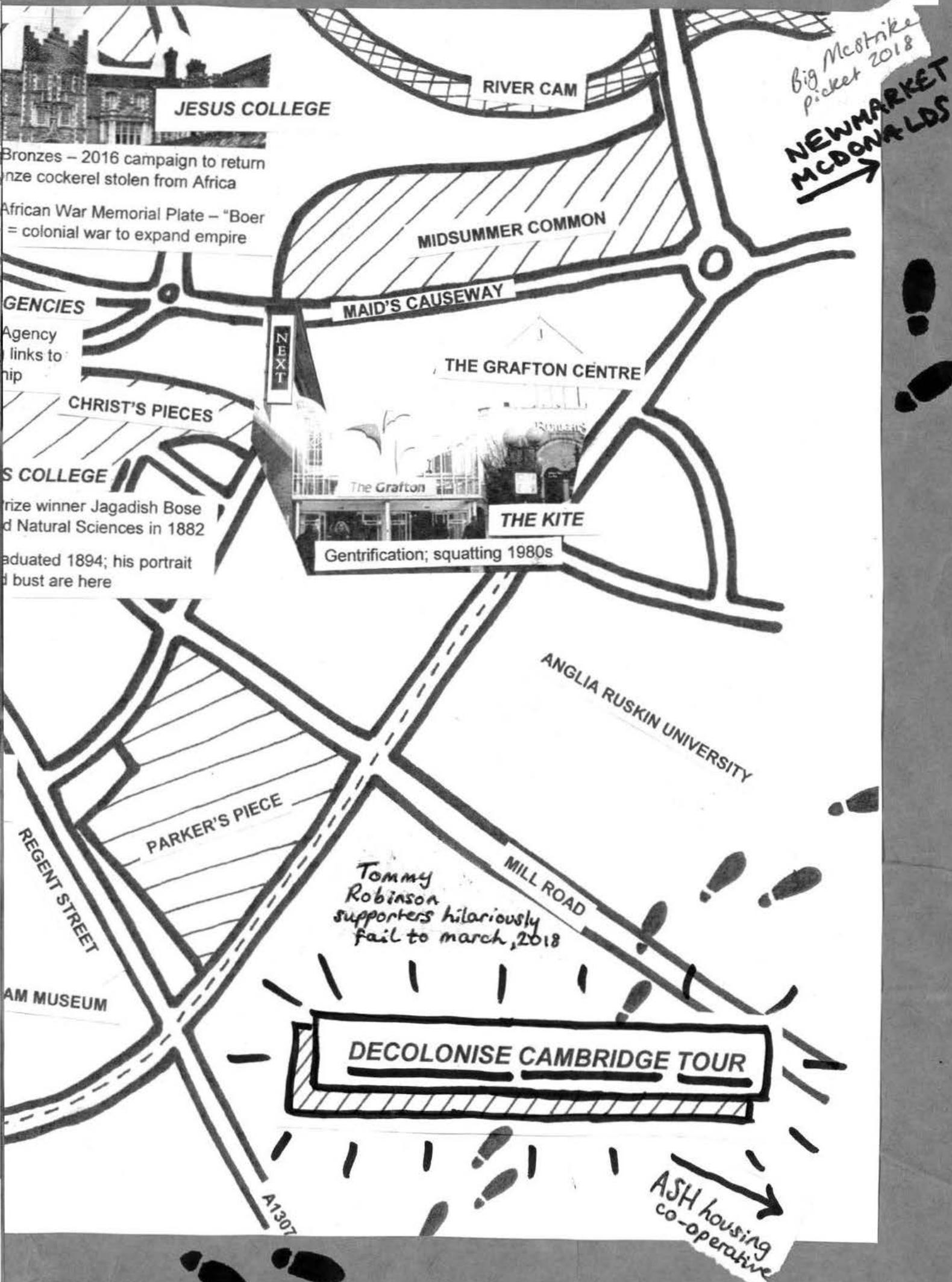
many lefty BGGs
GRANTCHESTER MEADOWS

COE FEN

ENGINEERING DEPT.

THE FEN CAUSEWAY

strong links with arms trade & fossil fuel corporations (Shell, BAE)



JESUS COLLEGE

Bronzes – 2016 campaign to return bronze cockerel stolen from Africa

African War Memorial Plate – “Boer = colonial war to expand empire

AGENCIES

Agency links to ship

CHRIST'S PIECES

S COLLEGE

Prize winner Jagadish Bose and Natural Sciences in 1882

Graduated 1894; his portrait and bust are here

RIVER CAM

MIDSUMMER COMMON

MAID'S CAUSEWAY

THE GRAFTON CENTRE



THE KITE

Gentrification; squatting 1980s

ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY

PARKER'S PIECE

REGENT STREET

MUSEUM

MILL ROAD

Tommy Robinson supporters hilariously fail to march, 2018

DECOLONISE CAMBRIDGE TOUR

Big Mestrike Picket 2018

NEWMARKET McDONALD'S

ASH housing co-operative

A1307

CAMBRIDGE

The so-called 'democratic' governance system of the University of Cambridge is broken. Political events of the past year reveal that the University is under the influence of a tiny minority of financial bureaucrats and any pretence of democracy has been lost.

Our university sacrifices the views and values of its members in favour of profit. Continuing to invest in the fossil fuels industry; cutting pensions; clinging to links with the arms trade; maintaining insecure, underpaid staff jobs; perpetuating structural racism; building sprawling urban developments for high rent in the city...



These are not the actions of a democratic university. They are the result of profit-hungry decisions made by a small handful of unelected, unaccountable financiers, who hide behind endless committee procedures and earn more in a month than most uni staff do in a year.



DEMOCRACY

The university has done all it can to suppress opposition. It has overridden official democratic procedures, kept its own councillors uninformed, ignored student and staff concerns and even gone so far as to use police violence to suppress protest. The university knows that if it were to make concessions towards genuine democracy, its unjust practices would not be allowed to continue. So upper management veils its greed in bureaucracy.

In this knowledge, the Cambridge Democracy Project was formed. This collaborative effort between staff and student groups aims to target university governance from both inside and outside, as part of the wider activist project towards a just and liberated university. The decisions Cambridge University makes affect not only its members, but all of society. It has a responsibility to local, national, and international communities. Let's hold it to account.

PROJECT

Keep an eye out for more info, events, and ways to get involved on Facebook - and learn more in the meantime in the rest of this guide!

CAMBRIDGE DEFEND EDUCATION

EDUCATE
ORGANISE
AGITATE

Cambridge Defend Education organises for a just university.

We recognise that this institution is deeply implicated in structures of inequality and oppression. We believe in the necessity and possibility of a different kind of university - an open, truly public institution that is structured democratically, and oriented towards the well-being of both its members and the rest of the world, and which provides space and support for the articulation of critical opposition to injustice.

We believe in the terrific capacity for collective action and imagination that (even) the (neoliberal) university provides, and we are determined to build and fight for change.

Though our vision is broad, we focus on specific objectives,

We will continue organising opposition to the marketisation of higher education - the restructuring of universities to look increasingly like revenue-maximising corporations, rather than educational institutions providing a public good. We work towards a well-funded public higher education sector, which provides quality, debt-free education to all who seek it. This also involves the opposition to the university's real estate expansion projects which inflate land value while Cambridge suffers from a chronic housing crisis.

We will campaign in a coalition against the racist, Islamophobic PREVENT policy and other aspects of the racist securitisation of the university, such as the administration functioning as surrogate border guard by helping to create a 'hostile environment' for staff and students.

In the past year we have successfully mobilised around key issues, notably running picket support during the pensions strike, and organising a successful occupation that forced the university to stop threatening to deduct staff pay on non strike days, as well as an unprecedented open meeting with the Vice Chancellor.

CDE is an open and non-hierarchical organisation.

Everyone is welcome, and anyone involved in the work has an equal say in decision-making processes. We try to engage in continuous reflection and learning to see where power dynamics surface, and how they can be addressed - and more generally how we can do better as organisers.

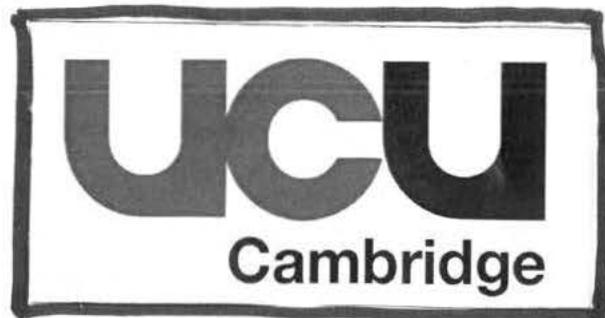
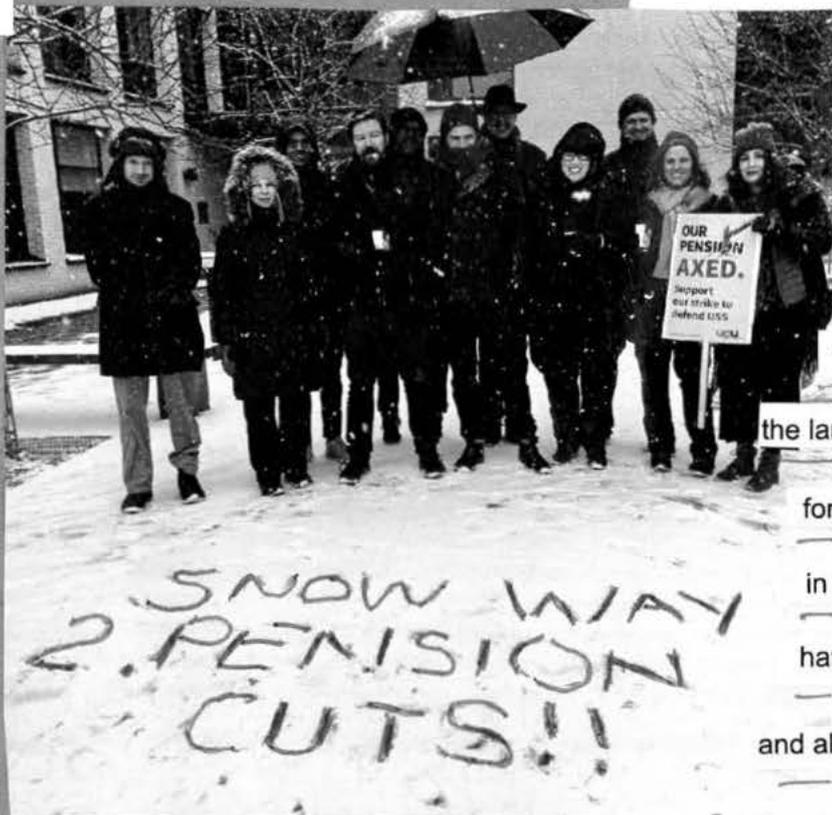
We also think that any resilient, hopeful politics centres friendship, care and joy.

Find info about our weekly meetings on our Facebook page, and come to our first meeting on **Sunday 7th Oct.,**

4.30pm,

**Chetwynd Room,
King's College**





The University and College Union (UCU) is the largest trade union and professional association for academic and academic-related staff working in Further and Higher Education in the UK. We have nearly 1800 members in Cambridge, and almost 120,000 nationally.

Our primary mission is to fight for and protect the rights of university staff. That means your lecturers, tutors, librarians, IT officers, and perhaps even you! UCU membership is **free for all graduate students, international or domestic**, who work in Further and Higher Education. In fact, one of our major concerns is to defend the rights of casually employed and precarious workers - including graduate students.

STRIKE
YOUR LI

Our belief is that Further and Higher Education should be free and accessible to all, regardless of gender, race/ethnicity, sexuality, or ability. We believe that good working conditions - a workplace free of discrimination, harassment, or intimidation, a liveable income, reasonable working hours, provisions for carers and workers with special needs, and decent pensions - are crucial for making our educational institutions places of learning that work towards a better future for everyone involved; for our students, staff, for the local community, and also for our institutions.

Even if this does not apply to you, or if you are hesitant to join, Cambridge UCU runs many events and initiatives you can take part in. This past year alone we have co-hosted talks on the marketisation of Higher Education (HE); run meetings to fight against the casualisation of contracts; rallied against racism and xenophobia; marched with student activists to protest the University's involvement in funding the fossil fuel industry.

We work hard to convince our employers of how important these things are. Often we succeed: just a few months ago CUCU graduate members at the History Faculty won a victory ensuring *all* graduate teaching in the faculty will be recognized as work and paid accordingly. Most of our work, however, does not make headlines. We campaign against the 'hostile environment' that international staff and students face in the UK through surveillance and other restrictions; we work for the rights of EU/EEA citizens in the UK post-Brexit. Some of our most valuable work is casework: supporting members with problems and disputes in their workplaces, colleges or departments. This is a vital part of navigating the complex institutional and political environment of HE, and key to supporting some of our more vulnerable members.

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE: on avg. 17.4% FULL TIME WOMEN ACADEMICS earn LESS THAN THEIR MEN COLLEAGUES

@CambridgeUCU

facebook.com/cambridgeucu

tinyurl.com/CUCU-Youtube

Cambridge University & Colleges Union (CUCU)



Persuading our employers is not always easy. Once we have negotiated and tried all other means of persuasion, we take strike action, as we did in Feb-Mar 2018. Striking is not a decision we take lightly, but sometimes it is the only way to defend the rights of workers. When we took to industrial action over pensions in the spring what was at stake was the value of a lifetime's work in HE. What is at stake in our current ballot on industrial action is a decade's worth of work and pay that has been consistently depreciated by our employers.

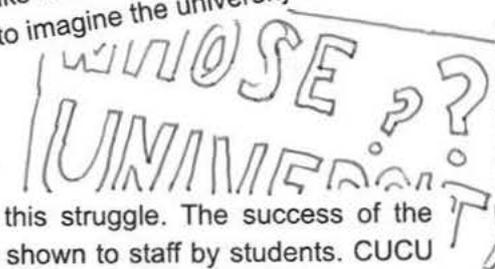
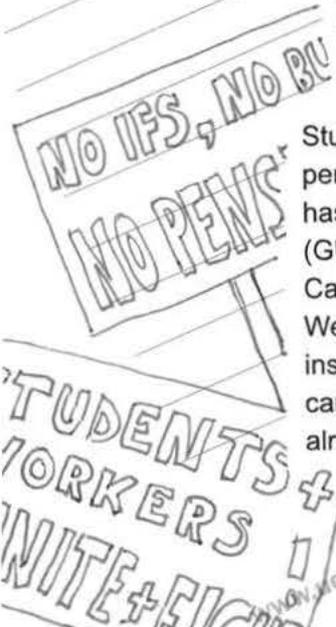


Graduate (MPhil, MRes, PhD) students:

join your union for free! www.ucu.org.uk/free

Strikes, despite their hardships, can be exciting. They provide a great space to meet people from other disciplines, departments, or colleges (particularly valuable in a university as dispersed as Cambridge!) and to engage in conversations that reveal grievances often sidelined and silenced in the workplace. Strikes can create spaces of alternative learning to challenge the consumerist ideology and culture of competition that dominates Higher Education today. Strike action is an opportunity to build relationships and forge links within and beyond our community. It gives us a moment to critique the university as it is, and to imagine the university as it can be.

Student support and solidarity is a crucial component of this struggle. The success of the pensions strike in Spring 2018 came down to the solidarity shown to staff by students. CUCU has worked with the Cambridge University Students Union (CUSU) and the Graduate Union (GU) and just as importantly, with activist groups and initiatives beyond the student unions: Cambridge Defend Education (CDE), Zero Carbon, Decolonise Cambridge, and many others. We also work with other trade unions, as well as with UCU branches in other HE and FE institutions. Our members are involved in a range of social, environmental, and political campaigns locally and globally - there's a good chance you know more than one union member already. Rest assured that this means we need you, too!



admin@ucu.cam.ac.uk

ucu.cam.ac.uk/index.php/events/



challenging immigration detention during UCU Pensions Strike, 2018.

DON'T LET THEM DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN US

MANAGEMENT

STUDENTS

STAFF

UNITE!

SUPPORT THE STRIKE!



Strike Solidarity Rally, King's Parade, 2018

STRIKE TEACH-OUT

MON 26 Feb	2-4pm Disassembling the University	Great Wagon's Club
	4-6pm Disassembling the Curriculum Forum '18	Edna Lounge
	7-9pm Reproductive Politics in the Age of Trump & Brexit	Edna Lounge
	8-9pm The Politics of Aesthetics	Edna Lounge
TUE 27 Feb	2-4pm Metabolix Economics: A Re-examination of HE	Great Wagon's Club
	2-4pm Political Activism & Revolutionary Ideas in North Sudan	Edna Lounge
WED 28 Feb	3:30-5pm Strike Songs & Protest Lyrics	Edna Lounge
	6-8:30pm Fictionalizer talk by Sherwin Brumacott, Director of Africa's Voice	Edna Lounge
	7pm UCU Rally	Edna Lounge

To see the full programme visit: www.teach-out.org.uk

Teach-out Poster



The Porter's Log @theporterslog - Mar 16
 Discussion turns to The Office For Students - which is what Toope's room in the Old Schools building is now called #ToopeAssembly

Occupation of Old Schools during the UCU Pensions Strike 2018

Demilitarise Cambridge

The UK and the Arms Trade

In the age of Brexit and the UK's shifting economic strategy, there is an emphasis on being a leader in the "knowledge economy" and having a "globally competitive service sector",¹ notably by "protecting defence spending".² Universities like Cambridge are key "stakeholders" in producing the knowledge and skills for the "defence industry" to function. Unfortunately, what this means - behind the corporate doublespeak - is that British companies will be exporting violence across the world, assisted by the government, and abetted by our universities. The murky world of the "defence" sector is the corrupt and violent world of the international arms trade.

Manufacturing and exporting weapons simply won't produce the conditions for peace.³ The conflict in Syria, armed by a host of external powers including Britain, has produced one of the most painful tragedies of mass exodus in recent memory.

This is an imperial conflict, and this is a European crisis. This is how the war comes back home.

Cambridge University and the Arms Trade

Cambridge University specifically is historically complicit in the industry of war. We invest in those companies. Our staff produce research for them. Our alumni have founded and worked for them. We host them in conferences and we invite them to our freshers' and careers fairs.

This is justified with claims that economic growth is the only thing that matters, emphasising the need for a euphemistically named "defence" industry to "keep us safe". The corporate custodians argue that any challenge to their profiteering will make "us" vulnerable.

**DEMILITARISE
CAMBRIDGE**
BOYCOTT
DIVEST
AGITATE

Who are we talking about?

Kurdish people have been bombarded by Turkey's BAE fighter jets; Kashmiris live under occupation of the Indian military supplied with British military hardware; Palestinians in Occupied Territories are attacked by British-supplied Israeli armed forces; Yemenites and Bahraini civilians are attacked by Rolls Royce aircraft; Egyptian dissidents are suppressed by munitions and tear-gas provided by Chemring Group. Cambridge University has worked with each of these companies, enabling acts of war and oppression. But this isn't just something happening "out there". Many of us students in Cambridge come from parts of the world that suffer the brunt of the global arms industry.

The "us" that they try to "defend" is just a rhetorical tool, an illusion.
"We" are this university. We need to be defended from the "defence" industry.

What kind of a university do we want?

Do we want a university that helps these companies profit off the death and destruction that their products are intended to cause? Do we want students trained to find more efficient ways of killing people, recruited from a careers fair down the road? Do we want our academics spending time and contributing their knowledge to solving problems for arms companies?

If this is something you care about, get involved with us. We need to speak, act, and exhaust the power and privilege we have here in Cambridge: we will *not* enable this industry and its global destruction.

[facebook.com/demilitarisecambridge](https://www.facebook.com/demilitarisecambridge)

demilitarisecambridge@gmail.com

¹ <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/boeing-uk/aerospace-boosts-british-economy/>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/summer-budget-2015-key-announcements>

³ See Paul Holden, 2016. *Indefensible: Seven Myths that Sustain the Global Arms Trade*. London: Zed

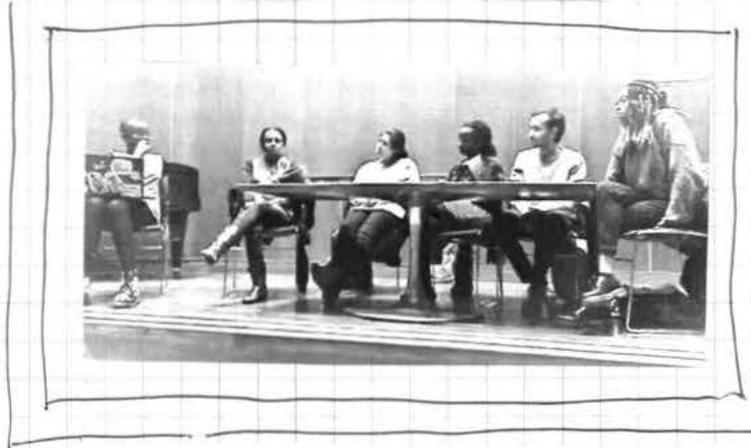
CRITICAL THEORY & PRACTICE

SEMINAR SERIES



'Theory too becomes a material force as soon as it grips the masses' - Karl Marx

Critical Theory and Practice (CTP) is a speaker series that tries to amalgamate theory with transformative political practices. Originating in 2010 as part of Cambridge Defend Education during the resistance to raised fees and cuts, it's since become an independent collective of people who come from across the university - we reject hierarchies between staff/students and university members/non-members.



Seeing that knowledge and its production is political, yet that stubborn tensions between theory and practice, between thinking and doing, often raise their heads, the seminars and teach-ins we host aim to muddy false dichotomies between social movements and intellectual production, and make clearer the possibilities immanent when these moments of emancipatory politics are reunited!

...Examples of such alchemy?

Theorists, writers, activists, even artists have been part of CTP events. Often they come from standpoints that are anti-colonial, anti-racist, feminist, marxist, socialist or anarchist. Some of last year's events included seminars with historian Vijay Prashad on the Third World as a political project in relation to the Russian Revolution, Ryan Davey on class and state coercion in housing estates, scholar and organiser Barbara Ransby discussing black liberation movements, teach-ins on arms trade links to university departments, and on internationalist left allyship.

We also co-host with a variety of like-minded organisations such as UCU, FLY, New Directions in Anti-colonial studies, Desiring the Middle East at Pembroke and more - many of whom you may find in this guide!

Think you might want to get involved?

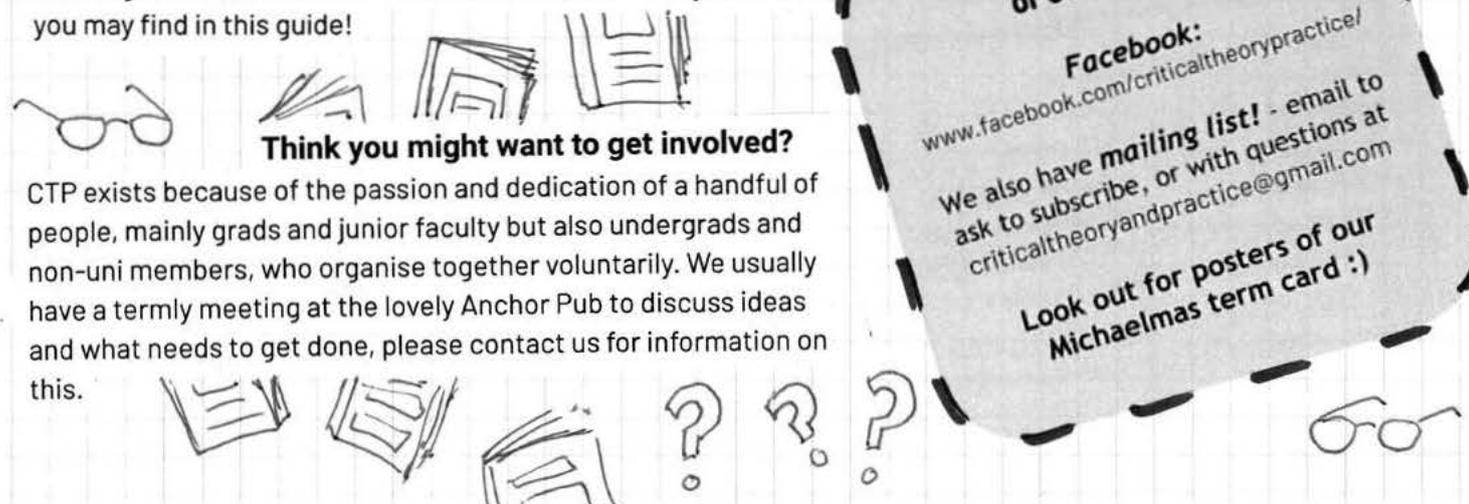
CTP exists because of the passion and dedication of a handful of people, mainly grads and junior faculty but also undergrads and non-uni members, who organise together voluntarily. We usually have a termly meeting at the lovely Anchor Pub to discuss ideas and what needs to get done, please contact us for information on this.

To get up to date event info, or contact us...

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/criticaltheorypractice/

We also have mailing list! - email to ask to subscribe, or with questions at criticaltheoryandpractice@gmail.com

Look out for posters of our Michaelmas term card :)



CUSU ethical affairs

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION

The **CUSU Ethical Affairs campaign** seeks to build a fairer and more sustainable University. We support the work of student campaigns, and are here to help those who want to start one. We hope to engage new people, bring people together and make campaigning spaces as accessible as possible to build the mass movements that real change requires.

Each term, we have 3 target campaigns which we will focus on. For Michaelmas 2019 these are:

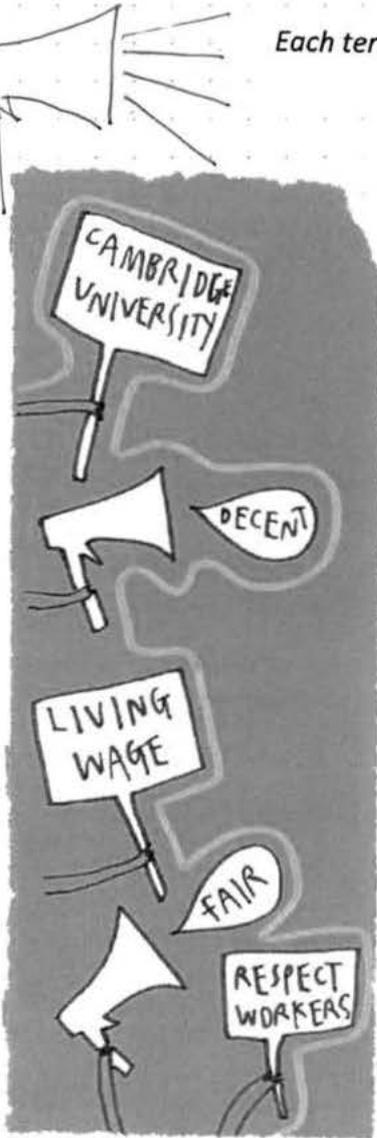
We'll be working alongside the Living Wage campaign to ensure all Cambridge colleges **pay the real living wage**, and seek accreditation to the **Living Wage Foundation**. Despite being some of the wealthiest institutions in the country, **poverty pay** amongst the staff of Cambridge colleges is common. Given low pay disproportionately affects women and ethnic minorities, accreditation would help **address the gender and racial pay gaps** as well as providing dignity to the people whose work the University's functioning relies on.

If you are part of a campaign or want to start one, please get in touch – we're here to help! The campaign's current officers are **Alice Gilderdale** and **Jake Simms**. You can find us on Facebook (facebook.com/EthicalAffairs) or email us at ethicalaffairs@cusu.cam.ac.uk.



We will be supporting **Zero Carbon's** ongoing campaign to get Cambridge University and its colleges to **divest from fossil fuels**. By growing and supporting college level campaigns, helping coordinate and amplify the work of green officers and providing guidance and templates we aim, in particular, to promote **college divestment**. Fossil fuel companies cause global destruction with their exploitative practices, **disproportionately affecting the worlds most marginalised communities**. They operate through the social license that Universities investing in them helps provide, and thus divestment works by **removing that social license** and turning them into a pariah industry.

We'll also be working alongside the WomCam Open Portfolio Campaign on **Period Poverty**. Shockingly, **one in ten women** in the UK struggle to afford pads or tampons, disproportionately affecting those who are economically disadvantaged. We will be campaigning for colleges to **provide free sanitary products**, not as a luxury but as a basic necessity, whilst questioning the taboo surrounding this important issue. Additionally, we will be linking the issue of women's rights with environmental rights - advocating **sustainable long-term solutions** which allow women dignity and decency without costing the earth.





CAMBRIDGE CUT THE RENT

Why do students at Murray Edwards and Girton pay almost £2,000 a term in rent?

Why are Kitchen Fixed Charges so uneven across colleges?

Why is the Cambridge Bursary the same for all when living costs vary so much?

Our campaigns mobilise student power to cut rents and scrap unfair charges. We care about material change for students and the impact of rent and housing on access and higher education funding, as well as our university's impact on the town.

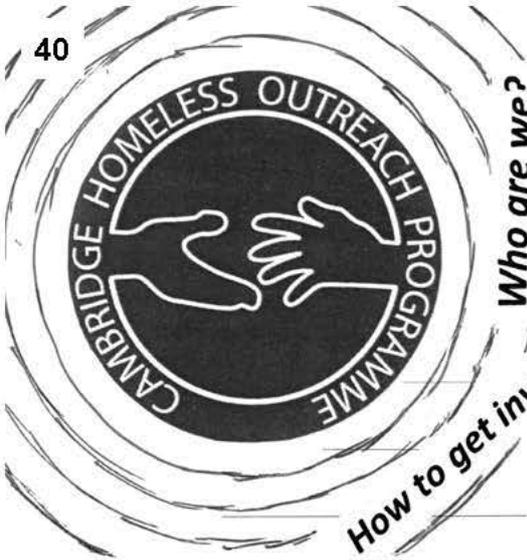
#RENT STRIKE



Find us on
Facebook or in
your college

We run regular
meetings and
socials on both
a college and
uni level

Join one of our ongoing successful campaigns at Robinson (where rent has been frozen for freshers, on top of £50 a term credit for current students), Magdalene (where the Kitchen Fixed Charge has been frozen and hundreds of pounds of rent reductions made), Newnham, Murray Edwards, Trinity or Girton. Or contact us for help setting up a campaign at your college!



Who are we?

How to get involved?

CHOP is a group of Cambridge and ARU students supporting local homeless people and helping students to engage with the homeless community through a combination of fundraising for local charities, raising awareness of homelessness and outreach such as clothes collections, soup kitchens and volunteering.

Come to our speaker events and take part in our outreach and fundraising activities! You can keep up to date via our Facebook page, website (homelessoutreachcambridge@wordpress.com) or mailing list (lists.cam.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/soc-chop-exec).

You can also become a CHOP rep - help to publicise CHOP events within your college/ARU or organise small collections and fundraisers. Email our rep coordinator Yasmin Gilders (yg321@cam.ac.uk) to find out more/apply.

cambridgehomelessoutreach@gmail.com

Streetbite



Cambridge Streetbite was set up by a group of students who wanted to do something to help homeless people in a practical way.

Our main activity consists of preparing food and hot drinks for people we meet on the streets, alongside taking time to develop relationships with people through chatting to them as food is distributed.



We wander round town in pairs or small groups, taking a thermos and some sandwiches to offer the people we meet. The food is always gratefully received, but the most important thing we give is simply the time for a drink and a chat.



We are based at St Columba's United Reformed Church on Downing Street



Shifts run in the morning, afternoon and evening every day – you can choose which shift is best for your schedule and sign up with friends if you'd like!

Volunteering with us is a small commitment that makes a tangible change

To get involved, just visit our Facebook page and sign up on the online rota ☺



cambridge university who are we? CAMPAIGN FOR

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT



We're the university's branch of the national Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. Our vision of the future is a world without nuclear weapons, so our campaign is focused on getting rid of Trident (the UK's nuclear deterrent) as well as trying to achieve a global nuclear weapons ban.

what do we do?



This year, we'll hold some socials, some information evenings and events so you can find out more about nuclear weapons and disarmament, and hopefully host some speakers as well.

CUCND are also going to be working with other campaigns in Cambridge, including the divestment campaign, the secondary school CND campaign and the town Stop the War Coalition.

why do we do it?



CAMBRIDGECND@GMAIL.COM

When the first nuclear bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, a reported 340,000 people died as a result.

CND was formed in protest of such lethal, immoral weapons when the UK started developing our own.

Theresa May did not hesitate to say that she would kill 100,000 innocent people with a nuclear blast in 2016. We're not happy about that and we want to change it.



get involved



/CAMBRIDGECND

If you want to get involved, or if you have any questions about what we do, come to our first social on Tuesday 9th October where we'll be making banners and badges and answering all your questions about CND in the King's Art Room. We can't wait to meet you!



We are the university society representing Amnesty International, a non-governmental organisation with millions of members across the world campaigning for human rights.

We spend our time organising campaigns and speakers' events to raise awareness about social and human rights issues, writing letters to foreign governments about human rights abuses, and fundraising for charities through events such as our long-running Jamnesty open mic.

For the 50th annual Cage Campaign run by the society this year, society members volunteered to take shifts inside a wooden cage on King's Parade to collect signatures and raise awareness of abuses at the Yarl's Wood Immigration Detention Centre.

Weekly meetings are held in Caius Bar at 5pm on Sundays. For more info on these and other events this term, find us on Facebook or email.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT
CUAI CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

TO JOIN OUR MAILING LIST
EMAIL BA365@CAM.AC.UK



SPOTLIGHT ON...

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISING



On March 10, 2018, a group of thirty students occupied a section of Old Schools, the administrative heart of Cambridge. We, as international students, participated in the moment having walked the same track in occupying campuses, even whole cities, in places stretching from Hong Kong to New Delhi, Cape Town to Istanbul, Cairo to Paris, Manchester to London.

We come into Cambridge having been called many things; thugs, riff-raffs, juveniles, dissidents, agitators, and some, even revolutionaries. We bring our world into Cambridge, as this university helps make the weapons that maim our lands and people, and fund industries that consume the very life and nature out of them. We come into it knowing we will be policed, monitored, and be put on the frontlines of the fight against Theresa May's hostile environment policy. We come into it like fish out of water. It is up to us to leave it a better place.

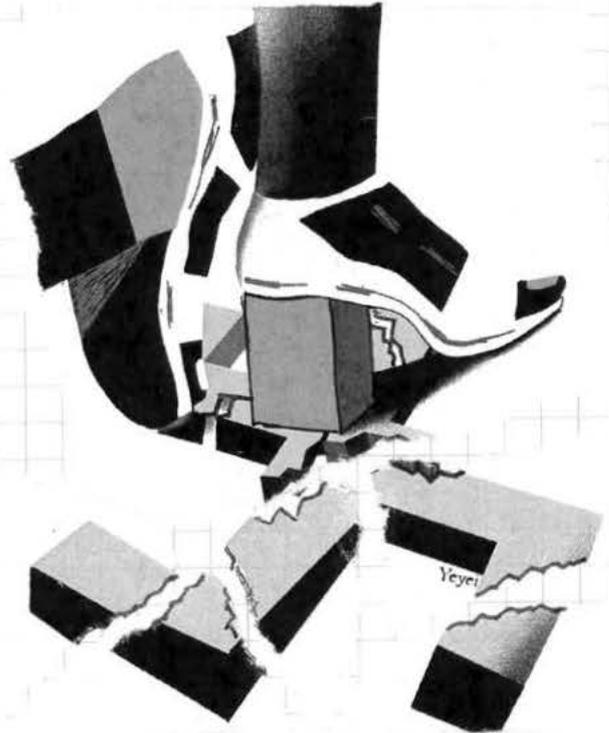
Where to start? We learn from practice, and learn how to act in tandem, together. We find out multiple ways of doing political work together, from each other. 'What is political?' does not have an obvious answer. Politics don't look the same, or feel the same, from one city to another. But it is so very similar, and feels very familial. It requires a lot of listening, skill sharing, relaying of different experiences, to create a mutual understanding of how to do activism in this university that resonates with and inclusive of international students.

We can teach each other how and why to stand in solidarity with a myriad of causes we stand for, here and beyond. As international students, we have and will suffer the brunt of rising xenophobia here in UK for the foreseeable future, both on a bureaucratic and societal level. We are interrogated at the border and in the university for being (too) radical. We get interrogated in activist spaces for not being (the right kind of) radical. We desperately need some form of hospitality in this hostile environment.

Solidarity requires that we *listen*, and are transformed by our act of camaraderie. Solidarity means being acutely aware of one's own privilege in relation to people who are

oppressed and hurt by the same colonial, capitalist modernity in ways that are not the same. Solidarity means that you are affected by experiences that are not your own, by people who are not of your movement, of your gender, of your class, of your age, of your ability, and more. We can teach one another how to be attuned to the dynamics of power between those who ask for solidarity, and those who get to take it for granted. We can teach each other the difference between philanthropy, and genuine, mutual camaraderie.

Whatever we do or learn here has resonance beyond Cambridge, and beyond the UK. It is us who will take it forward, and will take it beyond. It is here and us that can demonstrate how decolonisation is a global process. It is here that we learn how eurocentrism and ethnocentrism leaves no space for nuance, for understanding, for genuine camaraderie, and for internationalist politics.



Colonial modernity did not just create a hierarchy between the west and the rest. It created borders in between. It erased histories in common. We have to have a sense and understanding of history, where the west did and does not constitute the centre of our universe, or the limits of our imagination. We need to cross the borders in between, to create an internationalism armed against chauvinism in all colors. We need to *recover* the stories we have in common, that testify against eurocentric or ethnocentric history, and their fatalism. And we need more narratives, our narratives, of global trespassers and agitators, past and present, to create a world that is no longer hostile to racial, gendered, and social difference.



CAMBRIDGE MIGRANT SUPPORT

facebook.com/CamMigrantSup

twitter.com/CamMigrantSup

fmgk2@cam.ac.uk

Cambridge Migrant Support is newly set up this year in coordination with WomCam, working to support those in detention, particularly at Yarl's Wood, and resisting the violent enforcement of borders. We hold fundraisers for grassroots organisations that directly support migrants, as well as workshops & training about how detention works and how to support detainees. We want to build relationships with similar groups, in both Cambridge and the UK more broadly, and with detainees/ex-detainees to strengthen the anti-borders campaign and provide practical support to migrants. We will also continue to attend the protests that are held at Yarl's Wood – WomCam has organised transport for these over the past few years.



Detention in the UK is kept quiet - it's a clear example of state violence against migrants, especially those who are also part of other oppressed groups (eg LGBT+ or PoC migrants). It's racist, xenophobic and has no valid basis.

In the UK, more than 30,000 people are detained each year and the UK is the only European country to have no upper time limit on detention. There are 8 detention centres in the UK, as well as some short-term holding facilities and some migrants being held in prison under immigration powers. Yarl's Wood is a detention centre located about an hour away from Cambridge in Bedfordshire and the vast majority of detainees there are women.

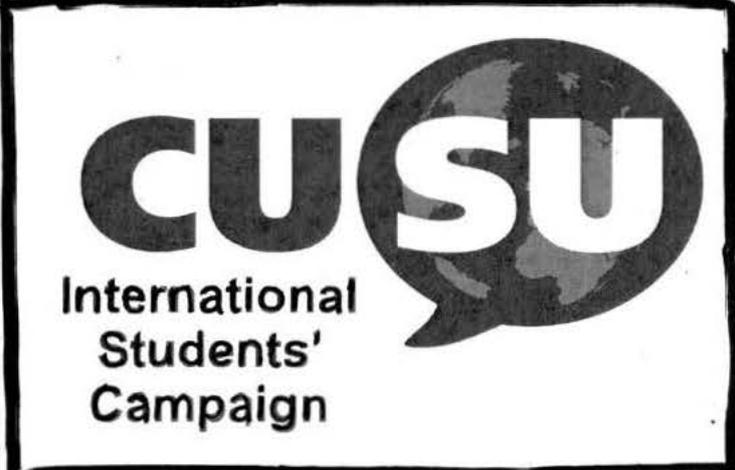
Border controls are enforced under the guise of 'national security', however are actually implemented by the state to help it create an image of 'otherness', allowing an idea of 'us vs them' to foster nationalism and help the government maintain its power.

CUSU International (iCUSU) is the umbrella body for all international societies and students at the University of Cambridge. We serve as a hub for all international activities in Cambridge, whilst looking out for the rights and wellbeing of international students.

international-chair@cusu.cam.ac.uk

facebook.com/iCUSU

international.cusu.cam.ac.uk



CUSU
International
Students'
Campaign



iCUSU aims to promote international cultures in Cambridge through events like the cultural food fair, but it also provides a voice for international students. Right now our focus is on increased transparency from the uni - we're currently conducting research on college inequality on issues relevant to international students. We also want to voice international students' concerns on a national level in order to make up for our lack of UK voting rights on issues that affect us, like fee rises, visa issues, and the Prevent legislation.

African Society of Cambridge University

ascu@cusu.cam.ac.uk / ascu.president@gmail.com

facebook.com/groups/africansocietycambridgeuni

africatogether.org.uk/

ASCU intends to build links between Africans and non-Africans in Cambridge, creating a platform for networking and debate on issues of Pan-African importance, fostering research capacity within Africa, and mentoring prospective African students.

Since 2013, ASCU has provided a community and home for African students in particular to debate, make friends, learn, dispel stereotypes, represent our collective interests, and strengthen ties across the continent. However, we're open to anyone interested in learning more about Africa, no matter their discipline, nationality, or student status.

SOME OF WHAT WE DO...

Africa Together Conference, a leading platform that convenes some of Africa's best minds representing the diversity of the continent to construct/deconstruct narratives about our individual and collective lived experiences, and to discuss issues of critical importance to the continent's present and future.

Africa Over Coffee, a monthly meet to discuss issues relating to Africa over a cup of coffee/tea. Topics of discussion in the past year varied from slavery in Libya, to women's empowerment, to Zimbabwe after Mugabe.

Support for Peter, a solidarity campaign to demand the immediate safe release of Cambridge PhD student Peter Biar Ajak, who has been detained by the South Sudanese government with no clear reason.

THE BLACK CANTABS



RESEARCH SOCIETY

ourblackcantabs@gmail.com

blackcantabs@cusu.cam.ac.uk

The Black Cantabs Research Society (BCRS) aims to uncover Cambridge University's forgotten Black students by highlighting their profiles, experiences and achievements at Cambridge. This is a historical project that illuminates the lost legacies of Black Cantabs, but also a political project that critiques the fact that these histories were "forgotten" in the first instance. The BCRS provides a space for past, present, and future Black Cantabs to find their home at the University of Cambridge.

PRESIDENT: SURER MOHAMED

[@ourblackcantabs](https://twitter.com/ourblackcantabs)

blackcantabs.com



Henry Louis Gates Jr.
(Clare College '79)



Thandie Newton
(Downing College '95)



Zadie Smith
(Kings College '97)



Dianne Abbott
(Newnham College '76)



Kwame Anthony Appiah
(Clare College '75, '81)



momentum

Find us on Facebook:

"Momentum Society Cambridge University"

cambridge

Momentum Society, MomSoc for short, is a society for students who are dedicated to the support of left-wing leadership in the Labour Party.

Activism

Every term we have at least one TGM (termly general meeting); this is where we decide on any pressing issues within the university or nationally that we want to get involved with campaigning for/against. Previously we have been involved in supporting the UCU strikes and held campaign training sessions.

Socials

Roughly every fortnight MomSoc organises socials, our two favourites being 'Nationalise Spoons' and 'Pints and Policy' (P&P). P&P is more structured debates on issues but we end up discussing politics whatever the setting! These events are enjoyable with or without alcohol so please don't feel discouraged to come along.

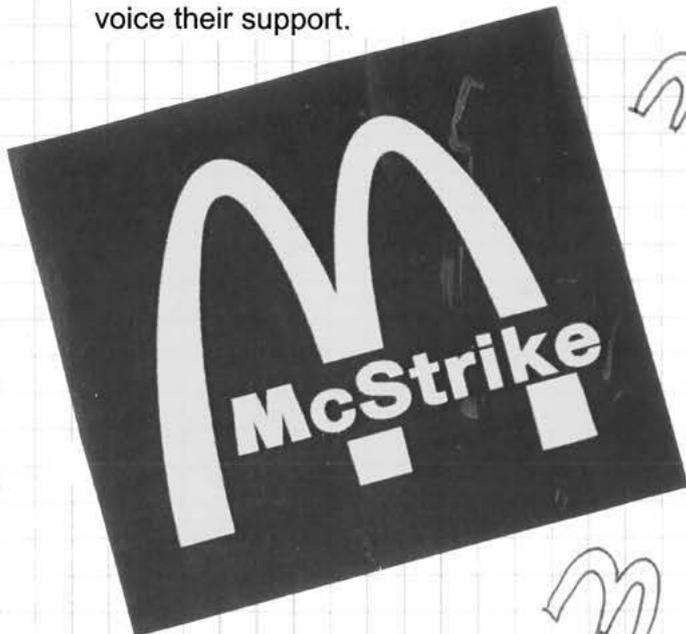
Every term we aim to host an event on a big topic in the left-wing sphere. Last year this included talks on Brexit and Venezuela.

Discussion

We hope to see new people at our events this year!

McDonald's UK workers are striking for the first time in UK history, to demand a living wage of £10 an hour and an end to youth rates, the option of guaranteed working hours, and for their right to a union to be respected.

On International Workers' Day in 2018, staff at the McDonald's branch in Newmarket walked out to take a stand for justice, and were joined by supporters from student organising groups and trade unions. Politicians and members of the general public also came out to voice their support.



A year earlier, workers at stores in Crayford and Cambridge walked out on the first ever McStrike in the UK, following the footsteps of tens of thousands of fast food workers striking across the US as part of the Fight for \$15 movement.

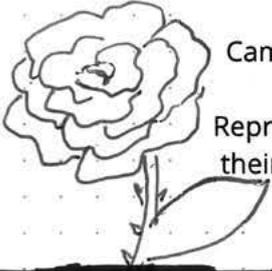
Solidarity with the McStrike Campaign is one way in which students can actively work to bridge the "town and gown" divide. Follow @fastfoodrights on Twitter/other social media and stay connected with CDE for updates.



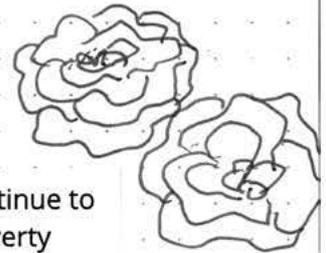
Cambridge Universities' Labour Club (CULC) is a Labour Party affiliated group representing Cambridge University and Anglia Ruskin students. We campaign alongside local activists to get Labour candidates elected who stand for the values we care about.

If you are passionate about politics and care about national and local issues, canvassing local people is an incredibly rewarding experience, and a great way to get involved in the city we live in. CULC played a central role in the re-election of Daniel Zeichner as MP in 2017 and in an increased majority for Labour on Cambridge City Council this May.

We are proud of our recent successes, and we can achieve a lot more with your support. Working with CUSU, the local Labour Party and other university societies, CULC has put pressure on Cambridge University to sign up to the Living Wage, and we're now working towards getting all the colleges and ARU to do the same. For this to happen, we make use of our brilliant College Representative System who share the group's message with their fellow college students and lobby their college to adopt change. Being a college rep is a great way for you to get involved with us and stay close to your college's needs.



Cambridge Universities Labour Club



CULC has campaigned to improve Mental Health provisions in the University and we will continue to lobby the universities and colleges for better pay, welfare provision as part of our Period Poverty Campaign headed by our Women's Officer and more! Each term we also run a main club campaign, which this term will be a Housing Campaign, targeting the exorbitant price of housing and accommodation in Cambridge for both students and local people. Come to our Housing Campaign steering meeting to learn more about the intricacies of this issue, meet the activists committed to improving this problem and offer your inputs on how to shape this campaign.

CULC is not only about representing the Labour Party at the university level; CULC is about representing your needs, your opinions and your views to those responsible for making decisions in our university and shaping national policy for real change. If you are passionate about a political issue and want to be part of a group that shares your value, you will find that CULC is the club for you to campaign with!



There's loads of ways to get involved;

- Come to one of our events: we have socials, speakers and discussion events
- Become a member of CULC: you'll get a badge and a membership card!
- Come to a canvassing session: you don't need to have been before, you'll get paired with an experienced canvasser and will be provided with all the support that you need
- Become your college rep to help us coordinate our activism



Contact us at culcchair@gmail.com or on Facebook at **Cambridge Universities' Labour Club**, and look out for our banner at campaigning events across the university.

MARXIST STUDENT FEDERATION



Lenin famously stated: 'without revolutionary theory, there can be no revolutionary movement'. In that vein we organise regular political discussions on contemporary and historical events, to tease out the lessons we can draw and sharpen our perspective. It is by understanding the world around us that we hope to also change it. However, we are not just a discussion group. Beyond theoretical discussion, we also intervene in the labour movement, participating in union action and in our local labour movement branches. We aim also to act as a voice of organised labour within the student movement. It is through demonstrating and agitating against the broken status quo that we hope to turn outwards with bold, socialist demands. If you want to rid the world of the capitalist system, there is no solution greater than Marxism! We meet at 7.00 pm, every Wednesday in the Munby Room in Kings. You can also find us on Facebook to find out more about the society.

The Cambridge Marxist Society is
a proud member of the Marxist
Student Federation. We fight for
Socialism in our lifetime on an
international basis.

This means
we seek to
overthrow
capitalism
which serves
to oppress,
exploit
and divide the
working class.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

FACILITATION

So you're part of a campaign that you're passionate about, or perhaps you've just joined one and you're excited at the prospect of changing all those things that have made you feel so shit for so long. You've got a group of incredible people ready to transform the world (or at least your corner of it). You're committed to organising in a way that avoids replicating the oppressive structures you're trying to fight, and you know that material change cannot come about without effective campaigning, but that's where all the trouble begins. Effective campaigning means communication and often, in our attempts at horizontal organising, collective decision making. And that means meetings. So, so many meetings. And all too often, the most promising campaigns can be ground to a halt because of an inability to run meetings that are productive, accessible, and uplifting rather than draining.

What's the secret? Meetings don't have to be awful; in fact they should be exciting opportunities for us to gather ourselves, to plan, reflect, and participate in a collective vision of the space we're trying to create. Unfortunately, despite all our best intentions, activist groups are not immune to systematic oppressions and inequalities. Activism

involves a recognition that we're all fallible and operating within a layered system of oppressions, whilst simultaneously always maintaining the belief that we can break out of them. Which brings us back to those meetings. We all work so hard to create the space to organise, and when we do it's often fraught - our work is difficult, the fight is long and hard and deeply personal - and there's almost always a seemingly endless list of discussion points.

In non-hierarchical organising there is no set leader or chairperson, but the role of facilitator is commonly used to enable the smooth running of a meeting. Every individual in the meeting should be actively self-facilitating, and evaluating their own participation in the space and in relation to others - but let's talk for a second about the individual who has (hopefully) volunteered to be the nominal facilitator for a meeting.

CONT'D OVER LEAF... →

→ FACILITATION CONT.

The most important lesson I've learned in facilitating is not just to listen to all the voices in the room, to take note of who is speaking, for how long, and what exactly they're saying, but also to listen to what is *not* being said. Facilitation is far more than just numbering the hands that you see waving urgently in the air and sitting back to let discussion commence. Facilitation means collating ideas and enabling concrete group decisions to be made. If done well, it can transform a meeting space, and have a significant impact on the actions taken when everyone leaves the meeting room. If people feel that their opinions have been voiced and their concerns heard, whether new or experienced they will feel like they have a stake in what happens next, and this is crucial in building a movement. Facilitation is also something that everyone can do, and everyone can do *well*.

Always have an agenda planned before the meeting that the facilitators can read over, and have someone volunteer to take notes (not the same person every time!). Ground rules and hand signals should be recapped at the beginning of every meeting - we all need a reminder once in a while - and this is a good opportunity for the facilitator to initiate a 'temperature check' to gauge the energy of the room.

Decide on what consensus will mean for your group. Does every decision have to be 100% agreed on? 80%? A good facilitator will act like a radio receiver, picking up on the different vibes in the room and synthesising ideas to formulate a conclusion that the group can reach consensus on. But they are also the ultimate delegator; it's the group's responsibility to step up and say what they need, and the facilitator's to guide discussion, encourage participation, and to have the confidence to challenge any behaviour that threatens the ground rules of the space.



Two heads are better than one; co-facilitation enables you to swap in and out if one of you is tired, or if a decision needs to be made that one of you has a stake in. Crucially, one of you can timekeep. Agree how much time should be spent on each discussion point at the start of the meeting; timings should include rest breaks, as well as a final cut off point - when the time you agreed is up, the meeting is over. Stop five minutes beforehand to run through action points, and to arrange the next meeting.

Good facilitation makes meetings not only bearable, but productive; the campaign not only functioning, but successful. But above all, listen to yourself, and listen to others. Remember to treat each other with compassion, because we are all still learning; and keep in mind the joy that we are fighting for, together.

BUT WAIT! THERE'S MORE!

A few of the other groups in Cambridge

In the city

Common Cambridge / activist group affiliated to Plan C, "towards a city of the commons and against capital" / www.facebook.com/commoncambridge

Cambridge Commons / a local residents' group focused on raising awareness of inequality in Cambridge / www.thecambridgecommons.org/

Cambridge Action / a platform for anyone involved/interested in broad-based political action in Cam / cambridgeaction17.wixsite.com/home

Cambridge Left Unity / a network active in movements and campaigns across the left, working to create an alternative to the main political parties / www.facebook.com/CambridgeLeftUnity

Foodcycle Cambridge / Community meals for vulnerable people made from surplus food / www.foodcycle.org.uk/location/cambridge

Jimmy's / supports the Cambridge homeless community / www.jimmyscambridge.org.uk



In Cambridge University: There are many other groups, organisations, societies and campaigns, including:

Philiminality / global, interdisciplinary philosophy / fb.com/philiminalitycambridge

Immoral Sciences Club / for women in philosophy / fb.com/immoralsciences/

Ethics in Mathematics Society / cueims.soc.srcf.net/

Radical Archives / contact camradhistoryarchives@gmail.com

Blueprint Zine / mental health magazine / fb.com/blueprintzine

PEN / defend & promote freedom of expression, remove barriers to literature / fb.com/officialcambridgeunipen

Cooperatives

Argyle Street Housing Cooperative / offering shared accommodation, opposing discrimination and supporting democratic housing decision-making / www.ash.coop

Arjuna Wholefoods / Workers' co-operative fully and equally owned by those who work here, selling vegetarian & vegan food / www.arjunawholefoods.co.uk/about

Ace Nursery School / Parents' coop for children aged 1+ / <http://www.ace-nursery-school.org.uk>

Local Trade Unions: Beyond UCU in Cambridge Uni, there are lots of other friendly unions, including:

Unite / Unison / GMB / FBU / BFAWU

Reading Groups: there are lots - contact the person running it to join, or start your own **Theorising Race & Racism reading group** / hosted at the Faculty of Education, open to all / cpgjcam.net/reading-groups/theorising-race-and-racism-in-education/

Platform Capitalism Reading Group / cpgjcam.net/reading-groups/platform-capitalism-reading-group/

Space, Borders, Power / cpgjcam.net/space-borders-power/

The Intersection of Gender, Race and Disability with Philosophy of Science / www.hps.cam.ac.uk/news-events/seminars-reading-groups/gender-race-disability

Paper 0 - Neglects of Neoclassical Economics / Cambridge Society for Economic Pluralism / www.cambridgepluralism.org/paper-0.html

Education & Activism / info at www.cusu.co.uk / contact education@cusu.cam.ac.uk



WORDS OF WISDOM

FROM DEPARTING ORGANISERS

1 Resist the temptation of being "that person" who signs up to do everything,

2 remember that it is okay to be tired,

3 take time off

(The whole point of organizing is that it is a collective exercise)

4 Don't be afraid to make mistakes - accept being called out with grace, and with an eye to learning how to be better.

5 remember to be as generous with yourself as you are with others. And sometimes, generosity just means allowing yourself to believe in the possibility of better.

I don't like the word "activist" because political change doesn't come from big and performative acts of bravado - more than anything, it is the solidarity that we build from talking to and learning from one another in our day to day life that allows us to ultimately achieve our goals. When we work together towards this vision, we emerge stronger and more prepared to tackle the world's challenges - and there is always so much more work to do.

Jun Pang

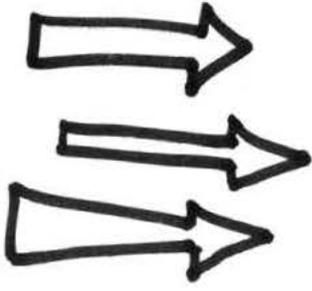


you may begin to doubt if what you're doing is of any use at all -

You may become cynical.

exercise good faith as far as possible that the people around you are invested in

liberation, and that a liberatory politics is possible.



Remember that you always have something to learn both practical and theoretical. Be open to criticism and ensure that you have a life outside of organising! Protect those other hobbies fiercely, take breaks and step back if you are feeling overwhelmed. Try as much as possible to know your history and to learn about the work of activists that have come before, what they tried, what worked and what didn't. Remember that theory without practice in a place like Cambridge is meaningless and be wary of the people who sit around reading theory all day but refuse to be involved in the practical aspects of organizing. Document everything.

My first advice would be: get involved!

Don't worry if you feel like you don't know

enough! Activist and organising groups

should be spaces where you feel comfortable

expressing that you still need to learn about certain things



*mindset
grounded*

If you're already experienced in political organising or activism, then be the one to bring other people in! Saying hi to a new face, encouraging them to come back to a meeting, helping them out if they're unsure or shy are kindnesses, but they're also a crucial part of organising because they help to build the movement. Don't let the role of being the friendly face fall only on certain people — try your best to make sure that everybody in the group is welcoming and accepting of new people. Make sure that everybody feels as though their presence is valued and that they have a role to play; let people take on tasks even if they're inexperienced, and have patience with them.

Take care of yourself, and of each other.

Caring for each other and for yourself is an

important part of activist work too.

recognise when you are

over-exerting yourself



Remember that you do not organise just to win. You organise because the

oppressive conditions of the institution require an urgent response. Sometimes it might feel that like that response is not adequate or successful but it is important to you do it anyway. Sometimes you will not win and that is okay, see yourself as part of continuous cycle of people who have been doing resistance work in Cambridge for a long time. Clear the path for others and bring them in, give them the tools you wish you had when you started getting involved in student activism. Be kind to the people you organise with and be sensitive to the fact that they will make mistakes and disappoint you in various ways.



don't let the

accusation of "divisiveness"

stop you from naming problems

when and where you

see them.



LOLA OLUFEMI

-WRITE EVERYTHING DOWN!

Do not let men invent themselves as the thought leaders of the organising space or let charisma blind you to their flaws. They do not have the most interesting or radical ideas all the time. Do not let facilitation and conflict resolution become women's work. It is work for everyone.

2012



Protest outside Cambridge Union against Dominique Strauss-Kahn, acquitted for rape, 2012.

Photo: Devon Buchanan



Reclaim the Night rally with Anglia Ruskin Students' Union and WomCam, 2013.

Photo: David Hurley / WomCam

2013

from the archive



Cambridge Defend Education presents

WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
11AM-4PM

FREE UNIVERSITY CAMBRIDGE

A one day teach-in for #freeeducation



A space in which ideas and hopes for free education can be explored, and action planned. Come to challenge, to show support and solidarity, to learn and to teach. There will be free tea and cake, banner making, workshops, speakers and discussion. The day is a building project for the national demonstration on 19th November in support of free education.

2014

Book Bloc at the Free Education Demo in London, 2015

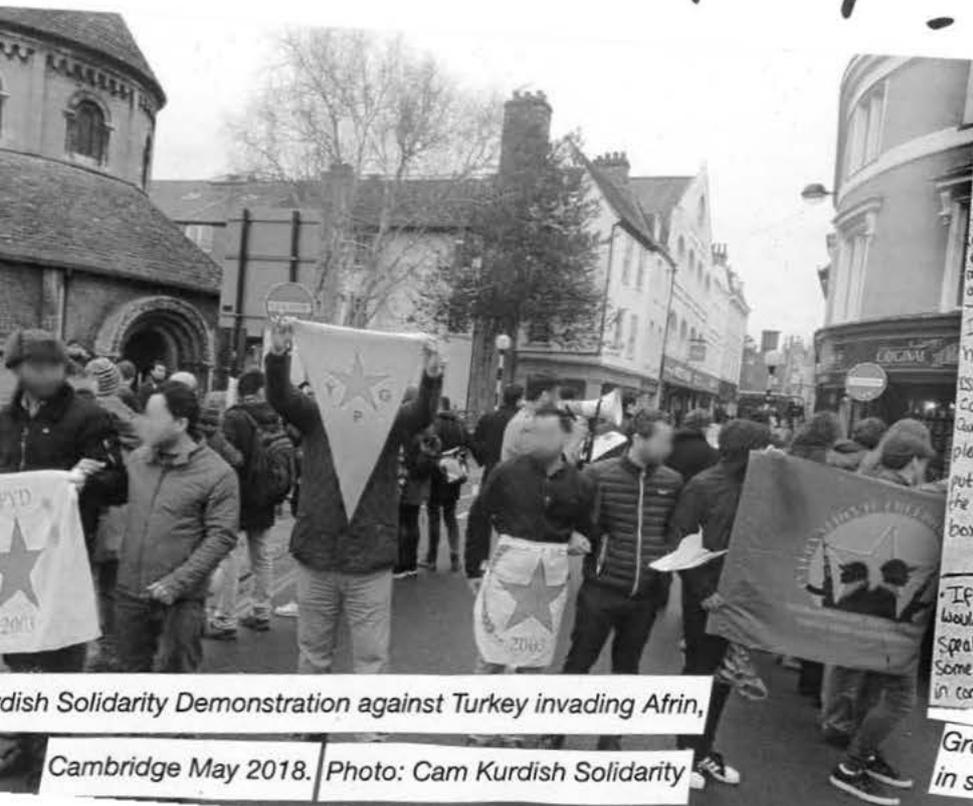


2015



Critical Theory & Practice seminar on Rethinking the Origins of Capitalism: Beyond the Eurocentric Cage, 2015

2018



Kurdish Solidarity Demonstration against Turkey invading Afrin, Cambridge May 2018. Photo: Cam Kurdish Solidarity

WELCOME EVERYBODY!

Please read our **GROUND RULES** for keeping the space lovely!

We should:

- all be looking after each other as much as we are able!
- If you have ANY issues, concerns, queries please do put them in the suggestions boxes.
- If you would like to speak to some one in confidence.

- ANYONE CAN LEAVE AT ANY TIME - NO JUDGEMENT!! (SOMEONE TO ESCORT YOU OUT TWO)
- BE RESPECTFUL OF OTHERS' NEEDS
 - ↳ quiet spaces, alone time, etc
 - ↳ accessibility, dietary reqs.
- ACTIVE CONSIDERATION OF RACE/GENDER/CLASS/ABILITY DYNAMICS
- IN MEETINGS: LISTEN + BE SENSITIVE TO ALL IN THE SPACE.
- ACTIVE INCLUSION, WELCOMING, * * *
- CLEAN UP AFTER OURSELVES!!
- NO DAMAGING OR TAKING OF STUFF
- NO ALCOHOL, DRUGS, SHOUTING
- EATING: OUTSIDE / CAFE ONLY PLEASE!

Ground rules from Greenwich House Occupation in support of fossil fuel divestment. 2010

LEFT-XICON: AN ACTIVIST GLOSSARY

Some Basics

Capitalism: socio-economic system of private ownership, exploitation and inequality

Class: group of people sharing common relations to how a society/economy is produced and organised

Marketisation: turning something into a market for commodities. See *Spotlight on Marketisation*

Colonialism: domination by a group over others with military/economic/cultural/political tools

Decolonisation: abolishing that^, and liberating people from that domination. See *Spotlight on Decolonisation*

Gender: sociocultural concept that arbitrarily divides people into (usually) two groups and fucks all of them over in the process

Sex: gender in a lab coat - a complicated set of physical characteristics often incorrectly modelled as a binary, with shitty consequences. not as simple as they tell you in biology class

Trans(/cis): when someone's gender assigned at birth does not(/does) match their identified gender. See *CUSU LGBT+*

Non-binary (NB): genders outside of the male/female binary

Sexuality: how people desire others, lots of options here

Queer: political identification working to abolish the sex/gender system

Racialisation/racism: social practice of sorting people into hierarchies of domination based on supposed common characteristics

BME: 'Black and Minority Ethnic' - general UK term for people racialised as anything other than white. See *BME Campaign*

Borders: imaginary lines that force people to live in certain places and prevent them from moving freely

Disability: a characteristic of a person who society has decided should be deliberately excluded and then told that the problem lies in them, rather than in an inaccessible society

Intersectionality: forms of oppression interact in complex ways; we need to fight all oppression

Cambridge University (CU)/uni-related

ARU: Anglia Ruskin University. CU members should organise more with ARU

CUSU: Cambridge University Students Union, represents all students at CU

GU: Graduate Union, represents grad students (Masters/PhD) at CU

UCU: University & Colleges Union, represents working staff at CU. See *UCU group page*

Defined Benefit / Defined Contribution: types of pension schemes, UCU went on strike over these in 2018

Endowment: Pot of money invested to make the uni money. CU+colleges have the largest uni endowment in Europe, roughly £5bn

Divestment: selling assets/shares, usually for political or moral reasons. CU should divest from fossil fuels, the arms trade, etc. See *Zero Carbon*

BDS: Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign, esp against Israeli oppression of Palestine. See *Pa/Soc*

PREVENT: Part of the British government's 'counter-terrorism' mess. See *Spotlight on Prevent*

UCS: University Counselling Service provides mental health services to members of CU

Old Schools / Greenwich House: CU administrative buildings, both occupied in 2018 and before

North-West Cambridge: CU's pet major land and housing development project, a major financial drain

CSA: Cambridge Service Alliance works with corporations including Caterpillar/BAE which are linked to the arms trade and illegal Israeli occupations. See *Demilitarise Cambridge*

Reclaim the Night: Annual march to reclaim bodily autonomy and walk the streets without fear of violence. See *WomCam*



Activist Practice

Direct action: collectively/individually bringing about change yourself, not waiting for others to act for you

Facilitation: helping a meeting go well by ensuring everyone has balanced opportunities/ability to speak etc.

See *Spotlight on Facilitation*

FOI: Freedom of Information Request. Can be used w/CU and colleges. See www.whatdotheyknow.com

Memes: A replacement for decent mental health services. See also *Doggos*

Occupation: taking and holding physical space to force action (e.g. from uni management), build links within a movement, run educational events, etc.

Pronouns: how you'd like to be referred to (e.g. she/he/they), usually asked for at the start of meetings

Solidarity: assisting someone outside of your community on *their* terms

Strike (Industrial Action): workers take collective action, notably refusing to work, for political-economic ends

Zine: quick, cheap, paper publication for popular political/creative expression

There are loads of other terms you might come across on your journey.
But it's dangerous to go alone! Take this: <https://tinyurl.com/camglossary>



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The people who made the 2012 UCSC Disorientation Guide (& AK) who inspired much of this.
The activists in Cambridge over the years who have left a path for us to follow.

The many hours that people contributing to this guide have poured in, both to put it together, and more generally to make the university a less shit and more caring space.

Thanks to @yeyeigomez & @esrabecan for additional illustration work.
Thank you in particular to **Footprint** [@FootprintLeeds] for printing this, and thank you very much to **Firefund** [@firefundnet] for hosting the crowdfunding so that we could print! (firefund.net/disorientationguide)





12 PINTS PRESS was formed during the UCU pensions strike to produce a Disorientation Guide, intent on building student power towards a collective future. We are an independent publishing group based in Cambridge, UK.

The name comes from a poster made during the occupation of Senate House in March 2018 which reads: "£9000? That's like... twelve pints in Cambridge."