



Nonviolence for a change 2011-2012 course info

4 May 2011

Dear Applicant,

About the course

Thank you for your interest in Turning the Tide's course 'Nonviolence for a Change.' Turning the Tide has been training and helping activists develop their facilitation skills and campaign visions and strategies for nearly 20 years.

This is the third run of our year-long course and this year it will be hosted by Huddersfield Quakers and supported by various local peace and social justice groups. The course will run from September 2011 to June 2012, meeting one Saturday a month, with the exception of two residential weekend sessions that intend to deepen people's understanding of the content and build a strong group.

As in previous years, you can sign up for the whole course, or just dip into the sessions that interest you. Our courses tend to be oversubscribed and we anticipate a similar response for the 2011-2012 course. So get in touch as soon as you can if you'd like to participate either in the whole course or particular workshops.

Dates and Themes for the Huddersfield 2011 – 2012 course

24 September 2011 Nonviolence, a dangerous idea	17- 19 February Is everybody happy? Tools for effective group work
15 October Playing with power 1: Understanding the system	17 March The living revolution: building the alternative
19 November Playing with power 2: Changing the system	21 April Inner and outer: spirituality and activism
17 December Campaigners do it together! How we make change	18 – 20 May We can do that! Empowerment for social change
21 January 2012 Don't just sit there! Exploring direct action	16 June Celebrating Nonviolence

- All one-day workshops run from 10am until 5.15pm.
- February and May workshops are for year-long course members only. They are residential weekends (Friday evening 7pm to Sunday 2pm) near Huddersfield. All accommodation and food costs for the weekends are included in the course fee. Participants are expected to pay their own transport to the venue.

What you can expect from the course

We believe that it's not just what you do that matters, it's how you do it. We are part of a large and diverse movement working for an inclusive and just world where people feel empowered, connected and responsible, these are the starting points for all our workshops.

We strive to make our workshops as participatory, inclusive and dynamic as possible. We use a variety of methods (presentation of information, large and small group discussions, role plays, games, multimedia resources, action activities, etc) in order to take into account a range of learning-styles and ways of processing and working with information. Our way of working aims to create a space for participants to share their own experiences to build a collective and deeper understanding of the concepts or frameworks we are working with.

We also expect you to take responsibility for your learning and to participate at a level that is right for you. Stepping outside of our comfort zone may be scary and challenging and but it can also bring personal transformation, learning and growth. Going too far however takes us into the alarm zone where fear and distress shut down all learning possibilities. These boundaries are different for everyone, and only you know what is right for you.

Here's what some past participants have said about the course:

- *The course has been vital. I don't feel I was in a position to facilitate NV training before now, it feels like a foundation on which I can build future work. As an activist it has affected the way I think about and plan action and group work. I feel empowered by the course, braver and more able to act and support myself and those around me.*
- *It has been of IMMENSE use as I am new to this area. The course explained the basics and allowed the space to exchange views and information amongst the group – so valuable as there were many experienced people attending.*
- *It was indeed a commitment to come every month but it worked for me! The workshop is fun and I just did things on the spot without thinking much. But I reflected a lot in between and it brought me a lot of awareness.*

Application process for year-course and one-day participant list

We strive to have a good mix of participants in our workshops. We look for people already involved in a group trying to make change happen, as well as people who'd like to be more active and be part of a group, but are not sure of how to get started. The people in our workshops have a wide range of social concerns and are in different places in terms of development and understanding about activism and social change. One thing you do have in common is that you know the world doesn't have to be this way and together using nonviolence we can make the changes we'd like to see.

We ask people interested in joining the whole course to submit an application telling us a bit about yourself and we may follow up your application with a chat over the phone.

If you are interested only in certain workshops, then we ask that you get in touch and tell us a bit about yourself and why you are interested in the session. Space for one-day participants is limited, so it may

be that your name goes onto a waiting a list and we'll notify you as soon as we can when a space becomes available. It is our experience that we often have one or two last minute cancellations, so don't despair if you're a waiting list, space often opens up.

We know that the experiential way we work is of most value to smaller groups (20 to 30 people), for this reason places are limited. We welcome one-day participants, valuing the fresh perspective and networking opportunities they bring to the group. We anticipate that the year-group will be in the majority with a handful of spaces reserved for one-day participants. Because this is a popular course, and it's frequently oversubscribed we ask that people interested in taking part in the year-course seriously reflect on the time commitment, and arrange your diaries so that you are able to come to all or nearly all of the sessions. On the other hand if you're not sure you can commit to the whole course but would like to, you can start out signing up as a day-participants and see how it goes for you, later joining the year-group or not.

Selection Process

If you are interested in the year-course, please send us your completed application by 10 August 2011. We will be back in touch by 22 August to let you know the outcome of your application.

People interested in participating in particular workshops as a one-day event should get in touch to express your interest as soon as you can. We'll be back in touch in good time before the workshop to confirm that you are still interested/available and to take care of some administrative business.

Fees

The cost of the whole course is £350 and £35 for day-participants. If paying for the course in one advance lump sum a discounted fee of £300 is available. We also offer a three-part payment plan and urge you not to let fees prevent you from participating, ask us about concessions.

Participant Type & Course Fee

Participant Type	Course Fee	Payment dates
Year-course participant, one-off full payment	£300	Pay by 24 September 2011
Year-course participant, three-payments	£350	1 st payment by 24 September, £150 2 nd payment by 21 January, £100 3 rd payment by 21 April, £100
Day-participant	£35	Prior to, or on the day of the workshop

We hope this information has been helpful. If you have more questions see our website or give us a call.

www.turning-the-tide.org

Steve – 020 7663 1061 / steve@quaker.org.uk
Denise – 020 7663 1064 / denise@quaker.org.uk