



Synergia Institute

To Changemakers Everywhere

Announcing a Unique Learning Opportunity – No Matter Where You Live

Towards Co-operative Commonwealth: Transition in a Perilous Century

4th Edition, 2022

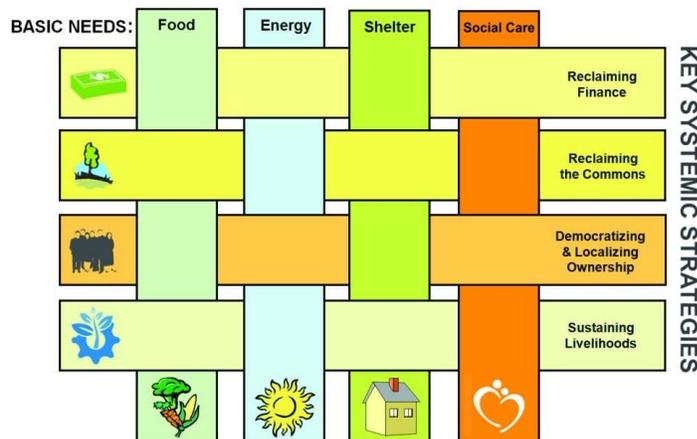
Feb. 7 - June 24

Registration Opens Dec. 15

IF you are interested in . . .

- Making sense of the complex times we are living in
- Taking action to build a more just world
- Focusing your purpose and priorities for long-term learning and effective action
- Learning to identify strategic points of leverage to advance systemic change
- Understanding effective strategies to advance climate action
- Collaborating peer-to-peer and in small groups to deepen your understanding of transformative ideas and practices for social change

Then, this internationally unique learning experience is for you! In this powerful online program, you will be exposed to an array of models and strategies for transformation across 8 modules



Open, On-Line, Interactive, Accessible
from Anywhere on the Net.

8 Modules - 2 weeks per Module

3 hours/week - 48 hours total

The program runs over 20 weeks and
includes two 2-week breaks. Learning
streams tailored to your time
commitment.

For further information and registration details, visit:

<https://synergiainstitute.org/2022-mooc-information/>

Course Overview

Time Commitment to complete the MOOC

- Each of the 8 modules runs for two weeks and requires 3 hours/week, totalling 48 hours over 16 weeks. A 2-week break follows Module 3 and Module 6.
- Week 1 of each module is devoted to reviewing video and text resources.
- Week 2 of each module is devoted to online collaborative exercises, synchronous group discussion, and individual written reflections.

Choice of Track

You can take the course on one of three tracks, depending how much time is available to you, your experience, and your life circumstances.

Explorer: You are aware of the many challenges we are facing and want to learn more about solutions and effective ways to make change happen. In each module you can commit 1.5 hours to Week 1 to review Explorer track materials and 2 hours in Week 2 to participate in exercises and discussion other explorers. This track thus involves spending 3.5 hours over each module.

Changemaker: You are familiar with many of the issues and have some experience in advancing positive social, political, environmental, and/or economic change. You want to broaden and deepen your capacity to connect issues, to analyze your context, and to target your efforts strategically. In each module you can commit at least 3 hours to both week 1 and week 2, for a total of 6 hours – reviewing content, doing exercises, and participating in small group discussions.

Deep Diver: You have significant experience with the issues under discussion and in efforts to mobilize change. Your time commitment is the same as that of the Changemakers. However, you also are interested and have the time to dig into supplementary resources and to dialogue with more experienced peers. The Deep Diver track is for experienced practitioners, educators, movement activists, researchers, and policymakers.

Peer Working Groups and Study Circles

- Every module integrates video and audio interaction among groups of 6-10 people.
- The groups are formed in the course of registration, based on your preferences of language, country, organization, network, primary sector interest, and experience level.
- Groups from the same organization, network, movement, or community of friends are encouraged to organize **Study Circles**. They are a way to strengthen mutual trust, draw on collective knowledge, and increase capacity for strategic action in the local context.
- A network or movement could **organize plenaries of Study Circles** to facilitate collective reflection and to generate ideas and critical reflection on strategy.
- For more information about leveraging Study Circles to foster action in your network go to <https://synergiainstitute.org/organizing-study-circle-and-action-groups/>
- An online whiteboard will be available for small groups to visualize, conceptualize, and co-construct ideas for strategic intervention.
- Plenary peer debates and guest speakers will be organized at various points.
- Opportunities to interact with module instructors are built into the program.

Certificates and Accreditation

- Certificates issued by the **Synergia Co-operative Institute** and **Athabasca University** will be available for those who complete the course.
- Graduate degree credits from Athabasca University will be offered on completion of the credit requirements.

Principled Pricing

Our fees are based on the principles of Solidarity, Reciprocity, and Sustainability. We are committed to ensuring that the MOOC is accessible to all, while making our work sustainable over the long term. Synergia provides a sliding scale of tuition fees so that anyone who is willing to invest the time can participate.

Full Fee: \$140 CAD

For those who are able to pay for "wants" and spend little time worrying about securing necessities.

Reduced Fee: \$70 CAD

For those with a steady income, but are struggling to conquer debt or move away from paycheck-to-paycheck living.

Solidarity Fee: \$ 0 - \$40

For those who struggle to maintain access to needs such as health care, housing, food, childcare, or are in significant debt.

Indigenous Peoples: Free worldwide for those who self-identify as Indigenous. This decision affirms Synergia's solidarity with the goals of reconciliation and reparation advanced by Indigenous people internationally and included in the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Reciprocity between Participants and Synergia

Participants will have opportunities to interact with each other and with instructors. Your learning will be shaped and enriched by the extent to which we all commit to listening, questioning, sharing, and engaging in dialogue. This is **reciprocity** in action.

For the Synergia team, your contribution is a **profound expression of both solidarity and reciprocity.** The fees you contribute will enable us to hire a younger and more diverse team of people to help us carry on Synergia's transition and systems change work in the years ahead.

Testimonials from the 2019 MOOC

I believe this course was extremely important and made the possibility of systems change feel achievable. It is easy to become overwhelmed. I am truly in awe of the effort and achievement of the course organizers, and I thank them for creating a remarkable integration of the many layers that make up our existence as humans in the community on this earth. Thank you.

This course exposed me to many different ideas that I had not met before. It has changed the way that I look at and evaluate issues. I have gone even further away from conventional thinking and ideas.

I shared articles and case examples/websites with colleagues.... I think from at least two of the modules, maybe three. The material was solid! It added new information and helped me make sense of it all. It was clear and compelling. I agree with folks who talked about the huge value it has!!!

Having access to a pool of ideas is essential for all of us to exercise our imaginations, by taking a dip whenever we wish. I will definitely recommend the resource to others, very useful for getting a group of people on the same wavelength to create further works.

I am considering using the course as a teaching tool in my local area, to get already active people with varying levels of understanding regarding what the group is actually up to the same level of thinking. I predict this will increase the effectiveness of our creations into the future. I will organize a group next time it is run.

After the course, my activism took a new dimension. I had things moving with less effort.