



Summer and Winter School on Human Trafficking

A Joint Learning Initiative by Free the Slaves and The Wilberforce Institute,
University of Hull



Overview

The Summer & Winter School on Human Trafficking is an intensive training program designed for professionals, researchers, and practitioners working to understand and combat human trafficking worldwide.

The program brings together leading scholars, policy experts, legal practitioners, and frontline organizations to explore human trafficking through a multidisciplinary lens.

Participants engage in an interactive learning environment that integrates research, policy, and practice, providing practical knowledge and tools to address trafficking in diverse global contexts.

The school combines:

- Expert lectures
- Interactive discussions
- Case studies from across the world
- Peer learning with an international cohort

Participants leave with a deeper understanding of modern slavery, trafficking dynamics, prevention strategies, legal frameworks, and survivor-centred responses.





Why a School on Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking remains one of the most pressing global challenges, affecting millions of people worldwide.

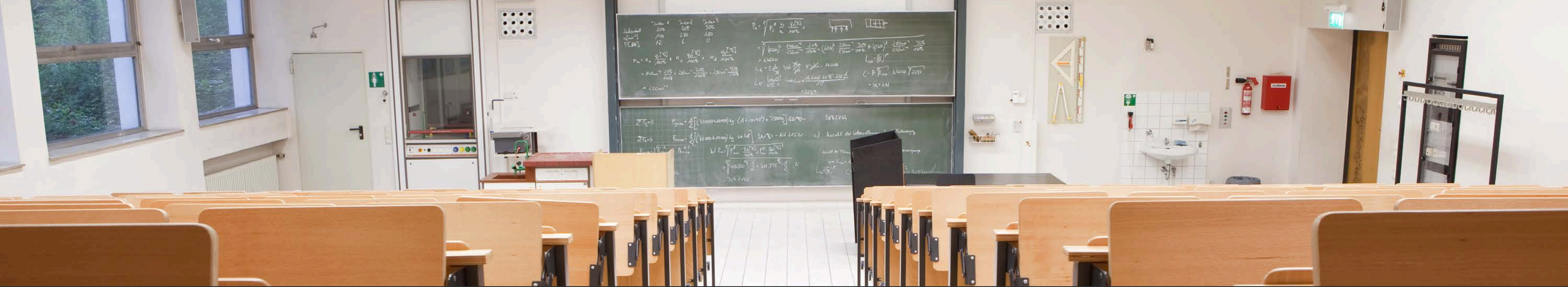
It intersects with:

- Conflict and humanitarian crises
- Migration and displacement
- Gender inequality and discrimination
- Organised crime
- Global supply chains
- Climate pressures
- Technology and digital exploitation

Addressing trafficking requires interdisciplinary knowledge and collaboration across sectors.

This program equips participants with evidence-based knowledge, analytical frameworks, and practical tools needed to tackle trafficking at local, national, and international levels.





Summer and Winter School
on Human Trafficking

Who is this Programme For?

This programme is designed for professionals and students working in fields related to trafficking, migration, human rights, development, and criminal justice.

Previous participants have included:

- NGO and civil society practitioners
- Researchers and academic scholars
- Lawyers and legal practitioners
- Humanitarian and development professionals
- Law enforcement professionals
- Graduate students

Participants typically come from multiple regions of the world, creating a rich environment for cross-regional learning and exchange.



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What Will I Gain?

By participating in the school, you will:

- Gain a comprehensive understanding of human trafficking and modern slavery
- Learn about international legal frameworks and policy responses
- Explore survivor-centered and rights-based approaches
- Analyse the structural drivers of trafficking, including inequality, migration systems, conflict, as well as other emerging determinants such as climate change
- Examine current prevention strategies and interventions
- Engage with experts working directly on anti-trafficking initiatives
- Build an international professional network

Participants also gain access to training resources, recommended readings, and practical case studies used in the program.



The 2026 Winter School on
Human Trafficking

CERTIFICATE
OF COMPLETION

This certifies that the recipient has successfully completed the 2026 Winter School on Human Trafficking, an intensive academic and professional development programme, jointly delivered by Free the Slaves and The Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull from January 26-30, 2026

Participant

What Certificate will I Receive?

Participants who successfully complete the program will receive a Certificate of Completion issued by The Wilberforce Institute at the University of Hull and Free the Slaves.

The certificate is a valuable addition to professional portfolios, academic CVs, and career development in the anti-trafficking field.



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What Does the Program Cover?

The school explores trafficking through a multidisciplinary and global perspective, including:

Key Themes

- Understanding human trafficking and modern slavery
- Global trafficking trends, measuring prevalence, and typologies
- International and regional legal frameworks
- Migration, labor exploitation, and supply chains
- Gender inequality, forced marriage, and forced child begging
- Conflict, humanitarian crises, and trafficking risks
- Survivor-centered and trauma-informed responses
- Prevention strategies and community engagement
- Technology, online exploitation, and organized crime
- Climate change and critical anti-trafficking studies



Teaching Approach



The program uses a participatory and interdisciplinary approach combining:

- Expert lectures
- Interactive seminars
- Group discussions
- Case studies from different regions
- Policy and legal analysis
- Peer learning and networking

Sessions are delivered by leading academics and practitioners working directly in the field of human trafficking and modern slavery.



Summer and Winter School
on Human Trafficking

Learning Format

The Summer and Winter school adopts a fully online format featuring

- Live lectures and discussions
- Interactive global classroom
- One week of intensive learning



Summer and Winter School
on Human Trafficking

What Participants Say



"I had the incredible opportunity to take part in the Winter School. Human trafficking was explored through an intersectional lens, connecting it with conflict, humanitarian crises, migration, gender and ethnic discrimination, climate pressures, technology, supply chains, and organised crime. The discussions were enriched by a worldwide cohort of experts and practitioners working across research, policy, law, and frontline responses."

Gilliane Brauen (Switzerland)



"The school offered a rigorous, interdisciplinary exploration of human trafficking and modern slavery, bringing together perspectives from law, policy, research, and practice. What I particularly valued was the emphasis on evidence-based, rights-focused, and survivor-informed approaches, as well as the opportunity to engage in thoughtful exchanges with a diverse international cohort. Even in an online format, the discussions were substantive and enriched by different regional and professional perspectives."

Lucas Bernabe Burt (Argentina)



"I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Winter School on Human Trafficking, a joint initiative by Free the Slaves and the Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull, made possible through a scholarship. Over five intensive days, the programme offered a rich, interdisciplinary exploration of human trafficking and modern slavery, integrating research, policy, and practice while focusing on survivor engagement, community participation, and structural drivers such as conflict, climate change, gender, disability, and inequality."

Abubakar Narudeen (Nigeria)



"I am honored to have completed the 2026 Winter School on Human Trafficking, delivered by Free the Slaves and the Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull. This program provided advanced interdisciplinary insights into human trafficking and modern slavery, emphasizing evidence-based strategies, policy responses, and survivor-centered approaches. The knowledge gained has strengthened my ability to address trafficking-related challenges within humanitarian, mental health, and global health contexts."

Muse Mohamed (Uganda)



What Participants Say

Technical Requirements for the Summer and Winter School



A computer or laptop



Ability to join live sessions
and discussions



Reliable internet connection



Access to email and the
learning platform

How to Apply

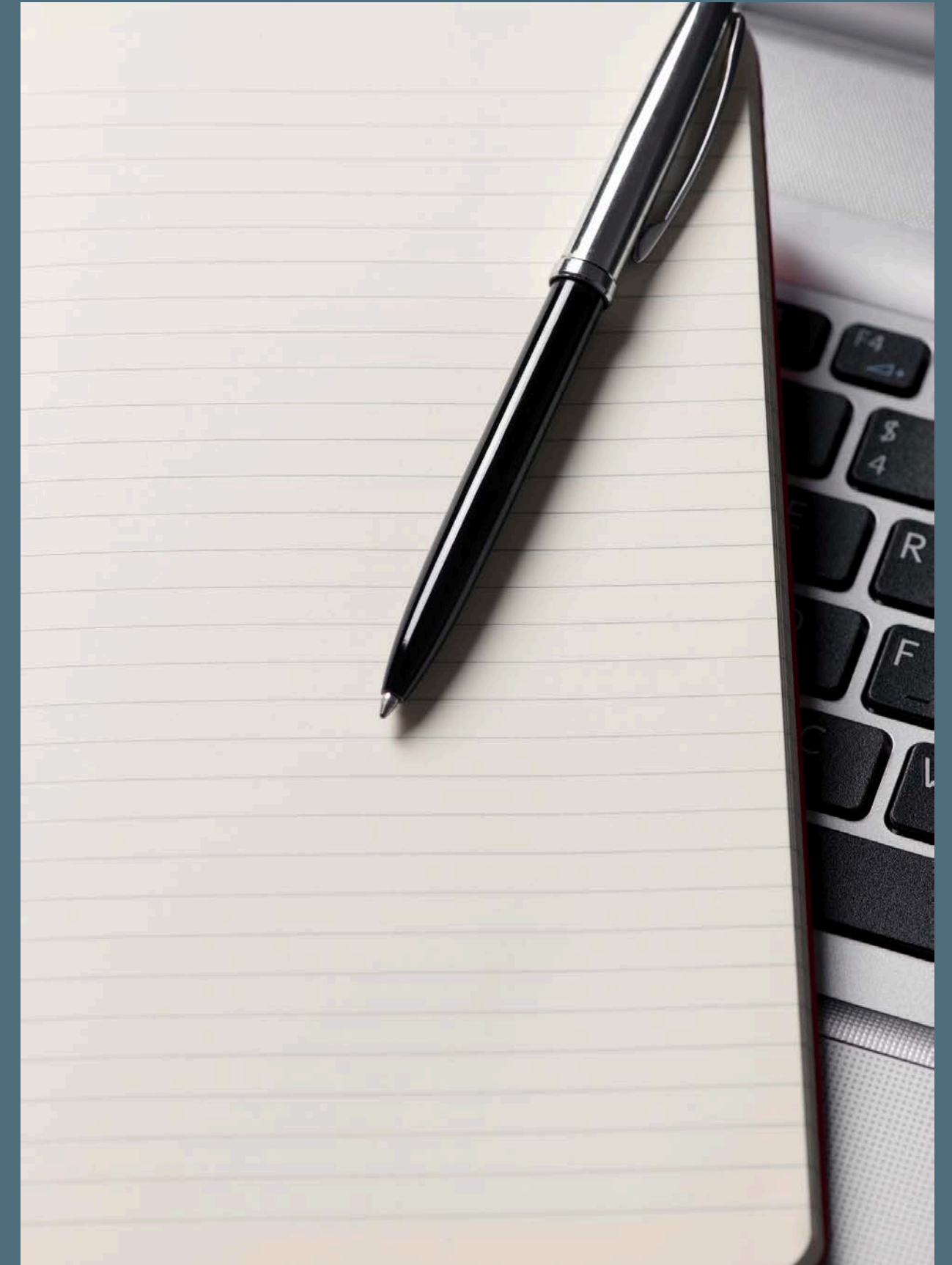


Applications are open to individuals and organisations sponsoring staff participants.

Applicants should submit:

- Completed application form
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Statement of motivation

Scholarships may be available for selected applicants.





About the Organisers



A leading international NGO dedicated to ending modern slavery worldwide through community-based prevention, survivor support, and systemic change.

A globally recognised research institute focusing on modern slavery, human trafficking, and rights-based responses to exploitation.

research@freetheslaves.net

wilberforce@hull.ac.uk