

‘THE WEST WING’ LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

The UGLE Solomon Program and ‘Mentors Notes’ The Square
Magazine.

3. Master Mason



Sussex Freemasons - West Group

'The West Wing'

(Bognor, Chichester, Clapham, Littlehampton,
Midhurst, Petworth, Pulborough, Steyning and
Worthing)

Contents

Introduction	2
Summary – The Master Mason Program	3
Solomon Masonic Education Program	5
Solomon Lodge Specific Quiz	7
Mentors Notes Master Mason Program Introduction	11
Mentors Notes – Lessons / Articles	15



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Introduction.

Unlocking Masonic Knowledge: The Learning and Development Journey.

Welcome to 'The West Wing' Learning and Development Programmes.

"Freemasonry, a profound journey of personal discovery, is enriched through the exploration of ritual, history, and traditions. Our commitment to fostering curiosity, understanding, and enjoyment is at the core of both the UGLE and the Province of Sussex, West Group, Learning and Development Programme." (UGLE Pathway Statement)

'The West Wing' Learning and Development Team.

Our Goal:

To enhance membership retention.

The Process:

To deliver a compelling personal development and learning value proposition.

Our Key Focus:

- To unlock Masonic Knowledge.
- To deepen the understanding of Masonic symbols.
- To highlight how Masonic symbols represent and develop essential soft skill sets.
- To foster personal growth and lifelong learning.
- To strengthen community and fraternal bonds.

Mission Statement

"Our mission is to foster an environment where lodge members (or Sussex Freemasons) thrive through personal development and lifelong learning. By unlocking the rich heritage of Masonic knowledge and deepening understanding of our symbols, we aim to cultivate essential skill sets that empower our members. We are dedicated to enhancing membership retention through a clear value proposition centred on growth, community, and the transformative power of Masonic teachings.



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Summary - The Master Mason Program.

A study of being a reflective man.

The L&D Team are very mindful that each learner is an individual who has their own learning style and level of learning. We have tried to accommodate each style by encapsulating the UGLE, Solomon programme, and enriched it with 'Mentors Notes' from The Square Magazine. Thus giving the learner a choice of learning methodology and an international flavour.

Solomon (pages 5 to 10)

A catechism (Q&A) and research style of learning. Suitable for independent study or guided learning with a personal mentor. This enables the learner to study at different levels within a set time frame. It includes a Lodge Specific Quiz..

Mentors Notes (pages 11 to 22)

A magazine style of presentation with video and audio enhancement enabling those learners with more visual and listening styles to enjoy their learning. The range of articles from various authors from around the world gives the learner a broad experience of 'Masonry Universal'. It includes in-app purchases for those learners who desire a deeper understanding of the Craft.

Enjoy your Freemasonry as it is a life long journey of personal growth and discovery.

The L&D Team.



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Solomon Masonic Education.

The Master Mason

This is the UGLE Solomon educational platform. This syllabus can enable the learner to follow the lessons of the Third Degree. It can be used as an aid to individual learning or as part of a Mentoring package.

Education Syllabus

Solomon - Welcome Master Mason

<https://solomon.ugle.org.uk/course/view.php?id=129>

Week 1

- The Raising Ceremony
- Working Tools
- Lodge of Union

Week 2

- The Tracing Board

Week 3

- Exhortation
- Charge
- Five Points of Fellowship

Week 4

- Apron
- Key Themes

Solomon - The Third Degree

<https://solomon.ugle.org.uk/course/view.php?id=81>

Week 5

- Password and Ceremony

Week 6

- The Hiram Legend

Week 7

- Features of the Degree



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Week 8

- Journey of Freemasonry

Week 9

- Grand Lodge Certificate
- The Royal Arch

Week 10

- The Next Steps



Lodge Specific Quiz.

Questions

Lodge

1. Who is your current Director of Ceremonies, Senior Warden and Junior Warden?
2. When was your Lodge consecrated or consolidated

Freemasonry and the Master Mason

1. The quest for the genuine secrets of a Master Mason is actually:
 - a. The quest for the Grail
 - b. An allegory for the transition to Royal Arch as an extension of the Third Degree
 - c. The quest for Self
 - d. An allegory for the transition to Mark Masonry as an extension of the Second Degree
2. What is a Centre?
 - a. An allegory for the Worshipful Master, who is the Centre of a Lodge
 - b. A point within a Circle, from which every part of the circumference is equidistant
 - c. An allegory for Self
 - d. A reference to the alter, located in the Centre of the Lodge Room
3. 'Darkness visible' refers to:
 - a. The Light of a Master Mason
 - b. Accepting death as part of life
 - c. The 'secrets of the Order' are only visible to Master Mason's
 - d. In darkness our mortal and sinful souls are still visible to the Great Architect

The Third Degree Working Tools

1. What are the Third Degree Working Tools?
 - a. Skirret, Pencil and Compasses
 - b. Square, Level and Plumb
 - c. Common Gavel, Chisel and 24 inch Gauge
 - d. Square, Level and 24 inch Gauge



The Third Degree Tracing Board

1. What were the working tools with which our Master was slain?
 - a. Square, Level and Compasses
 - b. Plume Rule, Level and Heavy Maul
 - c. Square, Skirret and Compasses
 - d. Skirret, Level and Compasses
2. The Coffin, Skull and Cross Bones represent:
 - a. That only the Great Architect cannot die
 - b. That, once, revealing 'the secrets of the Order' resulted in a penalty of death
 - c. Mortality and reminder us of the death of our Grand Master, Hiram Abiff
 - d. The Pirate's Graveyards - where grave slabs are decorated in the 'memento mori' style, which is Latin for 'remember you will die'
3. The three Hebrew characters corresponding to the Arabic figure five (5) represent:
 - a. The three rosettes and two ribbons of each of the Principal Lodge Officers
 - b. The Five Points of Fellowship
 - c. The three groups of 5 Fellowcrafts who waited for our Master in the South, East and North
 - d. Those fifteen trusty Fellowcrafts who attended our Master's funeral
4. The Sprig of Acacia represents:
 - a. Brotherly Love
 - b. Relief
 - c. Truth
 - d. Immortality

The Master Mason's Apron

1. The Master Mason's apron is enriched with silver:
 - a. To mark the first precious metal worked by man
 - b. As a reminder of Tubal Cain
 - c. As a reminder that we are always striving for gold
 - d. As a reminder that Christ was betrayed for 30 pieces of silver
2. The two ribbons on the Master Mason's apron represent:
 - a. The light and the dark and the transition from dark to light



- b. Life and death and that the Third Degree teaches Master Mason's to consider death in living their lives
 - c. The two great pillars of King Solomon's Temple
 - d. The Sun and the Moon as the two primary elements in the Celestial sky
- 3. The three rosettes on the Master Mason's apron represent:
 - a. The three that rule the Lodge
 - b. Strength, Wisdom and Beauty
 - c. Strength, to Establish and Stability
 - d. The Sun, the Moon and the All Seeing Eye
- 4. The perfect number seven (7) is represented on the Master Mason's apron by:
 - a. The combination of four corners and three rosettes
 - b. The seven strands of the tassel on each ribbon
 - c. The five points, four corners and corner of the flap, and two ribbons
 - d. All of the above
 - e. a and b only
 - f. b and c only



Answers

Lodge

1. W. Bo
- 2.

Freemasonry and the Master Mason

1. c
2. b
3. a

The Third Degree Working Tools

1. a

The Third Degree Tracing Board

1. b
2. c
3. d
4. d

The Master Mason's Apron

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. e



'Mentors Notes'. The Square Magazine.

The Master Mason Programme.

<https://www.thesquaremagazine.com/mentorsnotes/>

Brief Introduction.

This course is designed for newly raised Master Masons who have joined Craft Freemasonry. It features a self-paced, guided learning syllabus aimed at providing all Freemasons with a comprehensive understanding of the allegories of Freemasonry. The goal is to demonstrate how the lessons learned can be applied to personal development in private, public, and commercial life.

Syllabus Outline.

The course consists of six lessons, with the first two recommended for self-paced study. Lessons three to six are optional and may not suit all learners. Additional reading materials are suggested for all Freemasons. Five premium online courses offered by the Square Academy are also recommended for those who wish to delve deeper into the teachings of Freemasonry. These premium courses are optional, and students should read the introduction pages to find course suitable for them.

Learning Objectives

- To understand how the life lessons learned in the third degree can be applied to personal development in private, public, and commercial life.
- To understand the meaning of the allegories and symbols in the third degree of Freemasonry
- To develop an enquiring mind and enthusiasm to continue to learn life lessons taught in Freemasonry



Lesson Details.

The course is structured to be flexible and easily navigable. Each lesson is published in the Square Magazine, providing a consistent and reliable source of information. Students are encouraged to read through the magazine and complete the lessons at their own pace.

Here is the breakdown of the lessons and their content:

Lessons 1 and 2.

The first two lessons form the core of the syllabus and can be worked through independently. They cover the fundamentals of the third degree in Freemasonry, including its history, principles, and practices. Each lesson is designed to build on the previous one, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.

Lessons 3 to 6 (Optional).

While lessons three to six offer valuable insights, they are optional and may not be suitable for everyone. These lessons go into more advanced topics and are intended for those who wish to explore Freemasonry in greater depth.

Premium Online Courses by the Square Academy (Optional).

To facilitate deeper learning, additional premium online courses from the Square Academy are recommended. These courses are optional but offer an enriched learning experience, allowing students to extract more from the lessons taught in Freemasonry. Students are advised to complete at least one of these premium courses to gain the maximum benefit.

Further Reading.

These articles are written for all Freemasons. These resources are chosen to complement the course content and offer broader perspectives on Freemasonry and its applications in various aspects of life.

Navigating the Course.

Each provided link opens in a new browser window, making it easier for students to navigate and return to the main page as



they progress. This design ensures a seamless learning experience, allowing students to focus on absorbing the material without distractions.

In summary, this self-paced, guided learning syllabus is crafted to introduce Freemasons to the core teachings of Freemasonry, enabling them to apply these lessons for personal development across various life domains. By combining the structured lessons, additional readings, and optional premium courses, this syllabus aims to provide a well-rounded and enriching educational journey.

Lessons in the course

- Working Tools of an Entered Apprentice
- Charge After Third Degree

Optional Lessons

- Officers of the Lodge
- The Master Mason's Handbook by J.S.M. Ward
- The Builders by Joseph Fort Newton
- Pure Antient Masonry

Premium Courses – in App Purchase

- The Lecture of the Second Degree of Freemasonry
- The Fellowcraft's Handbook – inspired by J S M Ward
- The Meaning of Masonry Inspired by W. L. Wilmshurst
- The Builders of Character Inspired by Joseph Fort Newton
- Foundations of Qabalah

Further Reading

- Article series – Current Interest
- Article Series – Metaverse Freemasonry
- Article Series – Masonic History
- Article Series – Symbolism
- Article Series – Esoteric Masonry
- Article Series – Skills



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Lessons / Articles

1. Working tools

Read just this article in the series

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson the learner will be able to:

- Understand and apply the symbolic meanings of the Skirret, Pencil, and Compasses in personal and professional conduct.
- Recognize the importance of self-improvement over the correction of others and use observed imperfections as lessons for personal growth.
- Appreciate the role of historical traditions in passing down values of good citizenship and leadership across generations.
- Evaluate the impact of their actions and words, particularly in the digital age, ensuring all communication passes through the filters of necessity, kindness, and truthfulness.
- Reflect on their own life achievements and commitments, understanding the significance of honour, the consequences of seeking shortcuts, and the value of perseverance and integrity in leadership.

2. Charge after Third Degree

Read just this article - 1

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Reflect deeply on the concepts of mortality and the inevitability of death.
- Understand and appreciate the significance of living a life of integrity and faith.
- Recognize the importance of using one's time wisely and focusing on meaningful endeavours.
- Internalize and apply the principles of the poem "Desiderata" in their daily lives.
- Evaluate their own actions and beliefs to determine if they are fulfilling their duties to themselves, others, and humanity.



3.Officers of the Lodge.

Read whole series of articles – 6

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson the learner will be able to:

- Identify and describe the roles and responsibilities of each Lodge Officer in Freemasonry.
- Understand the symbolic significance of each officer's duties within the context of personal and spiritual development.
- Explain the importance of safeguarding the integrity, secrets, and harmony of the Lodge.
- Illustrate how the virtues represented by the officers contribute to the moral and ethical growth of a Mason.
- Connect the roles of the Lodge Officers to broader themes in Masonic teachings, such as wisdom, temperance, strength, and enlightenment.

4.MMH Hand book.

Read whole series of article in MMH Handbook - 6

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Explain the significance of the third degree, or Sublime Degree, in Freemasonry.
- Identify the differences and connections between the exoteric (outward) and esoteric (hidden) meanings within the third degree.
- Describe the concept of the Mystic Quest and its relevance to the soul's journey towards understanding the nature of God and achieving spiritual union.
- Discuss the role of the first two degrees as preparatory steps leading up to the deeper teachings of the third degree.
- Reflect on the universal human questions of origin, purpose, and destiny, and how these themes are addressed within the framework of Freemasonry's third degree.

5.The Builders by Joseph Fort Newton

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:



- Understand the historical origins of Freemasonry, including its roots in ancient Egypt and medieval stone-mason guilds.
- Identify and explain the key symbols and allegories used in Masonic rituals, particularly those detailed in chapters such as "The Working Tools" and "The Secret Doctrine."
- Trace the evolution of Freemasonry from an association of medieval craftsmen to a widespread fraternal organization with significant social and philosophical influence.
- Analyse the impact of the 1717 London meeting at the Goose and Gridiron Alehouse on the formation of modern Freemasonry.
- Discuss the broader philosophical and moral contributions of Freemasonry to ideals such as liberty, fraternity, and equality, as articulated by Joseph Fort Newton in "The Builders."

6. Pure Antient Freemasonry

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Understand the foundational concepts and defining characteristics of Pure Ancient Masonry and its conjoined elements.
- Discuss the significance of the four building operations in Masonic practice: Building Better Communities, Building Better Knowledge, Building Better Character, and Building a Better World.
- Analyse the historical interplay between state, religion, and Masonic values, particularly as highlighted by Professor Andrew Prescott's work.
- Evaluate James Anderson's The Constitutions of the Freemasons (1723) with a focus on inclusivity, loyalty, and how these concepts have evolved over time.
- Appreciate the contemporary relevance and application of Masonic principles in addressing modern societal issues and fostering personal and communal growth.

7. The Lecture of the Third Degree of Freemasonry

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this course the learner will be able to:

- Understand the progressive nature of Freemasonry degrees and how each degree builds upon the previous one.



- Explain the significance of the Third Degree's symbolism, particularly its treatment of mortality, resurrection, and immortality.
- Identify the ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry and their importance in preserving the Craft's core principles and practices.
- Recognize the dedication, study, and understanding required to achieve mastery of the Third Degree and the distinctions that accompany this accomplishment.
- Articulate the ethical and moral obligations imparted by the Third Degree, emphasizing the importance of brotherly love, duty to God, and duty to fellow humans.

8.The Master Masons Handbook inspired by J.S.M. Ward.

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Understand the significance of the Third Degree in Freemasonry as articulated by J.S.M. Ward.
- Explain the dual nature of the Third Degree's teachings, encompassing both exoteric and esoteric wisdom.
- Recognize the spiritual and existential themes embedded within the Third Degree and their relevance to personal growth.
- Interpret the metaphor of the gateway in the Third Degree and its symbolism of transition from darkness to light.
- Appreciate the importance of personal exploration and interpretation of Masonic rituals as a means to uncover deeper spiritual meanings.

9.The Meaning of Masonry by W.L. Wilmshurst

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Understand the deeper spiritual meaning and purpose of Freemasonry, beyond its surface as a social organization or charitable institution.
- Recognize the significance of the Craft Degrees and their role in imparting spiritual principles and guiding members toward higher consciousness.
- Comprehend the importance of the Royal Arch Degree as the culmination of the Craft Degrees and its connection to advanced spiritual experiences.



- Trace the historical lineage of Freemasonry and its connection to the Ancient Mysteries, understanding its place within a timeless tradition of spiritual seeking.
- Appreciate the necessity of proper instruction and guidance within the Order to fully engage with its deeper teachings and facilitate personal and spiritual growth.

10. The Builders of Character by Joseph Fort Newton

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Understand the historical origins of Masonry and its connection to ancient traditions and symbols.
- Trace the architectural and philosophical evolution of Masonry from Solomon's Temple to the modern Grand Lodge.
- Interpret the allegorical meanings behind Masonic rituals and symbols, and their implications for personal conduct.
- Appreciate the responsibility of current Masons to uphold and pass on Masonic values and principles to future generations.
- Reflect on the role of Masonry in fostering a more just, empathetic, and morally enriched society.

11. Foundations of Qabalah

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson the learner will be able to:

- Understand the historical origins and significance of the Qabalah, including the compilation of the Zohar by Rabbi Moses de Leon.
- Recognize the language barriers and challenges associated with studying the Qabalah, specifically the use of Hebrew Chaldaic.
- Identify the connections between ancient Qabalistic teachings and modern occultism.
- Appreciate the spiritual and philosophical depths contained in the Qabalah's texts.
- Apply insights from the Qabalah to contemporary spiritual and mystical practices.



12.Article Series – Current Masonic Interest

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Understand the historical significance and enduring influence of Freemasonry in society.
- Identify and explain the core principles and values that guide Freemasonry, such as integrity, brotherly love, and intellectual growth.
- Analyse the modern adaptations and innovations within Freemasonry, including the use of technology and AI.
- Discuss the role of Freemasonry in addressing contemporary issues such as environmental sustainability and multiculturalism.
- Appreciate the contributions of Freemasonry to philanthropy and societal development through various charitable endeavours.

13.Article Series – Metaverse Freemasonry

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson the learner will be able to:

- Understand the historical evolution of Freemasonry and its principles of knowledge, equality, and fraternity.
- Identify and analyze how Freemasonry is integrating modern technologies such as virtual reality, artificial intelligence, and blockchain.
- Evaluate the ethical and philosophical implications of merging AI with traditional Freemason values and practices.
- Discuss specific digital initiatives in Freemasonry, including virtual lodges, Masonic NFTs, and AI-driven mentorship tools.
- Explore the potential future trends of Freemasonry in the digital age and how these innovations can foster a global, interconnected community.

14.Article Series – Masonic History

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Identify the historical milestones and enduring traditions of significant Masonic institutions, and their cultural impacts.



- Analyse the connections between Freemasonry and other mystical traditions, such as Druidism and the Knights Templar, including their shared symbols and rituals.
- Evaluate the historical documents and constitutions that have shaped the philosophy and practice of modern
- Freemasonry, including Anderson's Constitutions and Samuel Prichard's "Free Masonry Dissected".

15.Article Series – Symbolism

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson the learner will be able to:

- Understand the significance of Masonic legends and symbols in imparting moral and philosophical lessons.
- Describe the Warrant of Constitution's role in legitimizing Masonic Lodges and its historical evolution.
- Articulate the importance of the Volume of the Sacred Law in guiding Freemasons' spiritual and moral journeys.
- Recognise the deeper meanings and significance of various Masonic symbols such as the All-Seeing Eye, the Blazing Star, and the Trowel.

16.Article Series – Esoteric Masonry

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Comprehend and articulate the multifaceted concept of the Divine and the Great Architect across various cultural and religious traditions.
- Analyse the symbolic and philosophical depths of the Holy Royal Arch within Freemasonry and its significance in spiritual reintegration.
- Apply ancient Stoic principles and their relevance to modern life and Masonic practice, focusing on virtue, resilience, and inner peace.
- Explore the intersections of Freemasonry with other esoteric traditions such as Rosicrucianism, astrological practices, Neoplatonism, and Gnosticism, understanding their unified quest for enlightenment.
- Reflect on and synthesize the broader philosophical and spiritual objectives of various mystical traditions, fostering a holistic view of human spiritual development and moral excellence.



17.Article Series – Skills

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the learner will be able to:

- Understand and articulate the essential soft skills nurtured by Freemasonry, including collaboration, communication, teamwork, empathy, flexibility, conflict resolution, active listening, and trustworthiness.
- Identify and apply the key virtues and personal values promoted by Freemasonry in both personal and professional contexts.
- Utilize techniques such as the 'Mind Palace' to effectively memorize information and improve cognitive recall, even for those with learning challenges.
- Develop skills in leadership and entrepreneurship by integrating Masonic teachings and principles.
- Recognize the importance of courage, critical thinking, and continuous self-improvement as fundamental components for success and personal development.

Further Reading.

Introduction To RA