**Admission**

Prospective applicants are expected to have a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree or equivalent in a Social Science discipline or any other discipline in which he/she would have had exposure to a minimum of an introductory level statistics course.

While preference will be given to persons possessing a minimum of an Upper Second Class Honours Degree or equivalent qualification, applicants’ work experience, particularly if it is in a statistical, research or policy-oriented environment, would be favourably considered providing that they possess a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree or equivalent.

Additionally, strong consideration will be given to applicants’ exposure to training programmes such as the Demographic Analysis Workshop offered under the auspices of the CARICOM/CDB initiative. However, the latter set of applicants must possess a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree.
Overview
The M.Sc. in Development Statistics is a programme for the training of official statisticians, allied professionals and other persons wishing to acquire the capacity to undertake quantitative analyses in social and economic decision-making initiatives applied to development policy. It is a 36 credit programme comprising 8 taught courses accounting for 27 credits and a research paper accounting for 9 credits.

The duration of study is one year for full-time students and two years for part-time students.

There will be two areas of specialization
- Social and Demographic Statistics
- Survey Research

The focus of the training is on the development of applied skills that will meet the needs of prospective official statisticians, statistical officers, policy analysts and other allied research professionals and technicians. Specifically, students enrolled in the programme will acquire mastery in the collection, analysis and interpretation of statistics for use in the formulation and implementation of social and economic policy in an emerging economy setting, which is typical of the Caribbean region.

Course of Study & Faculty
Of the 7 compulsory courses, three 4-credit courses shall constitute a CORE, to be taken by all students, irrespective of their areas of specialization. The CORE courses (4 credits each) are:

- Research Methods in the Social Sciences
- Development Theory
- Policy Analysis and Management

For students specializing in SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS, the following 3-credit courses shall be compulsory:

- Survey Research Design and Management
- Demographic Techniques I
- Social Development Statistics
- Techniques of Applied Social Statistical Analysis

For students specializing in SURVEY RESEARCH, the following 3-credit courses shall be compulsory:

- Survey Research Design and Management
- Survey Sampling – Design and Estimation
- Elements of Official Statistics
- Techniques of Applied Social Statistical Analysis

The 8th course may be chosen from among a list of approved ELECTIVES which are offered at the SALIES or other Departments of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. The choice of the elective course is to be done in consultation with the Supervisor and Director and must be approved by the Director. Students enrolled in the ‘Social and Demographic Statistics’ specialization are encouraged to do ‘Demographic Techniques II’ as their option.

Those enrolled in the ‘Survey Research’ specialization are encouraged to do ‘Monitoring and Evaluation’.

Research Paper
The topic of the research paper, which will account for 9 credits, will be determined following discussion between the student and faculty members. A supervisor will be appointed to each student.