



**Dr. Indira Rampersad**

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## **WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**

Dear DPS Students

I am Indira Rampersad, Head of the Department of Political Science (DPS).

I wish to take this opportunity to warmly welcome you to the Department for the Academic year, 2024/2025. This year promises to be another exciting one of face to face and blending teaching and learning as we embark on our journey of life at the University of the West Indies.

The Department has four principal course offerings namely Political Science, International Relations, Public Sector Management and Public Administration with a cadre of well-qualified and experience lecturers including myself, Dr. Theodor Tudorinou, Dr. Bishnu Ragoonath, Dr. Charlene Roach, Dr. Maukesh Basdeo, Dr. Priya Marajh, Mrs. Lue Anda Francis-Blackman and Mrs Marlene George-Mitchell.

Our dedicated staff at the Department office are also always around to assist you.

As you traverse the UWI, St. Augustine campus in this phase of your career, I wish to impress upon you **three Cs** - important life lessons which you should always carry with you, even beyond your time at The UWI:

- i. **Confidence** – Half the battle can be won before you begin the task with a confident and optimist outlook in life and with a positive attitude to challenges which may seem arduous and insurmountable. Keep smiling and focused even under the most adverse conditions and treat both friends and foes with respect and dignity. A confident individual exudes determination and resilience and even the most pessimistic would be impacted by your glow of poise and self-assurance.
- ii. **Courage** – Bravery goes a long way towards confronting the challenges in life. Never be afraid to express your opinion and ideas. No one knows from which hidden recesses of the brain great ideas are born but it was courage which led valiant

achievers to accomplish their feats, fearlessly and undaunted by the naysayers of the world. Keep focused on your goals and boldly engage the tasks at hand.

- iii. **Commitment** – Give of yourself and your time wholeheartedly, honestly and selflessly to every task you undertake without thinking too much of the rewards. When the benefits arrive they will be bountiful and beyond your expectations because they were not circumscribed by perceived frailties and expectations. Work is Worship. Strive for excellence and burn the midnight oil.

Hope you have an enjoyable experience at the DPS and best of luck in all your endeavours!