

Nathan Nancoo - *The Faculty of Social Sciences (P.M.)*

An oxymoron is a figure of speech that puts two opposite or contradictory words together to create a unique meaning. Think “jumbo shrimp” or “original copy.” Nathan Nancoo describes himself as something of an oxymoron.

"I don't like politics, but my degree is about international politics. I love being alone but also enjoy being around people."

Even his academic interests reflect that blend, combining a major in International Relations with a minor in Film Studies.

Born and raised in Arima, Nathan entered university already equipped with a clear understanding of how he learned best — a foundation that would prove invaluable throughout his academic career. It was this self-discipline, rather than any pursuit of accolades, that led to one of his proudest achievements: a place on the Dean's Honour Roll.

"It was not something I was actively trying to do. I was just trying to do my best like my fellow classmates and I was shocked when I learned that I made the list."

Beyond the classroom, Nathan's interests are wide-ranging including photography, videography, filmmaking, public speaking, debating, martial arts, swimming, writing, cooking, baking, mentoring, and content creation, among others. Colleagues and classmates know him best, however, for his ability to adapt under pressure.

"I may show up, get five seconds of the brief of what's going on and perform as close to the top as possible."

Whether leading a group, filming a project, or stepping into an unfamiliar assignment, this capacity for improvisation has become one of his defining strengths.

When not in class, Nathan could often be found at Veg and More, his favourite campus dining spot, or in the Film Building, which holds some of his happiest memories from university.

Shaped by a close-knit family, faith, and a richly diverse cultural heritage, Nathan firmly believes that anyone can become who they wish to be. Looking ahead, he intends to continue building his career in international affairs, starting with an internship with the United Nations Information Centre for the Caribbean Area, then a master's degree in international relations, and hopefully service as a United Nations Volunteer.

Whatever the future may hold, Nathan will continue to hold fast to his mother's advice:

"Every success, every failure, every loss, every gain, there is a reason as to why it happened, and that reason you might not understand at that time, for weeks, months, or even years, but eventually you'll understand why."

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