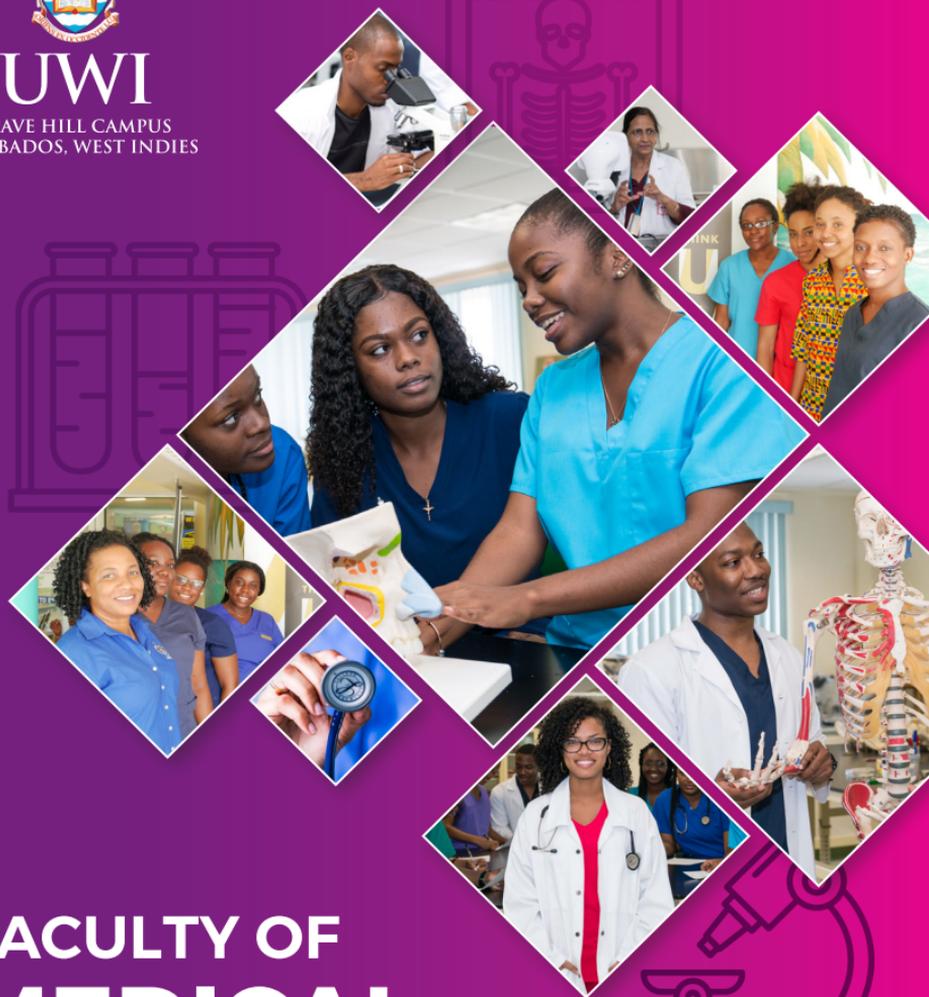




UWI

CAVE HILL CAMPUS
BARBADOS, WEST INDIES



FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

UNDERGRADUATE | **CAVE HILL CAMPUS**

FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

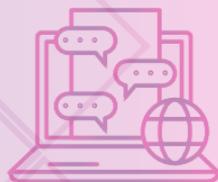
Introduction

The University of the West Indies (UWI) is the region's premier tertiary educational institution. Its origins can be traced back to 1948 when the University College of the West Indies was established in Mona, Jamaica as a college of the University of London. Only 33 undergraduate students were admitted in 1948 – all medical students. This college became The University of the West Indies in 1962.

In 1967, medical teaching expanded from Mona to Cave Hill Campus. Students completed their final clinical year at the *Queen Elizabeth Hospital*, and later with the establishment of the *School of the Clinical Medicine and Research (SCMR)*, both clinical years. In 2008, with a track record of 41 years of clinical training, established postgraduate programmes and internationally recognised research, the SCMR was upgraded to the *Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS)* delivering the 5-year MBBS programme. The FMS has both a phase 1 preclinical programme (years 1 to 3), and a phase 2 clinical programme (years 4 and 5).

Medical students attending the Cave Hill Campus can be assured of a quality education. The MBBS 5-year programme is fully accredited by the *Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Medicine and other Health Professions (CAAM-HP)*, the regional accreditation board. Since 2016, the MBBS degree has also been recognised by the *National Committee of Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA)*. The majority of doctors practising in Barbados have studied at The UWI, in particular the Cave Hill Campus. Graduates have distinguished themselves as lecturers, researchers, specialists, family physicians and public health practitioners.

The purpose-built FMS Laboratory and Teaching Complex provides preclinical students at the Cave Hill Campus with modern teaching facilities. For clinical students, the completely refurbished and reconfigured historic Nightingale Nursing Home, now the Errol Walrond Building, Clinical Skills Complex, similarly provides clinical students with modern facilities.



THE CORE MEDICAL CURRICULUM

The curriculum includes structured and unstructured time

Most of the structured time is spent completing essential courses covering **core content** (which all students must learn).

During the first three (3) years, a modular, system-based approach is used, with courses designed to encourage integration between the basic medical science subjects and the clinical (patient-centred) disciplines. 'Health' rather than 'disease' is emphasised, but you will begin to meet people in their roles as patients from the first year.

On successful completion of the courses in the first three (3) years, you will be eligible for the award of a Bachelor's Degree in *Basic Medical Science (BMedSci)* and will continue into the final two (2) years of the MBBS programme, subject to the approval of the University's authorities.

During the final two (2) years, students rotate through the main clinical disciplines, with emphasis on general training rather than on specialist hospital practice.

Cross-disciplinary Themes

Cross-disciplinary subject areas such as medical ethics and nutrition have been worked into the existing courses as themes or strands. These themes are part of the 'core curriculum' and are included in the assessment of students. In addition, a theme encompassing personal and professional development has been designed to ensure that the attitudinal components of learning that are considered as important for good medical practice, are included in the overall educational process.



PROGRAMME OF STUDY

- (1) The programme for the MBBS Degree lasts not less than ten (10) semesters: Phase I (3 years) and Phase II (2 years).
- (2) Both Phases consist of courses or clerkships which include: lectures, conferences, seminars, tutorials, self-study, the use of learning aids (including information technology), practicals and demonstrations (including clinical bedside teaching). Outlines of these are provided in the Medical Sciences Student Handbook.
- (3) The candidate's progress in each course or clerkship is assessed on the basis of his or her performance in a combination of in-course assignments and projects, and written, practical, clinical and oral examinations, as outlined in the Student Handbook.
- (4) Phase I consists of an integrated series of courses spanning the first three (3) years. Successful candidates will be awarded the *Bachelor of Medical Sciences Degree (BMedSci)*.
- (5) Phase II comprises the final two (2) years and is made up of a series of clinical attachments, followed by the final MBBS examination. The degree is awarded at *pass* level or with *honours* or *distinction* on the satisfactory completion of the programme.

Registration

Registration for courses takes place during the first week of each semester of the academic year.



The registration of a student is not complete until the appropriate tuition and other fees have been paid in respect of that student or arrangements acceptable to the Campus Bursar have been made with respect to the payment of such fees.

Structure of the Programme

The undergraduate medical programme is divided into Phase I (Years 1-3) and Phase 2 (Years 4-5)

Phase I (Years 1-3)

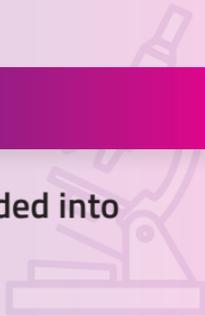
During the first 3 years of the MBBS, a modular systems-based approach is used, with courses designed to encourage integration between the basic medical science subjects and the clinical patient-centred disciplines. Basic sciences such as Anatomy, Physiology, Pharmacology and Biochemistry are covered in this fashion. In addition, there are courses covering health, illness and disease prevention, and a course designed to inculcate the attitudes and behaviours appropriate to the practice of medicine. Years 1 and 2 of Phase 1 are fully semester based. However, year 3 starts early, during what would have been the summer vacation. Although Phase 1 is often referred to as the pre-clinical phase, the last 18 weeks of year 3 are spent doing introductory clinical clerkships at the hospital and polyclinics.



Phase I (Years 1-3) Objectives

A. Medical Knowledge

- (1) Apply knowledge of basic biomedical sciences to clinical analysis and problem solving using:
 - The principles of normal homeostasis.
 - Knowledge of normal human structure, functions, physiology and metabolism at molecular, biochemical, cellular, organ-system and whole-body levels including human development and changes due to growth and aging.
 - The pathogenesis of common diseases and the structural and molecular alterations that result in abnormal signs, symptoms and laboratory and imaging investigations.
- (2) Incorporate the impact of aging, socio-cultural, psychological, ethnic, religious, economic, genetic, environmental and nutritional factors, on health and disease of patients and their families and caregivers.



Programme Structure

Phase I (Years 1-3) OBJECTIVES *cont'd*

- (3) Demonstrate knowledge of important, pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapies available for prevention and treatment of common diseases.
- (4) Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of ethics in patient care and research.
- (5) Identify contemporary issues and practices related to economics and management of health care services affecting population health.
- (6) Evaluate current research and principles of evidence-based medicine in the care of patients and populations.

B. Clinical Skills

- (1) Communicate with patients, families, colleagues and other health care professionals.
- (2) Obtain a complete medical history, including issues related to age, gender and socio-economic status of the patients.
- (3) Perform a physical examination appropriate for each major organ system.
- (4) Recognise common life threatening emergencies and identify appropriate primary interventions.



- (5) Identify appropriate investigations based on the patient's condition and interpret the results for common diseases and conditions.
- (6) Perform and/or observe commonly used/basic medical diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.
- (7) Document pertinent patient health information in a concise, complete and responsible format.
- (8) Ability to retrieve and use biomedical information from all sources in patient care.
- (9) Recognise and communicate common and important abnormal clinical findings.
- (10) Develop a rational differential diagnosis for common conditions based on the history, physical findings and initial investigations.
- (11) Identify individuals at risk for disease, and outline appropriate health promotion/risk prevention education and counselling.

Programme Structure

Phase I (Years 1-3) OBJECTIVES *cont'd*

C. Professional Behaviour

- (1) Demonstrate honesty, respect and integrity in interactions with patients, families, and the medical community.
- (2) Protect patient's confidentiality, dignity and autonomy.
- (3) Demonstrate sensitivity to issues related to socio-economic status, culture, race, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation and disability in the delivery of health care.
- (4) Demonstrate a commitment to high professional and ethical standards.
- (5) Demonstrate a commitment to independent, lifelong learning and on-going professional development for the acquisition of new knowledge and skills.
- (6) Demonstrate teamwork skills as a team member or team leader in the delivery of health care.
- (7) Recognise one's own limitations in knowledge, skills and attitudes and the need for seeking assistance when necessary.
- (8) Participate actively in educational activities including evaluations of courses and clerkships.
- (9) Demonstrate an ethos of service to better meet the health needs of the population they serve



Programme Structure: Phase II (Years 4-5)

Students spend years 4 and 5 rotating in small groups, through clinical clerkships conducted in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the polyclinics. Most of the learning takes place during bedside teaching. Students gain experience with the overall care and follow-up of patients. They are supervised by a consultant and resident staff in charge of patient care in the particular speciality. Each clerkship must be passed. Phase 2 spans 24 months and is not semester based. There are approximately 4 weeks of vacation in each year.

During Year 4, students rotate through 4-week clinical clerkships in anaesthesia and intensive care, orthopaedics, ENT, radiology and dermatology, obstetrics and gynaecology, ophthalmology and radiology, social and preventive medicine, family medicine, and an elective. In addition, there is an 8-week psychiatry and the humanities clerkship and an 8-week pathology and microbiology course.

Students in Year 5 complete 9-week clerkships in child health, medicine, obstetrics and gynaecology and general surgery, and 4-week clerkships in family medicine and emergency medicine. There is also an elective period.

The curriculum is delivered by a combination of small group seminars, lectures and bedside teaching as well as sessions in the Clinical Skills Lab.

Note that the grades attained in both Phases contribute to the final GPA and that completion of an internship period after graduation is required for full registration as a medical practitioner.

The final year concludes with the sitting of the final MBBS examinations. Three separate clinical areas are examined: –

- medicine
- surgery
- obstetrics and gynaecology.

These must be passed in order to be awarded the MBBS degree. There are both written and clinical examinations.



QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION

Age Requirements

Applicants must be at least 18 years old on December 30th of the year of entry to the programme.



General Entry Requirements

- Minimum of five (5) CSEC/CXC subjects (General Proficiency grades I-III (from 1998) and/or GCE 'O' Levels (grades A-C) including English Language, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.
- Passes in two (2), two-unit subjects of Biology/ Zoology, Chemistry and one other two-unit CAPE or 'A' Level subject.

Note that entry to the MBBS programme is highly competitive and being qualified is not a guarantee of acceptance.

One of the following schemes is required for entry:

Scheme	GCE 'A' Level / CAPE passes
Scheme 1	Chemistry, Biology / Zoology, and either Physics or Mathematics.
Scheme 2	Biology/ Zoology, Chemistry and a non-science subject.* * <i>Must include Physics among the five (5) CXC/GCE 'O' Level passes required for matriculation</i>

Transfers from UWI

- Transfer applicants to the MBBS from the Faculties of Science and Technology of The UWI may only be considered on completion of the First Year of the programme. All such applicants must complete and submit a Transfer Form (only) by the second Friday in January, in the year of application.
- Qualification for entry will be based on performance, with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 and at least a B in all subject areas on completion of the First or Preliminary Year of the programme. (If the third subject is not Physics, Physics must have been passed at the CSEC (CXC)/GCE 'O' Level/ BGCSE or approved equivalent qualifications).

Applicants Holding The UWI Science Degrees

Persons holding a UWI first degree from the Faculties of Science and Technology (formerly Pure and Applied Sciences) with a minimum of lower second-class honours may be considered for entry.

Applicants Holding Degrees from other Universities

Persons holding degrees from universities other than The UWI will also be considered, provided that:

- The University which granted the degree is recognised by The UWI as competitive
- Credits have been obtained in Biology / Zoology and Chemistry
- A minimum cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.0 or its equivalent has been obtained.

Applicants Holding Associate Degrees from Community Colleges

Applicants holding a triple major Associate Degree in the subjects noted at **Scheme 1 or 2** from an approved community college will be considered for entry to the MBBS programme, provided that a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or greater has been attained.

Non-Academic Considerations

- (1) All applicants are required to submit a short (250-300 words) autobiographical summary outlining the reasons for their career choice. An applicant's chances of entry will be enhanced by documented and certified involvement in extracurricular activities in the years prior to his/her application.
- (2) Candidates must also produce evidence of their involvement in relevant extra-curricular/co-curricular activities, socially-oriented projects and voluntary community service in the year prior to their application. In addition to academic ability, the faculty is seeking rounded individuals with a range of abilities and interests. Such must be readily definable and subject to proof. They include, but are not limited to, leadership qualities, social awareness and excellence in sport, language or the arts.
- (3) All applicants are required to submit original documents with certified evidence of their abilities or involvement in such activities, in support of their applications.
- (4) Documents must be signed and stamped by an appropriate person (school official, employer, supervisor, etc.), and, to be considered, must state both the duration of involvement in the activity and the level of involvement or achievement attained.

Non-Academic Considerations cont'd.

- (5) Any information in such submissions, if found to be falsified, will result in withdrawal of the offer of entry and may constitute grounds for dismissal.
- (6) In general, sustained involvement in one or two activities over time, is favoured over recent activity in many areas.

International Entrance Qualifications

We consider a wide range of overseas qualifications which are eligible for normal matriculation for admission to our degree programme:

- Holders of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) Grade 12, with an overall Grade of at least 60% or holders of equivalent Canadian qualifications
- Holders of the International Baccalaureate
- Holders of the Dutch qualifications VWO/Associate Degree and HAVO/MBO4
- **SAT:** Lower Matriculation - Students should present an acceptable high school grade transcript with a minimum GPA of 2.5 and a minimum score of 1050 for SAT 1, for entry to **four-year** programmes
- **SAT:** Normal Matriculation - Students should present an acceptable Grade 12 high school transcript with a minimum GPA of 3.0 and a minimum score of 1200 for SAT 1, for entry to **three-year** programmes.

FITNESS TO PRACTISE

Becoming a doctor means more than acquiring knowledge and skills. Medical students cannot complete the undergraduate curriculum without coming into close, and sometimes intimate contact with members of the public who may be vulnerable or distressed. It is essential that nothing is done to diminish the trust which sick people and their relatives place in you. The award of a medical degree entitles you to be provisionally registered and to practise under supervision as a doctor.

The award of a medical degree by The UWI, thus confirms that you are fit to practise to the high standards laid down by the profession.

The UWI has a duty to ensure that no member of the public is harmed as a consequence of participating in the training of their medical students and that your conduct as a medical student, maintains the high standards of honesty and behavior that the public has a right to expect from the medical profession.



**YOU
BELONG
AT THE
UWI**



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