



COURSES IN THE AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME

Level I

- Introduction to agro-environmental management
- Introduction to agriculture, crop and livestock production
- Post harvest technology
- Management accounting
- Marketing
- Decision models for managers
- Finance

Level II

- Tropical Livestock development
- The agriculture value chain
- International entrepreneurship in agricultural enterprises
- Standards and risk management in agriculture production systems
- Advanced crop production technologies
- Market assessment and analysis
- New venture creation
- Research methods in science
- Agriculture seminar

Level III

- The economics of farm and farming system
- Agricultural marketing strategies
- Final project

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Applicants must have either a First Degree (GPA 2.25) or its equivalence in basic or applied sciences such as agriculture, forestry, botany, biology, soil science, environmental or social sciences, rural development, development planning and management or a related area.
- Applicants with other qualifications and who have at least 2 year's professional experience in a relevant field of agriculture, engineering, management or development are also eligible to apply for admission to this course.
- Applicants who do not possess the requisite qualification and experience will be required to do pre-qualification courses in agricultural sciences and the social sciences.

DURATION AND DELIVERY MODE

The course duration is 18 months and will be offered on evenings and weekends.

For additional information, please contact:

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The University of the West Indies
Faculties of
Pure and Applied Sciences and
Social Sciences

MSc Agricultural Entrepreneurship



BACKGROUND

The M.Sc. in Agricultural Entrepreneurship is a full-time, practical-oriented Masters Degree programme aimed at creating a new breed of agricultural practitioners/farmers in Jamaica and the Caribbean. The practitioners produced by this programme would be technology savvy, managerially strong, and capable of creating their own enterprises or successfully managing, rejuvenating or converting existing operations into viable and profitable businesses. This new breed of managers would also possess the skills necessary to translate cutting edge agricultural research into business opportunities along the agriculture value chain. This course is also intended to assist in meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) aimed at assisting in the eradication of extreme hunger and to ensure environment sustainability.

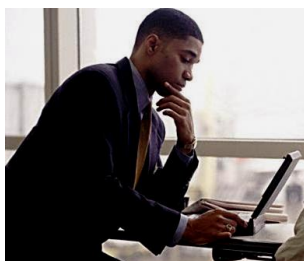


AIM

The aim of this M.Sc. in Agricultural Entrepreneurship programme is to provide students with the tools and skill set necessary to create, resuscitate and/or rehabilitate agricultural enterprises.

STUDENTS PURSUING THIS PROGRAMME WILL:

- Acquire knowledge and develop new research and ideas into business opportunities;
- Describe the different physical, economic and social environments in which agriculture operates and encapsulate these components into agricultural enterprises;
- Translate recent developments in agricultural research into practical projects while responding to challenges such as climate change, environmental sustainability, ecosystem preservation, and globalization; and develop business plans aimed at attracting financing from local and international private and public institutions.



CAREER PROSPECTS

Graduates from the M.Sc. in Agricultural Entrepreneurship will be equipped with the necessary tools to start their businesses within any aspect of the agricultural value chain. Graduates from this programme will have the ability to work on their own and within private, national and international institutions which focus on agricultural research and development.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

Students, on completion of the programme, will:

- Be advocates for improving the sustainability of the environment;
- Demonstrate the capacity for independent critical thought, rational inquiry and self-directed learning and research;
- Display an ability to derive, interpret and analyze social, technical or economic information from primary and other sources;
- Show an awareness of and ability to utilize appropriate communication technology and methods for the storage, management and analysis of data;
- Have increased capacity for creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship through the application of skills and knowledge;
- Show the ability to integrate information across relevant disciplines to solve problems in applied situations;
- Have highly developed oral communication skills to allow informed dialogue and liaison with individuals and groups from industry, government and the community;
- Possess knowledge of the nuances of crop and livestock production and management in a global context;
- Depict an understanding of economic and business principles and their application to agribusiness;
- Have a critical appreciation of techniques for effective execution of agribusiness management function.