

**Title:**           **Physics and Education, Scientific Literacy and Gender Issues in Science**

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This research project is divided into three parts:

- A feasibility study for establishing a Masters in Physics with Education program
- Scientific Literacy in Trinidad
- Gender Issues in Science

Learning and teaching physics has been the centre of many discussions and a major topic of many published journals internationally for the past four decades, and as such is the heart of this research project. Physics is distinguished from other sciences due to its extremely high level of abstraction and idealisation. For this reason and others, physics is greeted by students with very low interest, largely due to an initial disposition that physics is too difficult and complicated. It is in this light we investigate the feasibility of establishing a Masters in Physics with Education program to demystify this myth and give ordinary and advanced level secondary school physics teachers a needed edge on teaching what is the most important core science. Secondly we are posed with the question, "How much should any given individual know about science?" Here we research what Scientific Literacy means to us and the future of our region. We also look at gender issues in the Scientific community.