

## ABSTRACT

### **The Making of a Premium Teacher: A Study of Excellence in Teaching at The University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Employing the Biographical Method**

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This study explored excellence in teaching at The University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine, through research into the lived experiences of one lecturer who had been adjudged an example of teaching excellence at UWI. The study employed the life story method of biographical research. Findings revealed that caring, as a component of interpersonal relationships, is a fundamental principle that underpins excellence in teaching at UWI. Additionally, the study identified 10 habits/benchmarks of building caring relationships in effective university teachers.

**Keywords:** Biographies; Academic teaching personnel; Higher education; Teacher profile; Teacher educators; Teaching quality; The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine; Case studies; Trinidad and Tobago