

WI  
HM  
213  
'1143  
2012

CARIBBEAN INTELLECTUALS AT THE CROSSROADS: AN EXAMINATION ON  
THE EBB AND FLOW OF INTELLECTUAL RADICALS AT THE UNIVERSITY  
OF THE WEST INDIES

A Thesis  
Submitted in Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of  
Master of Philosophy in Political Science

of  
The University of the West Indies

by  
Jason McDonald Mc Collin  
2012

Department of Government, Sociology and Social Work  
Faculty of Social Sciences  
Cave Hill Campus

## ABSTRACT

Caribbean Intellectuals at the Crossroads: An Examination on the Decline of  
Radical Thought at the University of the West Indies

Jason McDonald Mc Collin

This thesis examines the ebb and flow of intellectual radicalism at the University of the West Indies from the period 1968-2010. It is fundamentally one of self-reflection and self-examination of the radical intellectual at the University of the West Indies with a view to retrieving radical intellectualism from the periphery of political academic discourse.

In examining the dynamics of intellectual radicalism at the UWI it is understood that the *new* intellectual radicalism is about finding these new forms of identity and being. In this way, the Caribbean intellectual project can still contribute to that identity and being and to the University.

This thesis shows that if one is to have a profound anchor in the understanding of the essence of intellectual radicalism at the UWI, one must appreciate the political, economic and social conditions of the time, which inevitably, dictates what is possible at any particular historical conjuncture.

**Keywords:** intellectuals; radicalism; Caribbean Left; The University of the West Indies