



Shalisa Peterson, Fort Valley State University- c/o 2018, Psychology



Name : Shalisa Peterson

Your HBCU : Fort Valley State University

Graduation Year : 2018

Major : Psychology

1. Where are you from? Who introduced you to HBCUs?*

I am from Madison, Georgia. My Aunt, Jacqueline received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Fort Valley State. I was pretty much raised on the campus from the age of six.



2. Why did you choose an HBCU over a pwi?*

Because of my early exposure to HBCUs, I was well aware of the unity and respect that was shown on the campus. The lengths that HBCUs go through to make sure their students succeed is amazing.

3. What is the story of your "experience" at Your HBCU given its heralded status as a stellar and prestigious institution?*

I really learned and understood the importance of attending an HBCU while there. I became extremely ill my freshman year and my professors were determined to make sure I was comfortable and was able to pass their classes.

4. "First time" experiences at your HBCU?*

Though my first time experience at my HBCU was when I was younger, I did get to vote and experience the first black president there. The night we found out he won, is a night I'll never forget.

5. Who are the professors that have impacted your life in and out of the classroom? How did they do that?*

As I mentioned before, I became extremely ill with Crohn's Disease my freshman year. Dr. Berlethia Pitts was my literature professor. She checked on me daily and would even make contact with my family members if I was away from campus. I had to eventually leave school for almost 5 years. I graduated on my birthday last year. When she saw me she instantly remembered me. Because of that, I will always hold her dear to me.



