



Sydney Coffee, Clark Atlanta University- c/o 2017, Mass Communications



Name : Sydney Coffee

Your HBCU : Clark Atlanta University

Graduation Year : 2017

Major : Mass Communications

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

I am originally from Tampa, FL. I was in an organization called Precious Pearls from about 7th grade to 12th grade and through them we went on college tours every year.



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

Personally, how I grew up, I wasn't around enough people that looked like me. I was that "token black girl" at all the parties and I was honestly sick of it. I wanted a change and I wanted to experience true black excellence.

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

Honestly, through all of the ups and downs I had throughout my 4 years at CAU, I would not have picked another institution if I had the chance to. I have learned so much about myself. I'm definitely a completely different person than I was before college, but it's honestly a good thing. I'm a lot more aware of certain situations in life and I learned a lot about my culture. My HBCU taught me to be unapologetically proud of my skin and my culture.

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

My best "first time" experience at CAU was probably homecoming. If you know where CAU is, then you know it's apart of the AUC. There is no better place to go to college than in the AUC and I'm happy to argue about it lol. Homecoming is just on a whole different level like there were all of the concerts, celebrity appearances, great food, etc. I don't think I had had that much fun ever in my life.

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

Georgianne Thomas! She was my humanities teacher my very first semester at CAU. Honestly, she's the reason I know I'm black. When I say that, I mean she's the one that woke me up to the injustices against my people and the true history of my ancestors. Before her class, I didn't know my people were kings and queens. I owe her everything.



6. What to date has been your proudest moment @ Your HBCU?

I competed in a pageant and won a title. I was super duper shy and I decided to step out of my comfort zone my junior year and so I did the Miss Bold & Beautiful pageant. It is the only plus size pageant on campus so it was very important to me being a plus size woman. The process was not easy and patience was definitely practiced, but it was a learning experience and I'm glad I did it.

7. What do you feel is most beautiful about you?

I have a bomb personality. I also consider myself a very positive person like I don't like to be around negativity because I personally don't bring negativity.