



Yolanda Bryant, Grambling State University- c/o 2001, History & Philosophy



Name : Yolanda Bryant

Your HBCU : Grambling State University

Graduation Year : 2001

Major : History & Philosophy

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

I'm from Los Angeles, California and my grandfather introduced me to the idea of going to a HBCU in Louisiana.



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

My first intention was to attend a college in my home state, but shortly after I graduated HS my grandfather passed away and in honor of his last wishes I decided to attend Grambling State.

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

I think the greatest thing that I experienced was just learning who I was as an individual. I realized how much I was enchanted by our African history as well as our African American history.

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

There's so many things that I have fond memories of, but what sticks out the most is the kindness and hospitality of the people in Grambling and down south in general. The culture of L.A. was so much different than that of the south, and I'm glad to have experienced that.

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

The first time I studied eastern African history was from my historian professor and she taught us about Ethiopia and Egypt early Christian beginnings. I learned about the first Christian Church in Egypt called the Coptic church established by Saint Mark, and today me and my family are members of the Coptic Orthodox Christian Church and Ethiopian Orthodox Christian Church.



6. Entrepreneur? Tell us about your business.

I'm a full time teacher but I also work as a self employed insurance agent. I sell Medicare insurance health plans.

