

Bio Sketch

Deljah S. Dickson

Deljah S. Dickson is the author of *Freshman 101: A Road Map and Journal to Surviving Your First Year of College*, the comprehensive resource guide for successfully navigating freshman year. After hearing legions of stories from her friends about their good and bad college experiences, Dickson shares the principles she discovered the hard way her first year of college at famed Howard University. Her annual journal and personal survival guide includes anecdotes, tips and ideas that offer students practical information on how to successfully get through every aspect of campus life.

Dickson quickly gained notoriety for her work, selling copies of the guide to high schools and school districts across the country and touring with the *Black College Expo*, where she is a celebrated keynote speaker and popular panel moderator.

In addition to penning *Freshman 101*, Dickson was a contributing writer to *Precious Times Magazine* and a staff writer for community-based newspaper, *LA Focus*. She has collaborated on a cover of *Ebony Magazine* and co-authored a Nelson Publishing urban Bible titled *REAL*.

Dickson's humorous delivery style and ability to inspire and connect with younger audiences has made her a sought-after speaker, with invitations to speak across the country at numerous events such as the Black College Expo, The City of Los Angeles-sponsored *Cash for College Conference* the National Conference for the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the *Essence College Tour*, where she spoke at her alma mater, Howard University.

Dickson was born and raised in Los Angeles, but now travels frequently between Los Angeles and Chicago, where she lives with her husband and daughter. When she is not practicing Japanese or giving talks on college readiness, Dickson (who was trained at Le Cordon Bleu International) is usually enjoying a gourmet meal with her family.

Dickson plans to release the second edition of her book later this year.

WHO SAID?

"I have learned so much from the discussions in this book. In a way, it has prepared me for what to expect my first year at Howard University." I really appreciate all the tips about the freshman year and I know that other graduated high school seniors will value this information."

Bethany Barnes, student
Howard University

"With all of life's firsts, success in maneuvering through them would be so much easier if road maps were available for them all. This book is a most efficient navigation tool for the first-year college student. With it, a student will be sure to reach graduation with few wrong turns."

C. Renee Brooks, Student Affairs Officer, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA)
Center for Community College Partnerships

Freshman 101 by Deljah S. Dickson shows what it takes to get ahead in college and in doing so provides a valuable guide to help students (and parents) transition from high school to college. Using an easy-to-read writing style with wit and humor, this book contains excellent tips, encourages communication, saves valuable time and money, and does much more. What a delight! I highly recommended it for every student entering college.

Claudette Shackelford McLinn, Library Services, Los Angeles Unified School District & Owner
Bright Lights Multicultural Children's Bookstore

Freshman 101 shows me that going to college doesn't have to be a scary thing."

Davia Shubbie, student
California State University – Fresno

Deljah Dickson has removed the veil of apprehension, anxiety and confusion that has loomed as a daunting obstacle in the minds and hearts of almost every college freshman in the form of the proverbial question: "What am I getting into?" Her personal excursion into the halls of academia was an education in the classroom before learned professors as well as a study on how to avoid the pitfalls of non-scholastic life. Personal, potent, practical and portable. Insightful, inspirational and encouraging. This work is a must-read for every freshman and parent of every freshman. Dickson exposes the threatening giants and the little foxes that seek to discourage and destroy the potential positive experience of academic pursuit. This is a book of survival for every new collegian. Should be mandatory for every college freshman!

Dr. Kenneth C. Ulmer D. Min., Ph.D.
Bishop, Faithful Central Bible Church
Inglewood, California

After two high school graduates, I was at my wits end and contemplated our oldest son going all the way to Orlando Florida, where we knew no one. We were faced with off campus housing - I pondered the question "How am I ever going to find a safe place for my son to live? With the information in *Freshman 101* we were equipped to ask the right questions and select an apartment that had everything even a private bathroom, in a wonderful and secure environment." *FRESHMAN 101* will give parents information to make better decisions for a successful first year.

Alice Williams, parent
Bruce Anthony Williams III, Full Sail, Orlando Florida