

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Ronald Gerald Coleman

PERSON

Coleman, Ronald , 1944-

Alternative Names: Coleman, Ronald , 1944-;

Life Dates: April 3, 1944-

Place of Birth: San Francisco, California

Residence: Salt Lake City, UT (from ? to ?)

Occupations: African American History Professor

Biographical Note

African American Studies professor Ronald Gerald Coleman was born on April 3, 1944, in San Francisco, California, to Gertrude Hughes, a San Francisco School District food service manager, and Jesse Coleman, a railroad waiter/bartender for Southern Pacific and Amtrak. He attended San Francisco's Pacific Heights and Emerson Elementary Schools and graduated from George Washington Senior High School. In 1966, Coleman graduated from the University of Utah with his B.A. degree in sociology. He was hired to teach in the San Francisco Unified School District and then at Sacramento City College.

In 1973, Coleman received his M.A. degree in social science from California State University, in Sacramento. Coleman joined the University of Utah faculty as an instructor of history and ethnic studies in 1973 where he taught courses on African American history. His work in history and ethnic studies has been presented at various professional meetings. He has also lectured on topics ranging from African American history to contemporary race relations in the United States. Coleman has written several publications including articles on western black history.

Coleman has served as a member of the University of Utah Senate; the Athletic Board; the faculty mentoring program; and the faculty affirmative action committee. He is also a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Fraternity and is a life member of the NAACP. He has received numerous awards and recognitions including the Calvin S. and Jeneal N. Hatch Prize in Teaching, the 2000 Governor's Award in Humanities and the Albert B. Fitz Civil Rights Worker of the Year Award.

Coleman lives in Cottonwood Heights, Utah.

Related Entries

Coleman, Roderick [SIBLINGOF]
Brother

Coleman, Jimmy Ray [SIBLINGOF]
Brother

Coleman, Thomas [SIBLINGOF]
Brother

Coleman, Floyd [SIBLINGOF]
Brother

Coleman, Margaret [SIBLINGOF]
Sister

Coleman, Gerald [SIBLINGOF]
Brother

Coleman, Danielle [PARENTOF]
Daughter

Coleman, Jron [PARENTOF]
Son

Coleman, Cori [PARENTOF]
Daughter

Coleman, Paula [SPOUSEOF]
Wife

Coleman, Jesse [CHILDOF]
Father

Coleman Hughes, Gertrude (Welch) [CHILDOF]
Mother

Emerson Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to 1952]

Pacific Heights Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to 1955]

William L. Cobb Elementary School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to 1957]

George Washington Senior High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to 1961]

University of Utah [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to 1980]

General Mills [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1966 to 1968]

Grocery Product Sales Representative

San Francisco Unified School District [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1968 to 1970]

Teacher

Sacramento City College [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1970 to 1973]

Professor

University of Utah [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1973 to 1984]

Associate Professor

University of Utah [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1984 to 1989]

Coordinator of the Ethnic Studies Department

University of Utah [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1989 to 1991]

**Interim Associate Vice President for Diversity and Faculty
Development**

University of Utah [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1991 to 2008]

Associate Vice President for Diversity and Faculty Development

Phi Kappa Phi [MEMBEROF]
Member

NAACP [MEMBEROF]
Life Member