



Dr. Vonya Lewis-Thornton

Professor of History

Sinclair Community College

As a professor of history at Sinclair Community College, Dr. Vonya Lewis-Thornton likes to play devil's advocate with her students, challenging them to think outside the box.

Her passion for history came when she was pursuing her bachelor's degree. She met a professor who challenged her to think beyond dates and to put history into a perspective that allows it to be an explanation for who we are as a nation and world today. That opened history to her in a brand new way and she hasn't stopped exploring history since..

The other thing this professor taught her was that there are no truths in history. There are facts obviously. But truths are non-existent. What we are taught to believe to be truths, are facts interpreted through the lens of personal biases shaped by such things as one's family background, nationalistic sentiment, and life experiences. Her goal is to give student's an opportunity to exercise their mind, to see history with new eyes - challenge themselves, and even her, to see things differently. Open themselves to new ideas. In the end, the student may see things as before but hopefully with new insights.

Dr. Lewis-Thornton earned her bachelor's degree from Central State University, her master's from Wright State University and her doctorate from Faith International University. She and Ms. Sylvester, her cat, reside in Xenia.

