

Frances M. Franklin



Frances Mason Franklin, Professor of English at Cuyahoga Community College (1969-1983) was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and received a Bachelor's degree in English in 1942 from Spelman College. Her Master's degree, also in English, was granted in 1946 from Atlanta University. Frances M. Franklin was recognized for her extensive knowledge of African-American literature. She began research on the subject during the 1940s and collected archival material on black authors, as well as discussed their works with many of them.

Mrs. Franklin attended the University of Chicago for three years for further graduate work in English, and from 1974 to 1976, was enrolled in the Doctoral Program of Urban Education Administration at The University of Akron. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, Mrs. Franklin taught English at Spelman, Tuskegee Institute and Fisk University. She received an Outstanding Faculty Award at Spelman College. She came to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1953.

The next year, she joined the Cleveland Public School system and taught English at Charles W. Elliott Junior High School. She was Chairperson of the English Department there from 1959 to 1969, when she joined the Cuyahoga Community College faculty. She became Coordinator of Developmental Education, Director and Academic Unit Leader of the Learning Center. In 1974, she received an award for Outstanding Service to the College.

Mrs. Franklin was a member of the National Council of Teachers of English, International Reading Association and the Spelman Alumnae Association. She was a member of the College Entrance Examination Board, Junior College Test Committee and had been a Consultant to the Ohio Board of Education in Humanities.

The scholarship honors Frances Mason Franklin for her tireless efforts on behalf of the many Cuyahoga Community College faculty members for whom she served as a mentor. Frances M. Franklin passed away in 1983. Her only child is Dr. Carol S. Franklin, recently retired from her position as Associate Dean of Liberal Arts/Social Science at the Western Campus.