



# Francis Cecil Sumner, Ph.D.

**1895 - 1954**

Ph.D. Psychology, 1920  
Clark University

Francis C. Sumner was the first African American to earn a Ph.D. in Psychology. He is one of the founders of the Psychology Department at Howard University where he served as Chair from

1928 until his death in 1954. He studied racial bias and was a supporter of educational justice and published articles on these topics but was refused funding because of his race.