



Southern University at Shreveport
3050 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
Shreveport, LA 71107

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2020

SUSLA VICE CHANCELLOR TO TEACH A CLASS AT CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY ON THE UNDERSTANDING, ORIGIN, CULTURE AND BUSINESS OF TRAP MUSIC

Southern University at Shreveport's Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Melva Williams, with three-time Grammy Award-winning recording artist, actor, producer, songwriter and entrepreneur Tip "T.I." Harris. The duo will step outside of the traditional textbooks and teach an undergraduate class on the understanding, origin, culture and business of Trap music. The ingenious undergraduate course will blend the history of trap music with the economics behind its meteoric rise to becoming a staple in 21st-century hip-hop.

Speaking about the academic opportunity, Dr. Williams had this to say, "I am excited to have my idea come to fruition at an HBCU. More importantly, I am excited to be partnering with Tip. He is the one of the founders of Trap music and has taken the art form to international recognition. The goal is to bring the academic curriculum at our HBCUs to life. Utilizing trap music as a foundation, will bring a sense of relevancy to the current curriculum."

Dr. Melva Williams introduced the concept to the H.B.C.U. community to unmask trap music. Trap music is a subgenre of hip-hop that originated in the south in the early 1990s. Williams is an H.B.C.U. Advocate, prominent figure in higher education, Presidential Leadership Scholar and self-proclaimed trap music aficionado. She will bring immeasurable information to the class. She is also the co-founder of the Higher Education Leadership Foundation (H.E.L.F.) and serves as Vice-Chancellor of Southern University at Shreveport and New Orleans.

As a pioneer of trap music, T.I will offer personal experiences and real-world information and experiences that will benefit the students.

Office of Marketing and University Relations

marketing@susla.edu

(318) 670-6000

##

Southern University at Shreveport, an institution within the Southern University System, seeks to provide a quality education for its students, while being committed to the total community. This institution prepares students for careers in technical and occupational fields; awards certificates and associate degrees as well as offerings and programs that are transferable to other colleges and universities. Dedicated to excellence in instruction and community service, this open enrollment institution promotes cultural diversity, provides developmental and continuing education, and seeks partnerships with business and industry.

Visit us on the web www.SUSLA.edu