

# Angela Davis

Angela Davis was born in 1944 in Birmingham, Alabama to college educated parents. She is perhaps best known as a radical Black activist, author, and professor. As a young woman, she was introduced to communist philosophy. After graduating from a prestigious private high school, Davis attended Brandeis University on full scholarship. In her freshman class at Brandeis, Davis was one of only three African American students. In 1965, she graduated magna cum laude and headed to Germany, to the University of Frankfurt, to study philosophy. After earning her M.A. at the University of California, San Diego and her doctorate from the Humboldt University of Berlin, Davis worked as a philosophy lecturer at the UCLA. In 1969, she was fired from her position because of her membership in the Communist Party and the Black Panther Party. She was later arrested and placed on the FBI "Most Wanted" list for her tenuous connection to the attempted escape of members of the Soledad Brothers. Her experiences led to a lifetime of prison activism and several acclaimed books on racial politics, feminism, and social justice. Davis is currently a Professor in the History of Consciousness program at the University of California, Santa Cruz.