

Claudius B. Claiborne is an American professor and former basketball player. He is known for being the first African-American to play on the Duke Blue Devils men's basketball team.

Claiborne is originally from Danville, Virginia, where he attended John Langston High School. During his senior year in 1965, he was class president as well as captain of the baseball and basketball teams. He enrolled at Duke University on a presidential scholarship in 1965, two years after the first black students integrated at Duke. After a year on the freshman basketball team (NCAA rules prohibited freshmen on varsity teams at the time), he joined varsity men's basketball team for the 1966–67 season. He made his first start in a January 1967 victory over Penn State, after head coach Vic Bubas suspended nine of his players. In 1969, he played in a triple-overtime win against Duke's biggest rival, North Carolina.

Claiborne ultimately graduated in 1969 with a degree in engineering. He later earned further postgraduate degrees from Dartmouth College, Washington University in St. Louis, and Virginia Tech, and became a professor in the business school of Texas Southern University.

**Dr. C.B.  
Claiborne**

