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NC STATE STUDENT MEDIA

SUMMER 2025



the ORIENTATION ISSUE

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EDITOR'S NOTE

ABOUT US

The newest NC State Student Media outlet, Roundabout is a glossy general interest magazine that covers student life, arts and culture.

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THE COVER

Bailey Lawson, a second-year in graphic & experience design, looks around while performing Mia Danford-Klein's piece called "The Return Home" during the Art2Wear: Revive! show at the Gregg Museum of Art and Design on April 24. Art2Wear is an educational event where students are able to produce wearable art. Students work in a studio time throughout the year to produce artwork to be shown during the show.

Photo by Violet Beesley

Dear new students, proud parents and marooned aliens,

We all know that self-checkout machines need constant human supervision, autocorrect is seldom correct and "easy open" pill bottles require an understanding of torque theory. But I would argue an even greater irony is that despite how information is more accessible than ever before, the people who make our lifestyles possible are more invisible than ever before. Most of us don't know who built our homes, sewed our clothes, grew our food or even designed the software we use on a daily basis. It staggers the mind to try and imagine every single unknown, unsung person who's played a role in the all-encompassing supply chain of our existences. So in addition to thanking the friends, teachers, parents and other champions who helped guide the next generation of Wolfpack legends to this college, I thank the multitudes of unknowns who made it possible behind the scenes. They may be too numerous to name, but they are not too numerous to recognize.

Despite the impossibility of individually honoring everyone who contributed, it still behooves me to praise as many of the superstars who made this issue of Roundabout happen as I can. Repave all the highways in the continental United States to prepare for the motorcade of writerly magnificence that emerges from our commendable copy editor Audrey Javan, who turns grammar mistakes into roadkill. Order the American Academy of Optometry to investigate the benefits of viewing the visuals generated by our peerless photo editor Emily Peedin, who never ceases to astound. Summon every arsonist in existence to stoke the massive blaze of creativity kindled by our dazzling design editor Marlowe, who masterminded this magazine's layout while studying abroad thousands of miles away in Australia. Use the world's largest tuba to break the sound barrier in honor of our promotions director and soon-to-be editor-in-chief Layney Keesee, who is more than ready to take the reins. Equally deafening shoutouts to our astronomically extraordinary assistant design editor Autumn and our other incoming leaders Lily, Alannah and Chase.

Great geysers of gratitude for our adviser Ray, our indispensable compass. Salute to Abi, Allie, Layla and the other business heroines who sell the ads that sustain us. Thank you to Patrick, our valiant leader. Kudos to my past mentors Zanna and Martha, without whom my Roundabout journey would never have happened. Kudos to the tireless troopers over at Triangle TriWeb Printing. And finally, unnumbered thank yous to the staffers who form this magazine with their energy and talent. As Emily, Audrey and I go into the post-grad world, we will treasure you in our hearts.

To the Wolfpack with love,

Gerbrand (Bran) Poster V, Editor-in-Chief

MEET THE STAFF



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Photos by Ray Black III

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Sophie Dickerson, a fourth-year studying graphic & experience design, walks around while modeling her piece "Ornaments of Being" during the Art2Wear: Revive! show at the Gregg Museum of Art and Design on April 24. Dickerson's piece uses neuron "branches" decorated with childhood photos and memorabilia to revive memories of her past. Art2Wear is a crucial part of NC State fashion history, giving students the opportunity to gain unique, practical experience in the field.

Photo by Lily McCabe



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A Whole New World

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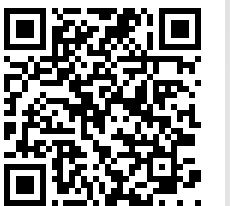
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BY CHASE ALSTON
PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY CHASE ALSTON

NAVIGATING ANY MAJOR life change difficult, but the realities of college, especially move-in day, are often glossed over. *I believe move-in day has got to be the most nerve-wracking part of college.* This is not meant to unsettle you because rest assured, things get better, but as someone who lives in a constant state of delusion who only realizes the severity of a situation when it quite literally slaps her in the face, I would like to give you a transparent account of my experience of move-in day. Needless to say, it was an eventful day filled with hope and wonder that wound up with me bawling my eyes out at a booth in Coco Bongo.

It was a Saturday. Not too cold, not too hot, but just right. The mood felt perfect; a wonderful energy to unpack my entire life into the next chapter of my book. I began the day with my mother and uncle. We moved swiftly to load my pre-packed boxes into the back of his pickup truck – like I said, I was filled with sanguine bliss, so a girl was prepared. After 20 minutes of strenuous labor, all of the tangible items that represented me were in my uncle’s cargo bed. At this moment, the gravity of what was occurring became surreal and all I could feel was excitement for what was to come. Soon, the time had arrived for us to head out and bring my belongings to University Towers. My other family members met us at my new home, although we requested they come to my real home first. *You know black people – unless you’re not black, which makes this a bit awkward.* Nevertheless, they arrived where they saw fit and helped unload my boxes into the rolling carts. Moving like a well-oiled machine, my bins of clothes, bags of cleaning supplies and cans of food made their way into room 626. I turned on my favorite playlist to set the vibes and for the next four hours, my family and I brought the vision I had for my room into reality. It was everything

I dreamed of. But as those four hours passed by, my subconscious mind crept to the forefront.

My family would be leaving. They would unload all that I have and leave me to fend for myself. In that moment, I discovered abandonment issues I didn’t even know existed.

It was time. My room was now a completed puzzle, smelling of lavender and a slight hint of Clorox amongst my pink comforter and white throw pillows. Even though I was tired and extremely hungry, I silently begged that this moment could last forever. Fortunately, we traveled down Hillsborough Street and ended up at Coco Bongo, where I was vigorously slapped in the face – metaphorically speaking.

As the afternoon loomed, I could feel my once-upbeat attitude shift into a *terribly anxious feeling of absolute dread.* My eyes began tearing up as I stared out the nearby window to not alarm my mother. It wasn’t long before I excused myself from the table and began bawling in Coco Bongo’s bathroom. Looking back, I’m sure the



Chase Alston, a first-year studying international studies, opens the door to her dorm room in University Towers on April 28. Alston was in the midst of packing up her room to move out for the summer.

Photo by Emily Peedin

waiters printing out checks could hear my hysterical sniffles and hiccups from outside the door.

I had not expected to react this way in a million years. This was the same girl who aspired to go out-of-state for undergrad, who claimed she would only visit home once a month and who overall prided herself on being comfortable with change and hyper-independence. But here she was, visibly upset about not knowing what was to come. I attempted to put on a brave face when going back to my mother, but as soon as she asked, *“Are you okay?”*, the waterworks only came back ten-times harder, which brings us to my experience of uncontrollable sobbing in the booth of Coco Bongo due to the perilous journey we call *“move-in day.”*

It’s a bit embarrassing to share this story, as I want to convey myself as a cool girl who took the transition of college so well. It would be a picture-perfect scenario, but truth be told, I cannot give you that version, as it was not my reality. At that moment, I transformed into a child who throws a tantrum when their mom has to leave them with the babysitter for date night. And you know what? That’s okay. It’s okay that I reacted that way, and it’s definitely okay if you do as well because all transitions can cause you to uncover your unconscious doubts, ambitions and fears. For me, move-in day brought out a sensitive side I didn’t realize was held back by my usually confident demeanor. That day, I learned I needed stability and reassurance more than I let on. So however you’re feeling about move-in day – happy, sad, uncertain or even neutral – embrace the way it makes you feel and transform that energy into passion for embarking on new journeys and making the best of your college experience. I highly recommend crying at a booth in Coco Bongo, but if you’re not feeling that, *their fajita quesadilla is amazing!* •

Cadets from the NC State Navy ROTC carry the colors while climbing during the second annual Carter-Finley Memorial Stair Climb at Carter-Finley Stadium on Sept. 11. The event was organized by NC State Fire & Life Safety and Army ROTC. Over 250 people climbed 110 flights of stairs in remembrance of the first responders to the September 11 attacks.

Photo by Jeremy Byrne



Military Resources on Campus

BY SOPHIA BUCKNER AND JUSTIN ISAIAH IRIARTE

Upon arriving at NC State for the first time, it's easy to get lost in the hubbub of student life. For these writers, moving into our residence halls and finding where our classes were felt like the least of our worries. We quickly found out that navigating services and benefits as a military-affiliated student can be unnecessarily daunting.

Though there are abundant services on our campus, you may not know about what NC State offers to our veteran and dependent students. Knowing how and where to find help when you need it could help you avoid stress and make

the most of new opportunities and experiences.

THE JEFFREY WRIGHT MILITARY AND VETERAN SERVICES OFFICE

The Jeffrey Wright Military and Veteran Services Office offers many resources for our military-affiliated population. This is where you'll find our school's VA-certifying officials, who process enrollment verifications from students as well as act as NC State's connection to the VA. Along with the officials, the office also employs VA work-study students who are veterans and

dependents currently seeking a degree from NC State. No matter who you encounter in the office, any questions or concerns you may have about VA benefits or military resources will be answered.

Program Coordinator Lucretia King describes the office as a gathering place for anyone on campus with a military affiliation. The MVS Office prides itself on being a community full of friendly support from staff, patrons and fellow military peers.

"Whether it be active soldiers, military

dependents, spouses or veterans, our office provides a welcoming respite from the chaos of campus and student life," said King. "We try to build an environment that allows students to be comfortable with anything, from studying and getting school work done to engaging in banter with others."

The MVS Office offers many amenities to military-affiliated students. The office acts as a lounge for students to use as a study space, work area or just a place to talk to new people with similar experiences. In the lounge, help yourself to food, snacks and drinks to refuel you during the day, as well as free-to-use 3D and laser printers.

STUDENT VETERANS ALLIANCE AND INVOLVEMENT

The MVS Office is also the sponsor of the Student Veterans Alliance, which is a club for military-connected students interested in growing their professional and social networks with other students who have shared military experiences. Hosting events that range from NC State sports watch parties, workshops or info sessions, the SVA is a great opportunity for students to come together and find community at our large institution.

ROTC AND ACADEMICS

Our campus offers three Reserve Officer Training Corps programs for students: Navy, Air Force and Army. By combining ROTC training with a military science or military studies minor – available to all students regardless of military status – you can set yourself up with all the great physical, mental and educational skills you need for a successful military career. Plus, ROTC programs will often help you pay tuition and school book expenses, even offering monthly stipends, depending on the program. If you're looking to become an officer, but don't want to miss out on that quintessential college education and experience, then ROTC is the program for you.

BENEFITS

NC State offers many resources for veterans and dependents, such as GI Bill Benefits, Yellow Ribbon Program benefits, residency changes, college credit for military service, specialized payment plans and even early registration for classes.



Julian Teague (left), a fifth-year studying civil engineering and a member of the NC State Air Force ROTC, throws up a "wolfie" during the University Commencement ceremony in Carter-Finley Stadium on May 3. NC State conferred 7,234 degrees at the ceremony, including 5,079 bachelor's, 1,783 master's, 306 doctoral and 66 associate degrees.

Photo by Alex Manuel



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THE JARGON OF THE PACK!

BY BRAN POSTER
DESIGN BY AUTUMN TATE

1 WOLFIE

When a photographer asks you to throw up a wolfie, don't panic – you aren't being asked to regurgitate a tiny lupine creature! Merely put your thumb, middle finger and ring finger together to make a little wolf mouth. Then point up your index and pinky fingers to make two ears. Voilá! You now have so much school spirit you're effectively a poltergeist!



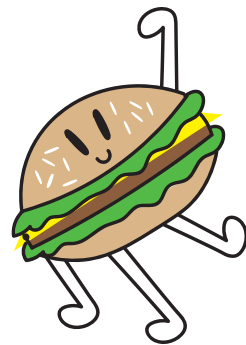
2 PACK BY 90

This right here is an extremely versatile expression – it essentially means “the Wolfpack will win by 90 points!” Although it's most commonly used as a declaration of wild optimism and hubris in the context of sports, one could also use it in the context of tests, colon screenings and the density of marbled tissue in Wagyu beef – “Pack by 90%!”



3 FOUNTAIN FIFTEEN

Do you believe in magic? Here at NC State's Fountain Dining Hall, the notorious “Freshman Fifteen,” the stereotype that first-year students will gain 15 pounds as soon as they move to college, is nothing more than hocus pocus. You'll actually lose 15 pounds from eating nutritious and delicious Fountain cuisine! (But actually no. Enjoy gaining some huggable, lovable chub.)



4 WOLFALEERT

Thanks to the Clery Act, universities are required to divulge information about recent nearby crimes to students. This means you may or may not get random text messages – “WolfAlerts” – about wannabe Al Capones nabbing catalytic converters and such. Most dramatically, one time some goober tried to steal a car at gunpoint. But unfortunately for him, he didn't know how to drive a stick shift!



5 GET SWOLF

Forget being told to “get swole” by overenthusiastic gym bros – here at NC State you need to get swolf! Swolfing isn't about bulking up or showing off, it's about survival. NC State's fitness classes are brutal – even pro athletes will have to hustle to get an A. If you don't take them for credit only (meaning the result won't affect your GPA), be prepared to swolf to the max.



6 GTHC

GTHC = Go to Hell Caroline! Raaah! Sure, many of our best professors and administrators went to school at UNC-Chapel Hill. Sure, we have an inter-institutional enrollment agreement with them so students can take classes here and there simultaneously. But UNC was founded decades earlier than us, so like any proper younger sibling, we must have a rivalry with them! So GTHC! There's even a special issue of Technician, the Daily Tar Hell, dedicated to satirizing UNC.

7 MS. WUF

Fact: fire is hot. Fact: gravity causes things to fall to the ground. Fact: if you want to see victories, watch the Wolfpack women's basketball team. Queens of the court like Aziaha James and Saniya Rivers (who were drafted by the WNBA last spring!) deliver triumph after triumph while their male counterparts dribble their balls. The new men's coach Will Wade might change things, but I'm keeping my expectations low. Now if only we had a women's football team...



Howl for Howell: Welcoming the New Chancellor

BY AUDREY JAVAN
PHOTO BY JERMAINE HUDSON

Chancellor-elect Kevin Howell smiles after walking on stage during the new chancellor announcement in Talley Student Union on March 18. Howell will be the 15th chancellor of NC State and the first Black chancellor. "I'm humble, I'm excited and I'm ready," said Howell.



AS THE SUN SETS ON Randy Woodson's time as chancellor, with the class of '25's commencement his last official act, it's time do a little spring cleaning around the Chancellor's Residence and roll out the Wolfpack Red carpet – exactly #CC0000, if you please – for our brand new leader of the Wolfpack: *Chancellor Kevin Howell.*

NC State seems to have a tradition of picking the jolliest, kindest-faced men for chancellors, and Howell is no exception. But never doubt the fact that behind that bright smile is a cool, capable wolf. Believe it or not, Howell is only our third ever chancellor to be Wolfpack alum. After graduating in 1988 with a degree in political science, Howell made the dangerous foray into enemy territory, earning a JD from UNC School of Law in 1992. If that isn't

been elected NC State's first Black student body president. Howell has always been a leader on this campus. One glance at the NC State Libraries homepage will tell you that much; since his appointment, the first thing you see on the front page of the website is an archival photo of a young Howell smiling at a line of March Against Racism-Challenging History protestors, the epitome of presidential grace. And finally, in what feels like destiny, but is truly the sum of decades of hard work, he has come back home to become our first Black chancellor.

I can throw as many numbers at you as I want. I can tell you that in all 138 years of NC State history, due to a couple administrative title-changes in the early 20th century, we have only had 15 chancellors. I can tell you that since Woodson served for 15 years,

“I’M HUMBLE, I’M EXCITED AND I’M READY.”

a testament to his dedication and bravery, I don't know what is. Diplomas in hand, Howell slid from prestigious career to prestigious career, clerking for the NC Court of Appeals, working legislatively with two governors, even heading external affairs for both UNC Health and UNC School of Medicine. Is it possible for a man to be this overqualified?

Now, imagine yourself in the '80s. "Take My Breath Away" by Berlin is on the radio somewhere, or maybe it's another song with atmospheric synth and echoing drums. Centennial Campus, Caldwell Hall, the Court of Carolina and the famous School of Veterinary Medicine are all being built and dedicated within a few short years of each other. It was only 40 years ago. Can you imagine this campus without any of these things? Now try to imagine NC State without Kevin Howell, who, as of 1987, had just

there's a chance that Howell could see us through to our 150th birthday. But none of these numbers can tell you the definitive truth: Chancellor Howell is ready to lead the Wolfpack through construction and upheaval and uncertainty towards great new heights. So for the fall-graduating class of '25, who get the honor of Howell's first commencement address, the upcoming class of '26 and every incoming first-year and transfer student, please give a warm Wolfpack welcome home to Chancellor Howell. *He's here to welcome you home, as well.*

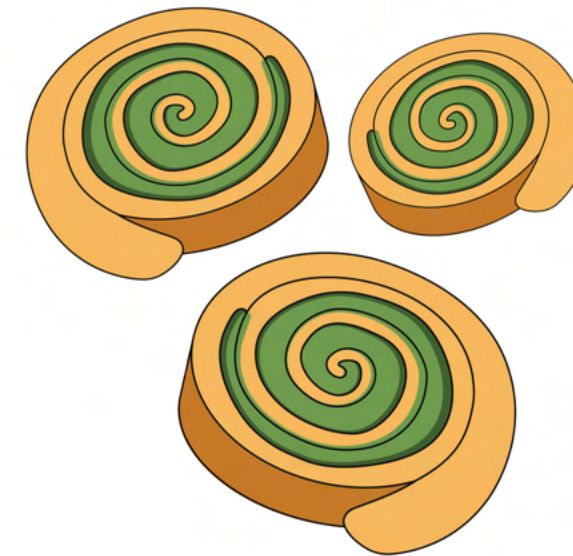
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ROUNDABITES: DORM EDITION

BY JUSTIN ISAIAH IRIARTE
DESIGN BY MARLOWE HENDERSON

Spending your entire first year in college running solely on dining hall meals could challenge many incoming students. I couldn't bear the thought of not cooking a single meal for an entire academic year. I took matters into my own hands and found out how to blend the feeling of a home-cooked meal with the ease and necessity of college dorm eating.

This collection of recipes, though simple, got me through some days where the dining hall food just didn't seem to cut it. Whether an on-the-go breakfast, a quick snack before class or an easy dinner after a long day of classes, *I hope those living in the dorms can use these recipes and find some comfort in the madness of college life.*



SPINACH PINWHEELS

INGREDIENTS

- 3 tortillas
- 1 package frozen spinach, thawed and drained
- ¼ cup mayonnaise
- ½ cup sour cream or ½ cup plain Greek yogurt
- ½ packet ranch dressing mix
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- Salt and pepper to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1** **Mix Ingredients.** After ensuring spinach is as drained as possible, mix it with the mayonnaise, sour cream, ranch dressing seasoning, garlic powder, as well as salt and pepper if needed.
- 2** **Spread and Roll.** Spread mixture onto a tortilla, then roll tightly.
- 3** **Slice and Enjoy!** Slice into one-inch rolls or keep whole and refrigerate. These can be stored for around a week for a quick lunch or snack.

OVERNIGHT OATS

INGREDIENTS

Base:

- ½ cup rolled oats
- ¼ cup milk of choice
- ¼ cup yogurt
- 1 tablespoon chia seeds, *optional*

My Preferred Add-ins:

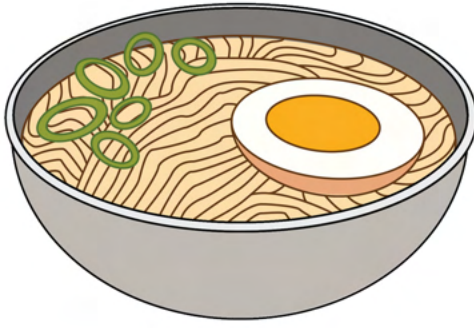
- ¼ cup fresh fruit
- 1 tablespoon sweetener, *I prefer honey*
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1** **Mix Ingredients.** Add all base ingredients into a container of your choice. Choose add-ins and mix as well.
- 2** **Cover and Refrigerate.** Cover the container and refrigerate overnight.
- 3** **Thin and Enjoy!** The next day, if the oats are too thick, stir in more milk.



ELEVATED MICROWAVE RAMEN



INGREDIENTS

These are some ingredients that could be added to a pack of ramen based on your preference.

- 1 pack of your favorite instant ramen with seasoning packet

Broth Options:

- 1 teaspoon of chicken bouillon powder or 1 chicken bouillon cube
- or
- 1 tablespoon of miso paste
- or
- 1 tablespoon of curry paste

Additional Sauces:

- 1 teaspoon of soy sauce
- or
- ½ teaspoon of fish sauce
- or
- 1 tablespoon of chili oil
- or
- 1 teaspoon of peanut butter

Extras:

- Eggs
- Frozen or canned vegetables
 - Corn
 - Carrots
 - Peas
 - Green beans

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Boil Water.** Whether in a bowl or kettle, heat water to a boil. Add in the seasoning packet from instant ramen and chicken bouillon.
- 2 Add in Sauce.** If you choose to do so, add in the sauce or sauces that you prefer while the water is hot.
- 3 Add an Egg.** Crack an egg into the soup and scramble it until it resembles egg drop soup.
- 4 Cook Noodles.** After mixing seasonings into the water and/or the egg is cooked, add in noodles and let sit to allow the noodles to cook.
- 5 Extras.** This is the step to add anything else you want in your ramen. Vegetables will warm in the soup, naturally. If you choose to add another egg over the top of the soup, crack it in, cover it, then microwave for around 45 seconds or until the egg reaches your desired doneness.
- 6 Enjoy!**

JUSTIN'S NOTES

- This "recipe" is simply just a list of possible ingredients that could be added to elevate your instant ramen. Be creative, and you can enjoy a different bowl of ramen every day if you'd like!
- My additions of choice are chicken bouillon, soy sauce, peanut butter, eggs and corn, but honestly, my dorm fridge was filled with all of these ingredients so that I could have some variety.

Entering university and living in a dorm room takes courage, strength and a whole lot of food. Finding easily accessible meal options that are available outside of the dining hall is difficult but also rewarding. If you're looking for some easy, delicious and semi-nutritious dishes to curb your first-year appetite, then give these a try and up your dorm room culinary skills.



Regardless of your major, the arts are for everyone!



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A Whole New World

Wolfpack Hacks and How-Tos

Whatever the question, we have the answer. Stay safe and informed!

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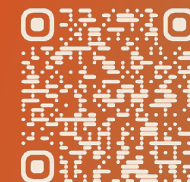
Culture Curation

Senior Stories

ESCAPE AND EXPLORE



Plan your escape to Downtown Cary Park - a place of imagination in the heart of Cary. Stroll the enchanting Skywalk, where you can take in a world of wonder with each step. Then wind your way to Park Street Courts for table tennis rivalries, food trucks, and more. Explore the Park and upcoming events at the link below.



Discover Another World Within Yours
DowntownCaryPark.com





Members of the leadership team of the Chi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Pi, a co-ed pre-law and government fraternity, stand by the Memorial Belltower on April 18. The Chi Chapter was chartered in the fall of 2023.

Photo Contributed by the Chi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Pi

So You Want to be a *Lawyer?*

BY LIBBY COKER

It's fun to pick a major such as fashion textile marketing or chemical engineering, but what does NC State offer for those students aiming to attend law school?

Well... although NC State does not have a specific pre-law major, it provides students with a plethora of opportunities for growth, assistance, networking and more to help them succeed in potential future endeavors within the law field.

When beginning to consider law school post-grad, you must look at the traditional path that many follow, and see if that fits with your intended plans.

So, what does this path normally look like?

- 1 Attend university/community college for a bachelor's degree
- 2 Tour law schools during third and fourth year of undergrad
- 3 Take the LSAT the semester prior to applying to law school
- 4 Apply to your ideal law schools in the fall! Or an alternative is to take a gap year to gain experience through an internship, paralegal position, etc.
- 5 You're off to law school!

Now that that is out of the way, let's see what NC State has to offer for students looking to venture down this path.

NC State has several clubs, professional organizations and advisors that may be beneficial to these students. To find out more with direct links, there is a website dedicated to this information that can be found at prelaw.dasa.ncsu.edu

NC State pre-law resources:

- NC State Pre-Law Student Association
- The Chi Chapter of KAPi
- Pre-Law Education and Diversity Club
- The Society for Politics, Economics and the Law
- Pre-Law Advising (drop-in and appointments available)
- Pre-Law Pathway in ePack account

Kappa Alpha Pi is a professional pre-law and government co-ed fraternity that has a chapter at NC State. KAPi holds recruitment for new members in both the spring and fall semesters and strives to build a community of likeminded peers looking to head into similar career paths.

“Being in KAPi has been one of my favorite experiences in my time at NC State! It has provided me with countless opportunities to achieve my goals and hone my skills. The bonds I have made with the brothers of KAPi are lifelong, and having a support system of like-minded individuals is so valuable to me. Whether it's law school tours, resume workshops, LSAT prep or fun philanthropy events, KAPi has shaped my college experience, and I would encourage everyone I can to join!”

– Karley Lusby, Chi Chapter President of KAPi

Another very successful and positively reviewed club at NC State is the Society for Politics, Economics, and the Law, who just celebrated their 20th anniversary since their formation in 2004-05.

“The Society for Politics, Economics and the Law brings in academics, practitioners and others to talk about ideas and careers related to politics, policy, economics and the law. These individuals are often local, but some come in from all over the country to speak to students. SPEL is particularly suited to students interested in legal careers because they are exposed to legal theory and practice and many other subjects they will come up against in law school. It also provides a great way for students to get to know professors and therefore possibly identify mentors and faculty willing to discuss career paths with them.”

– Dr. Andrew Taylor, professor of political science

Aside from these organizations and services offered at NC State, there are always other things that are beneficial for students considering law school. For one thing, there are law classes in the political science and history departments that can help you start building a foundation of knowledge. The professors themselves, whether legal historians, constitutional law experts or former lawyers, are invaluable resources and guides for any future law student.

But probably the most major recommendation is to *network!* **Network! Network!**

Raleigh is a fantastic city to network in as a young aspiring professional. There are tons of opportunities here inside of the Triangle that allow you to hear wisdom from those already well into their career, make connections and gain experience. Attending events and reaching out to people – even if that means cold-calling to ask for a job shadow – is a great way to put yourself out into the professional world! In addition, don't forget to make, update and keep track of that LinkedIn!

Wishing good luck and happy trekking ahead!



What in the World Are You Carrying?



Gone are the days of extravagant school supplies lists supplied conveniently in the Walmart closest to your grade school. Bygone are the woes of begging your parents for the scented pencils and the notebooks with technicolor nausea-inducing Lisa Frank kittens and dolphins. Not that they ever bought them for you, anyway.

01. Bag or Tote

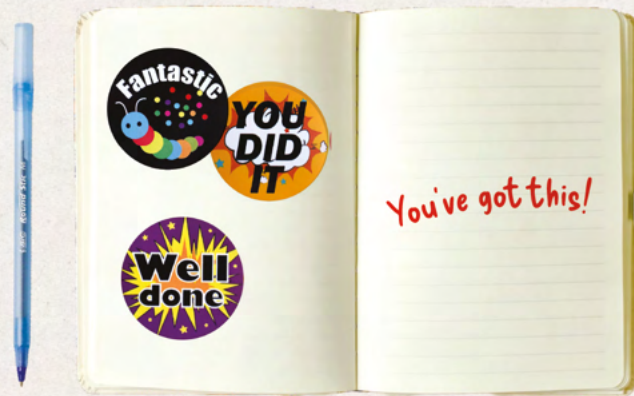


But now you are standing on the precipice of the rest of your life, embarking on a journey to higher knowledge and life-long friendships (or enemies, depending on your choices). Every hero has their iconic tool: Link has the Master Sword, Luke Skywalker has his lightsaber, and Doc Holliday has his iconic dual revolvers. By now,

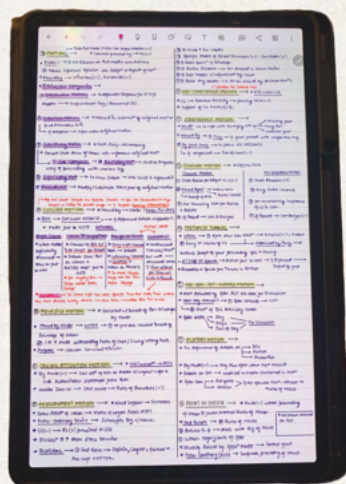
you're probably asking yourself, "What do I need for my daring ballad-inspiring epic?" Fear not, young first-year. Today, I am bestowing upon you sacred knowledge: what's dead weight upon your youthful shoulders and what you actually need for lectures.

While I ultimately believe that your greatest weapon is your mind, you cannot properly wield the ol' noodle without increasing your knowledge. Hence why you're here at NC State, and also why it might be a good idea to take some notes. Note-taking is an individual thing, depending on how you intake and retain information, and some students mix up the methods even depending on the class. The three most

02. Paper + Pen(cil)



common methods I've utilized in my time sharpening my rock pile are good old-fashioned paper-and-pen notes, taking it up a notch with an iPad and fancy Apple Pencil, or typing away on a laptop. I vacillate between all three, and still switch it up occasionally. My true love is writing by hand, but I find that if I want to both write legibly and keep up with the lecture, typing is the way to go. That being said, my advice is to try it all and figure out what works best for you! Be aware



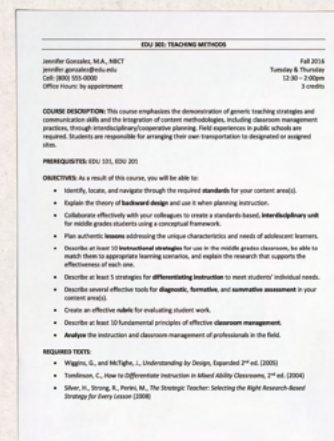
that some professors may prohibit the use of any type of technology, so having a notebook and a pencil on hand, even if it's not your favorite method, is a good idea. Some sort of writing utensil is also handy if you have an old-school professor who passes around notebook paper attendance sheets.

04. Laptop + Syllabi



Having your laptop on hand is a good idea to get work done in between classes, but make sure you grab a charger, too, especially if you frequently forget to plug in your devices before you go to bed each night. Download or bookmark the syllabus for each of your classes, or, if you prefer, print them out and highlight the due dates. Some professors like to put due dates on the syllabus, but not on the assignment turn-in on Moodle. It's a curious practice and not terribly common, in my experience, but it helps to be prepared. Having easy access to your syllabi is also handy for grading and attendance policies.

05. Lecture Materials



With lecture supplies, I've found that less is more. Don't carry around your textbooks, unless it's a literature class and you need to refer to the readings. And, if you're living on campus, there's no reason to carry your whole life in your backpack! Throw a snack and a water

bottle in there, but anything else and you'll give yourself irreversible back pain. Trust me, I'm devastatingly over-prepared at all times, and my poor spine suffers the consequences constantly. This advice is for myself just as much as it is for all of you!

I hope this sage wisdom reaches your ears and takes root in your heart! I was, and still woefully am, the kid on campus whose backpack looks more like the shell of a tortoise than an efficient method of carrying class materials, despite my fossil status as an almost-senior. Good luck with your first year, and welcome to the Pack!

TECH DEN
AT WOLFPACK OUTFITTERS

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Not sure what to get? The Tech Den team will guide you to the best laptop to power through your coursework and offer the best accessories to use and protect your laptop investment.



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Visit us in the Tech Den on the Lower Level of Wolfpack Outfitters. thetechden@ncsu.edu | 919.515.3400 shop.ncsu.edu



At NC State University, all students and employees can live, work, play, empower, learn, create and compete freely. The Office of Equal Opportunity helps make this a reality.

We serve the NC State community by:

- Providing equal opportunity education and resources;
- Addressing issues related to unlawful discrimination of any kind; and
- Providing accommodations to persons with disabilities, those expressing religious beliefs, and persons who are pregnant or parenting.

Want to learn more about your rights and responsibilities?

Visit our webpage
equalopportunity.ncsu.edu

The Division of Academic and Student Affairs

Welcomes the Class of 2029

dasa.ncsu.edu



Follow @NCStateDASA to get involved and find your communities.

What's in My Go Bag?



Follow us for more safety tips
[@hcstateemmc](https://twitter.com/hcstateemmc)

NC STATE DINING

- SWIPES + DINING DOLLARS**
Your meal plan is packed with great features to help you get the food you love.
- ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT**
Monitor your account during the semester, add more Dining Dollars if you run out, or add funds to your All Campus account.
- ALLERGENS + NUTRITION INFORMATION**
Our award-winning nutrition team is here to make sure you have a safe and satisfying experience when you eat with the Pack.
- GRUBHUB**
Download Grubhub this summer and link it to your dining account.

It won't be long until you move in and are ready to eat. Knowing how your plan works will help you get the most out of it!

Eat well, Wolfpack.



Scan here to learn more about your dining plan.

Your Guide to Anti-Boredom: Entertainment on Campus

BY TAYLOR JONES

IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT being unable to find fun events on campus, do not fret! NC State has got you covered, especially during the first week of the semester. During Welcome Week, you will find yourself with a completely full itinerary of movie screenings and involvement fairs. Then, that weekend, you can attend the iconic Packapalooza, an enormous block party for the community. But when festivities begin to die down and the amount of events start dwindling, you may find yourself at a crossroads. Campus will seem quieter, and you may begin to feel like there's nothing to do around here, apart from going to class during the week and attending mediocre parties on the weekends. But there are plenty of fun (and FREE) events happening throughout campus during the school year for when you inevitably need a reminder.

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

When you go to a STEM driven school, it is easy to forget that there still exists a community on campus that appreciates a good stage production, and University Theater delivers just that. Throughout the year, they have four bigger shows, including the main Spring Musical. Although there is no theater major at NC State, there is no lack of theatrical talent among the students here. I can attest to seeing last year's musical, "Jekyll & Hyde," three times and it was spectacular each time. After an experience like that, I don't doubt their capabilities for its

upcoming productions. They also host a series called "QuickScripts," where you can see a bunch of 10-minute plays in one night, all of which have been directed, rehearsed and performed in about 36 hours. After watching, you might even be inspired to participate as a playwright, director or actor. Lucky for you, UT is always looking for fresh blood, no experience required.

COMEDIC IMPROV ALLIANCE

As an extension of University Theater, the Comedic Improv Alliance is the university's improv troupe. They host a few shows every semester, in addition to their weekly auditions which are completely open for anyone to attend. Their shows are typically held in the Kennedy-McIlwee Studio Theater in Thompson Hall, a smaller black box theater making for more of an intimate setting. They often ask the audience for prompts and ideas, so make sure you come ready to shout them out!

UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES BOARD

The UAB hosts multiple on-campus events per month based on what students are most interested in. In the past, they've held movie screenings, talent shows, karaoke nights and more. All of their events are completely planned by the students that make up their general body, so they know exactly what other students want to see. Often, they provide snacks, sometimes a full buffet, as well as prizes for any games. They are active on Instagram, so I would

suggest giving them a follow to stay up to date!

WOMEN'S CENTER

If you're looking for a way to decompress in the middle of the week, the Women's Center offers just that. Every Thursday, they host a Crafting and Connecting event from 1-2:30 p.m. The craft changes every week, but in the past they've done collages, mini-zines and handmade puzzles. These events are put on with the help of Counseling Center, so there are always counselors that craft along with you, and if you'd like, you can meet with them on the spot. I attend these events every week with a friend, and it is a beautiful way to catch up while working on a craft. If you are not interested in the planned craft, they always have a number of board games to play and magazines to sift through to keep your mind at ease. For anyone wondering, no, you do not have to identify as a woman to participate! Everyone is welcome.

I hope that this article serves as a reminder that there are events constantly happening around campus for everyone to enjoy. Becoming a frequent attendee at these events is also a certified way to make friends and connect with others.



Members of Pilot Light Ethan Johnson, Sam Coury and Mason Stark play during Wolfstock on Miller Fields on April 12. Pilot Light opened for indie band Peach Tree Rascals. This event is hosted by University Activities Board.

Photo by Anna Hansen



LINKS TO RESOURCES



Owen Durso, a second-year studying chemistry and the actor playing the Cat in the Hat, looks down at Brinley Carter, a fourth-year studying communication and the actress playing Mayzie, during a performance of "Seussical" in Stewart Theater on Feb. 18. The musical is based on various works by Dr. Seuss and was directed by Mia Self, assistant director of acting and directing at University Theater.

Photo by Violet Beesley

Wolfpack's Packing Guide

for PEAK NC WEATHER PREPAREDNESS

by AUDREY JAVAN, design by BRIANA VREULS

A couple years ago, one of my Iranian cousins asked a question I've heard other folks, foreign and domestic, wonder many a time:



"Yes," I said, with the kind of mirthful surety only one who's experienced such a climate could muster.

Now, if you haven't lived in this area for a length of time, the tempestuous seasons and weather of this temperate biome may not be what you expect. On its face, midland North Carolina may seem like a calm woodland where flora, fauna and students thrive together under the warm sun. Then you get a 74-degree Christmas Eve, followed by two inches of snow in February after three years of no snow accumulation to speak of. One day, you're watching the short-clipped grass literally be toasted brown by the sun beating down from a cloudless sky, and the next day, the rain creates whitewater rapids in the street gutters and you have to go home at



midday to change out of your soaked clothes. We aren't known for snow, we aren't known for heat, we aren't known for storms. We're just kind of... known. That's the scariest part.

The North Carolina climate is unpredictable even for the people who've lived here their whole lives, so if you're coming from far away, you're not alone in your confusion. Maybe you're used to ice, but not humidity. Maybe you're a beach bum who's never experienced a frost warning. No matter who you are or what you know, the best we can do is be prepared for whatever it might throw at us day by day. All it takes is some smart, thoughtful packing.

Of course, you'll need some of the same basics everywhere you go. Tank tops, T-shirts, shorts, light pants and leggings will make good spring–autumn outfits, and can easily form the base layers of a cold-weather outfit. Plus, during those awkward transitional periods with a temperature delta of 30 degrees throughout the day, these are outfits that can be built upon so you're warm in the morning and cool in the afternoon! The persistent mugginess of the air here makes the cold biting and the heat even more suffocating, so be sure to take the humidity into account when planning what you're stepping outside in.

Most importantly, you need no less than three levels of jacket: light, heavy and rain.

Light Jackets

The light jacket category includes things like windbreakers, sweatshirts and hoodies, — anything that can be thrown on over your base outfit to protect your vital organ-filled upper body from either cold wind or overactive AC. When you're done wearing them, you can tie them around your waist or fold them up into your bag for convenience!



Heavy Jackets

Heavy jackets are thick coats, down puffers, leather jackets and the like. They're big enough to fit over a sweater or two, they're hopefully waterproof and they'll protect you from the wind.

Rain Jackets

Rain jackets are self-explanatory. When it storms, it's often too windy to use an umbrella. So unless you want to get Mary Poppins'd away against your will or, like me, get your cute umbrella broken on your 21st birthday, invest in a good raincoat.



You can have all the clothing items you want and still not know how to put them together. I know firsthand because I spend too much time every spring and fall relearning what weather feels like. So here are a few outfit suggestions from this climate veteran to you!

<30°

If you want to stay warm, layer like your life depends on it! I'm talking fleece-lined leggings with jeans over top, a T-shirt and a wool sweater all wrapped up in a heavy jacket and a scarf. Don't forget to protect your ears and hands!

40-50°

You'll be chilly standing still, but you'll get hot while walking, so the balance is tricky. You can wear shorts or a skirt as long as you bundle up on your top half — I'm partial to a T-shirt or tank top, a hoodie and a jacket on top. For a warmer fit, go with pants, a sweater and a jacket, similar to the colder-weather outfits, but with less going on underneath. Watch out for the wind!

60-70°

We're approaching the end of pants weather, now, but it's finally the perfect time for the classic jeans-and-T-shirt combo. You can also pair a long-sleeved shirt with some shorts, or start pulling the tank tops back into rotation. This is the freest possible temperature range for you to mix-and-match items, so have some fun with it!

>80°

The air is thick and you feel like you're about to melt into the bricks. Dress light with thin, flowy fabrics that won't stick to your body when you start to sweat on your hike to class.

Water bottles and portable fans are hot accessories, this time of year. And if you're going to be exposing skin, don't forget sunscreen!

Of course, no matter what the weather or how many layers you have on, the most important thing is that you're wearing what makes you feel like you. Pack your favorite graphic tees, your fluffiest sweaters and your prettiest dresses, or whatever else

you want to wear! Just make sure there's a decent amount of NC State merch in that wardrobe and you'll be all set for a well-dressed college career.

So whether you're coming from as far as the Far East or as near as the Midwest, I hope you find your place on campus in the most stylish and comfortable all-weather outfits possible. Stay warm, cool and/or dry out there!



Free Stuff You Can Get as an NC State Student

BY MIA ROLDAN
DESIGN BY LAUREN NEWCOMB

Like any university, NC State tuition costs a pretty penny, so it's only natural to want to get your money's worth. I'm a more-is-more kind of gal, but my pockets aren't deep enough for my big dreams. Good thing NC State gives you free access to a variety of fun and helpful programs and services! From apps to binoculars, I promise you aren't paying all that tuition for nothing. Find out how you can get almost anything you want simply by visiting one of our facilities or making an account with your NC State credentials.



MICROSOFT OFFICE

All NC State students have free access to Microsoft Office, including Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook, OneNote, OneDrive and Access for all your writing and storing needs! While it's not as glamorous as other items on this list, it's sure to be a top-choice tool in your toolbox.

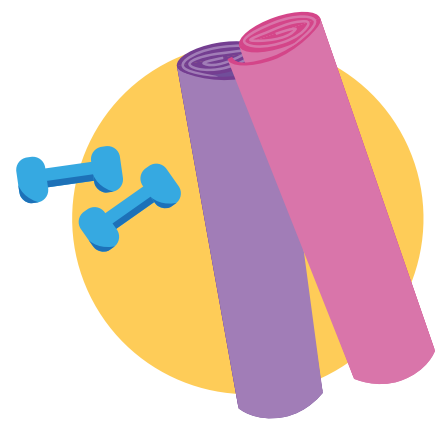
HEADSPACE

Headspace is a mental health platform, home to guided meditation exercises, study beats and sleep sounds. I use this for studying, waking up and going to sleep – my one-stop-shop for all things mental wellness! Open the website or download the mobile app.



NEW YORK TIMES

All NC State students can enjoy free access to one of the world's biggest newspapers. Read through every kind of article you can imagine, from global news to brunch recipes, and explore all the NYT games like the daily crossword and Connections. Stay up to date and keep your Wordle streak by logging in with your NC State credentials.



WORKOUT CLASSES

Head over to Carmichael Gym for a variety of free workout classes ranging from yoga to cycling to pilates! Feel the burn in all the right places, without burning a hole in your pockets. To register, simply sign up on the MyWellRec website using your NC State credentials.

WORDPRESS BLOG PAGE

NC State gives all students the opportunity to create their own WordPress blog website. Create a custom page to showcase your personality, accomplishments and career readiness! It's an easy (and free!) way to impress your peers and future employers.

TECHNOLOGY RENTAL

Head over to D.H. Hill Jr. or Hunt Library to check out a variety of technologies for free! Rent everyday essentials like chargers or keyboards, or spice things up with an audio production table or DSLR camera! Our libraries' excellent staff at the Ask Us desks can get you hooked up with anything you need.

CLIFTON STRENGTHS

Clifton Strengths is an in-depth personality assessment that pulls out your strongest characteristics to help you succeed. Find your top talents

from 34 themes using their 177-question test. It might take up your afternoon, but I promise it'll come in handy for many parts of your student career. Many classes even ask you to take it!

SOFTWARE

Some of the best programs come at steep prices, but not here! As a student, you have access to some of the best software out there for free. The only caveat? You have to visit one of our awesome libraries to use it. Desktops at both Hill and Hunt libraries offer hundreds of programs, from Adobe Suite to VR.

GRUBHUB+

Everyone knows (or if you didn't, you do now!) that NC State's food-ordering hub is Grubhub. But did you know that we all have Grubhub+ for free? This means \$0 delivery fees, lower service fees and exclusive offers! While most people have a meal plan for our lovely dining halls, I'm sure you'll want a change of taste every once in a while.

GO-RALEIGH AND GO-TRIANGLE

First-years rarely have access to a car, so thankfully, NC State offers its students a free pass for the GoRaleigh and GoTriangle bus system. Enjoy being carted all across the Triangle for your shopping, entertainment and employment needs. Simply request the pass through the NC State Transportation website, download the Umo Mobility app, create an account and hitch a ride!

CAREER ADVISING

Head over to Pullen Hall to meet with a team of career advisors whose only goal is to help you succeed! From resume revisions to interview preparation, you'll be sure to snag that internship. Set up an appointment on the ePACK website or check out their drop-in hours. Take advantage of this now before the real world charges you hundreds of dollars for the same service. *Bonus: each college has its own dedicated career advisor, so you can meet with someone who is knowledgeable about your career!*



COUNSELING

NC State goes to great lengths to make sure that its students are as well as they can be. The Health Center offers free counseling to anyone who needs it. Go to the Health Center's website, fill out the required forms and meet with a counselor for a triage appointment. The counselors are kind, knowledgeable and helpful – I speak from experience. You can't "Think and Do" when you aren't at your best, so help yourself out and book that appointment!

FREE MOMS

Coming up on your first year at college can be daunting, especially when you're away from family.

While nobody can replace the comfort of your real mom, the lovely ladies and gentlemen of Free Moms help fill the gap. Every Thursday on Main and Centennial campuses, these moms, dads and dogs give out flowers, gifts and treats to those who need a bit of motherly love. Enjoy the atmosphere accompanied by friends and live music! P.S. Check out their Instagram @ncsufreemoms or website ncsufreemoms.org to see where they meet each week!

Some of these services are essential for everyday Pack Proud life, while others simply make life easier. A service may help you develop your career skills, like mastering Excel, or they may just bring you up when you're feeling down, like a hug and a cookie from a Free Mom. This list is just a glimpse of all the free and nearly free benefits that come with joining the Wolfpack, so keep exploring, keep learning and keep saving! Take advantage of anything and everything you can. You're paying for it!



pursue your potential with

fraternity and sorority life

On behalf of the Department of Fraternity and Sorority Life, welcome to the Wolfpack!

At NC State, we're over 50 fraternal organizations strong, empowering over 3,500 members with amazing opportunities to engage in leadership roles, active social experience, volunteering in the community, and fundraising for local and national philanthropies. Our goal is to empower students to develop a deeper sense of purpose throughout their collegiate experience. As a member of a fraternity or sorority, you can:

belong - finding a support network can be challenging, yet vital to your success. Membership connects you to a community of peers and supportive alumni.

achieve - we set high academic expectations for our members and support their classroom experience. Our members are students first and foremost. It's no wonder more than 47% of members are on the Dean's List and have higher graduation rates than unaffiliated peers.

live - we value cooperation, teamwork, and civil discourse as members learn how to live and excel with these challenges as part of the brotherhood or sisterhood experience.

lead - we champion leadership opportunities and group efforts to develop members' individual potential and prepare them for success in their future career.

give - members give of their time and treasure - preparing them for a lifetime of engagement and philanthropy in the communities they serve.

"Being a member of FSL has been an invaluable part of my time at NC State. I've had the opportunity to meet so many new people, and be a part of a community of powerful changemakers on campus, while further developing my leadership and communication skills. Becoming a member of the National Pan-Hellenic Council is the best decision I've ever made."
- Dejah Headen, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

"Being a member of Fraternity and Sorority Life has transformed my life in so many ways and inspires me to evolve into the best version of myself daily. Without this community, I would not be the integrous leader, friend, and ambitious woman I am today, and that, I will forever be grateful for."
- Kaitlyn Adams, Kappa Delta

more than **50** organizations empowering over **3,500** members

Fraternity and sorority life is a transformative experience, developing lifelong relationships and community partnerships to realize your potential. This isn't about four years in college, but a lifetime of philanthropy, civic engagement, cooperation and leadership.

We hope you will pursue your potential at NC State and consider membership in one of our organizations. They're divided into four councils, based on collective interest. Take a moment to explore their unique qualities here and, for more information please visit our website at fsl.dasa.ncsu.edu.

paid advertisement



IFC

Interfraternity Council

number of organizations: 20+
recruitment style: formal (registration required)
75% have chapter housing
size: 19-136 members
average size: 66 members

Emphasis on scholarship, campus leadership and involvement, brotherhood, service and philanthropy, athletics, and leadership training, the IFC prides itself on continually producing successful leaders and men during the undergraduate years and beyond.

Formal recruitment will take place during Labor Day weekend.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) represents the historically African-American fraternities and sororities on campus. These organizations leverage their unique histories and national scope to contribute to the political, spiritual, social, economic and cultural life on campus.



NPHC

National Pan-Hellenic Council

number of organizations: 8
recruitment style: chapter led (sophomore status may be required), some in chapter housing
size: 2-20 members
average size: 10 members

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



MGC

Multicultural Greek Council

number of organizations: 8
recruitment style: chapter led
some in chapter housing
size: 4-15 members
average size: 10 members

Celebrates culture (Native American, Latin, Asian, South Asian, and multiculturalism), heritage and individuality while focusing on uplifting each member toward their personal potential. These fraternities and sororities foster representation on campus, while providing a close-knit group of true friends to experience college and life alongside.

Focus on empowering women, helping them reach their potential as scholars, as leaders in the community, and as change makers in the world. Finding a sisterhood at NC State transforms the collegiate experience.

Formal recruitment will take place during Labor Day weekend.



Panhellenic Association

number of organizations: 13
recruitment style: formal (registration required)
92% have chapter housing
size: 31-170 members
average size: 134 members

keep up with fraternity and sorority life, rush, recruitment and more at fsl.dasa.ncsu.edu

A Whole New World

Wolfpack Hacks and How-Tos

Culture Curation

Wolfpack life is — and always has been — an experience like no other. Don't believe me? Just keep reading!

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- 56 NAVIGATING THE ROADS

Senior Stories



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NC STATE Department of Performing Arts and Technology

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NC STATE FASHION HISTORY

BY KATHERINE WAN, KAYLA STACKHOUSE, SEEMAL SYED, AND EVIE DALLMANN
DESIGN BY AUTUMN TATE AND KAYLA STACKHOUSE
PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER, NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

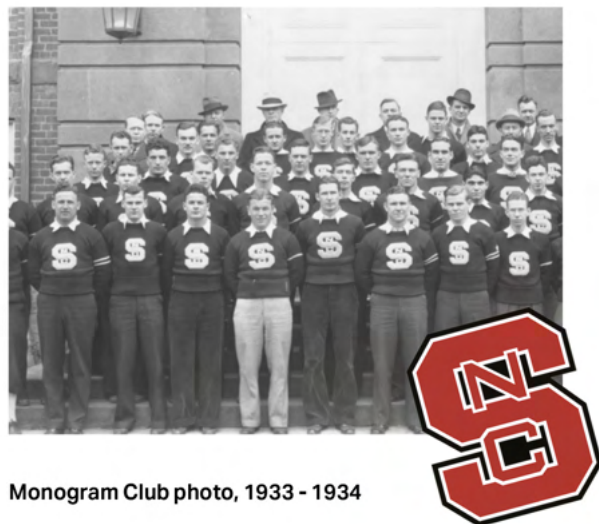
1899

The first textiles classes at NC State were taught by George Franks Ivey in the fall of 1899 after the program was approved by trustees. Around the same time was the beginning of the Progressive Era, which influenced the standard college girl outfit: a shirtwaist and a relatively short skirt to allow movement for active outdoor activities, which could be equated to today's t-shirt + jeans combo.



1920

The iconic NC State monogram first appeared in the pages of Agromeck in 1918. In 1920, student athletes began receiving monogram letters for their athletic achievements, and monogram sweaters began appearing on campus shortly after. The monogram still maintains significance today and is reserved for student, alumni and spirit communications according to the NC State Logo branding guidelines.



Monogram Club photo, 1933 - 1934

1945

In 1945, the College of Textiles developed a knitting curriculum with funds they received from the state. The popularity of knitting skyrocketed during WWII and it was seen as a symbol of patriotism and unity.



College of Textiles knitting curriculum, 1948

1960S

In the early 1960s, male college students adopted the Ivy Look, a casual, yet tailored style, and women's wear followed suit. Fashion trends shifted dramatically in the mid-1960s, largely influenced by a period of key social movements college students had a significant role in, such as the Civil Rights Movement, the Anti-Vietnam War Movement, counterculture and more. Fashion was seen as a tool for self-expression, reflected in trends such as brighter colors, plaid and tie-dye patterns and looser silhouettes.



College of Engineering, academics and students, women in engineering

1970S

The 4-H Dress Revue was a program where 4-H college students modeled their own fashion designs. Much of the college fashion in the '70s was a continuation of fashion trends in the '60s. Popular trends included plaid, turtlenecks, bell-bottoms and unisex clothing.



1980S

NC State's Fashion Drag Show! *They say RuPaul himself came to judge.* For those who don't know, the act of drag is one of self-expression, showcasing and accepting nontraditional gender rules, including men dressing as women. This form of art can be found within history from Greek plays to famous crossdressers of the early 19th century. Now you can watch drag shows on TV and social media.



NC State fashion drag show, created 1980 - 1989

1990S

College fashion saw a shift in the '90s, prioritizing comfort, with influences from grunge fashion and skater culture. Students studying the library could be seen sporting baggy jeans, cargo pants, oversized shirts and sweaters, or a crop top and high waisted jean outfit combo.



Students lounge in D.H. Hill Jr. Library, 1985



2008

NC State's first T-shirt design contest was hosted in 2008. Any student has the opportunity to submit a design which is voted on by NC State students. The winning design is featured in the Wolfpack Outfitters Bookstore. Graphic tees saw a revival in the 2000s with new pop culture references and political statements printed on shirts.



2025

Art2Wear is an annual wearable art production show which is entirely planned and designed by students. Art2Wear combines elements of fashion, technology and art to create an incredible once-in-a-lifetime performance for their audience. Each year, a new theme provides a new collection and a new experience. The theme for their 2025 show was all about identity and cultural rebirth.

Alyx Hucks, a fourth-year studying graphic & experience design and sociology, looks up while performing her design "Till Mourning Comes" during the Art2Wear: Revive! show at the Gregg Museum of Art and Design on April 24. Hucks' crocheted piece follows the transformation of a mortal overtaken by a banshee, and is dedicated to her grandmother.

Photo by Lily McCabe



NC STATE

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NC STATE

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Jump into NC State: Transfer and Exchange Students

BY SHOSANNAH DEY

PHOTO BY EMILY PEEDIN

COLLEGE IS TOUGH, THERE'S no doubt about that. Even before you're in, you have to *torture* prepare yourself with APs and IBs and SATs and whatever other abbreviations exist. Then, you have to go through the grueling application process, writing tens of thousands of essays for colleges you won't even end up going to. And once you've finally made it, you're hit in the face with infinite assignments, tests, clubs and projects all coupled with the added fact that you have to make new friends.

Now imagine having to do that more than once. If you're a transfer or exchange student, that's just the reality of it. new environment is difficult as it is, but doing that in another city? Or state? Or country? Luckily, you've ended up in NC State, a large, diverse campus with many essential resources to help you!

This article will go through a compilation of useful resources you can access, things incoming students should be aware of and advice from current transfer and exchange students!

IMPORTANT STUDENT RESOURCES

When surveyed about the hardest part of transferring to NC State, nearly every single student responded with "settling in" or "making friends." This is reasonable, because by the time you come in, it feels like everyone has either already made their own community or been friends with each other for a long time.



(From left to right) Sydney Robbins, a fifth-year studying psychology, Aaron Davis, a fourth-year studying computer science, Shea Youens, a third-year studying biological sciences, and Jacob Lawson, a fourth-year studying environmental technology and management, eye the board during a game night in a common area inside MacKenzie Hall on April 24. These students all transferred to NC State and met while living in Wolf Village.

This is not always true. After all, NC State is a big school, and it's filled with what seems like an infinite amount of students and clubs and events and resources to help you adjust.

However, all of this help would be very understandably overwhelming to any incoming student. So I've decided to list some important resources and events you can use to help adjust into the university.

LIVING AND LEARNING VILLAGES

Living and Learning Villages are one of the best ways to forge bonds between students and faculty, while also helping

students learn and develop their interests. The great thing about these villages is that anyone can apply, and it is especially advised for transfer and international students to apply!

The deadlines for village applications are listed on the website, along with details about each village and what requirements there are. If you haven't had the opportunity to apply this year, then don't worry – there's always next year!

Even if you don't apply, each village hosts a multitude of events throughout the semesters that anyone can attend. You can connect and keep up with



For transfer students, the Transfer Connections Village is a great place to start, while the Global Village is an amazing space for international students to connect with others.

INVOLVEMENT FAIRS

Another great resource to help students get involved in organizations and clubs is the Involvement Fair, an event that happens during Wolfpack Welcome Week every year. Information about the fair is sent through your student emails, and through the fair you can connect with a variety of clubs as well as communicate with the Student Government.

these villages through their Instagrams, listed on the web page.

It's important to note that it gets very crowded during Welcome Week, and you might not be able to explore everything you are interested in. Luckily, there are Mini Involvement Fairs that happen over the course of the academic year.

You can also find information about the Involvement Fair on their website, along with details about the dates of other clubs and events.

ADVICE FROM OTHER STUDENTS

Follow all official NC State social media accounts related to clubs, events and organisations.

Although there are fliers posted for events all around campus, we can sometimes overlook them while we're in a rush for our classes. The best way to keep track of what's going on is by following accounts on social media. Each graduating year has their own Snapchat group (ex. NC State 2027) which can be joined to keep up with events taking place, or if you've lost your ID/keys/etc.

There are many Instagram accounts (that will usually start with "ncstate" as their handle) that are associated with NC State, but the ones that are the best for keeping up with events around campus are:

- @ncstate
- @ncstateuab
- @ncstatestudentservices
- @ncstatedasa

It's Never Too Late to Try

Many students feel like they have to join clubs right at the beginning of the semester of their first year in college and stick to it, and feel discouraged if they aren't able to join as many as they like. This isn't the case however. College is a flexible environment, and during the next three or more years, you have the opportunity to figure out more about who you are and what you want to do. You can still make an impact even if you join a club late, or even in your last year. Don't hold yourself back.

Take Advantage of Unexpected Opportunities

There will be events happening 24/7 throughout the year. Although it's good to keep track of events you are interested in, it doesn't hurt to join a random club or organization for fun. You might find unexpected new gems of clubs, and even if you don't enjoy it, it's better to try out new things instead of doing nothing and not taking advantage of your time in college.



LINKS TO RESOURCES

The Commuter's Path: Engaging in Campus Life

By
Jocelyn Lozano

Design by
Caleb Stutzman

A major highlight of the college experience is returning to your dorm room and friends that make campus feel like a second home. This support system will encourage you to try new activities and seize opportunities you might have previously avoided. NC State recommends first-year students to live on campus to support their academic and social success, but incoming students who don't live on campus might not have the chance to gain these same experiences as their peers.

This experience may feel isolating, especially in a new environment at a huge university. This is exactly what I felt in my first semester, as I was the only first-year commuter I knew at the time. With this new experience, I knew I would have to make an extra effort to feel a part of the Wolfpack community. I hope the tips I have gathered in my time will help any incoming commuter students feel more welcome on our amazing campus!

Get Involved

Although a repetitive tip for all college students, getting involved provides an opportunity to find clubs and organizations that truly speak to your interests. College is a time to not only focus on academics but also to expand your social network. This is the perfect time to step outside your comfort zone, meet new people and forge relationships with others with similar passions and goals. Being actively involved offers much more than just socializing, it opens doors to numerous volunteering opportunities, allowing you to give back to your campus and the local community. For me, I motivated myself to join the Backpacking Club, which introduced me to amazing people with a shared love for hiking and nature! Whether you're helping organize campus events, supporting community outreach programs or advocating for causes close to your heart, the sense of fulfillment and purpose you gain from contributing to a community can be incredibly rewarding. Pushing yourself towards these experiences is one of the best ways to cultivate these vital social connections.

Stay Connected

As someone who actively uses social media, following student life accounts or other informational pages has helped me stay engaged on campus. Student activity and club accounts help you stay up-to-date on upcoming student events, such as thrift pop-ups, small businesses and other cool events to encourage your peers! NC State's Off Campus Newsletter, sent every month, also gives helpful information and resources such as wellness events for students, which can help you feel just as supported by our university. Staying connected helps you figure out information that the on-campus students get to first, which varies from delays near campus that may occur or even figuring out the best places to eat on Hillsborough St.

Know Your Peers

As you progress through your academic career, getting to know your peers is especially important to feel connected. With required courses within your major, you may see familiar faces throughout your academic career so don't be afraid to connect with your classmates. Making study groups during a difficult class is a breath of fresh air. You never know when a friendship can form, which helped me stay open-minded to conversation. This support system of people you see everyday will help you feel confident in your growth of knowledge in courses and even of making new friends. It can be tough to step out of your comfort zone, especially if you're not used to initiating conversations in class. However, something as simple as complimenting someone on their shoes can make a big impact on taking the initiative to make personal bonds.

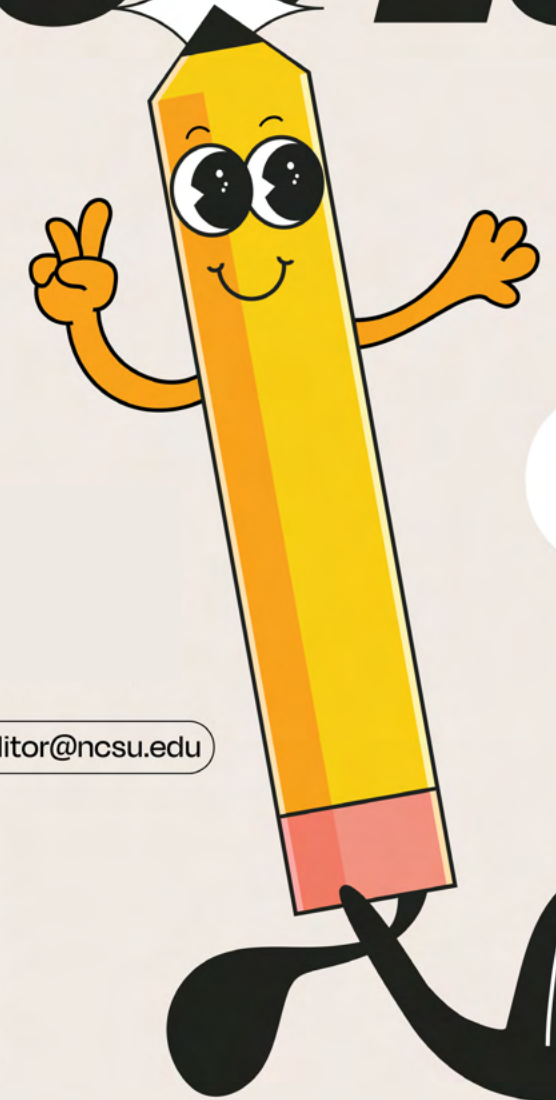
Use Campus Facilities

It's hard to stay on top of some campus facilities you forget are even there since you aren't always on campus, but you should be taking advantage of these things as a student. It's important to take some of your on-campus time to use these facilities your tuition grants you access to, such as studying at the library, using tutoring services, signing up for a variety of gym courses and so much more! I integrated myself into different gym classes such as cycling and Zumba, which has significantly helped me get out of my bubble and even make connections doing so. It is easy to get into the same routine of things, so rewarding yourself with new things is worthwhile.

While it's true that everyone socializes differently and you shouldn't force yourself into an unhappy position, being uncomfortable with new things is good! These commuter tips are what I felt helped me to push my extrovertedness, which was worth it to me to feel a part of the Wolfpack community. It can be easy to detach yourself from campus life as a commuter, but putting yourself out there will be a rewarding experience.

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NC STATE

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Remind Me!

Niche NC State History

BY NORA BELTER

PHOTOS BY EMILY PEEDIN

PARK SHOPS

North Campus is home to many academic buildings with layered histories and fascinating stories. The most interesting may be the historic Park Shops, which now holds classrooms used by many academic programs and departments, including forensic analysis, osteology and archaeology labs. It was originally built for the mechanical engineering department and housed auto and wood shops, a forge and a foundry, all used to provide students with hands-on experience. These shops not only contributed to future engineers' academics, but also to the campus. Students in the auto shop serviced the college president's car and others built desks and chairs for laboratories and dorms. On New Year's Eve of 1919, tragedy struck when wood shavings ignited and the wood and auto shops went up in flames. Thankfully, within a few months, students and staff recovered from the loss of materials and equipment and returned to production for the campus. In the 1960s, the shops began to see usage by other departments, but it did not become the building it is today until 2009, when it was converted to classrooms, laboratories and office spaces with a Port City Java café on the ground level. Today, Park Shops serves many departments within the university and holds some of the richest history on campus.

BELLTOWER

Arguably the most iconic monument on NC State's campus, the Memorial Belltower also has some especially interesting history. Construction began in 1921 to honor NC State alumni who lost their lives in World War I, but



Staff prepare Kay Yow Court for the first round game of the NCAA Tournament against Vermont in Reynolds Coliseum on March 22.

construction stopped and started as the school ran into multiple obstacles, including lack of funding, before it was finally completed in 1937. Since its construction, the Belltower has been through a lot. Besides functioning as the Wolfpack's symbol of strength and accomplishment, it's been the site for thousands of group pictures, the annual Packapalooza concert and was even damaged by a lightning strike just before spring graduation in 2009! You may be surprised to learn that although speakers were installed in the 1940s to announce each half hour, the Belltower stood for a century before real bells were installed during a renovation between 2019 and 2021. Today, NC State students get to enjoy a beautiful pillar of campus history and listen to the ushering in of each new hour by the Belltower's 55 bronze bells.

1911 BUILDING

Looming above the Court of North Carolina stands the historic 1911 Building, which currently houses classrooms for the Department of

Sociology and Anthropology. However, its name hints at an exciting period of NC State history, that surprisingly isn't the year it was constructed. The 1911 Building originated as a dormitory for incoming students, who dealt with massive amounts of harassment and humiliation at the hands of upperclassmen in the name of university initiation. The class of 1911, however, decided that they wouldn't tolerate this hazing going forward, and challenged the sophomore class to meet them on opposite sides of the Red Diamond (now known as Pullen Park just east of campus) for an all-out fist-fight. After the two classes went at each other, the freshman class agreed to end future hazing and abolish the tradition. The next year, the incoming class was treated with dignity and respect, impressing staff and administration, who decided to name the dormitory the 1911 Dormitory, which later became our 1911 Building.

FREE EXPRESSION TUNNEL

Besides serving the crucial purpose of allowing travel between the student-life centered and academic sides of Main

Campus, the Free Expression Tunnel allows students and the public to leave their mark on NC State through writing, drawings and posters. Although built in 1939, it was established as a "free expression zone" amidst the Vietnam War and Civil Rights movements of the 1960s. At the time, student protests presented a huge issue to administration, and the establishment of the tunnel as a graffiti-focused zone redirected students' ideas, values and announcements to a centralized area with unrestricted and protected free speech. The tunnel's prominence on campus has allowed the spirit of free speech to remain central to student life even 60 years after its dedication to freedom of expression. Whether to advertise a club, paint a mural or engage with political discourse, all students are highly encouraged to utilize the Free Expression Tunnel throughout their time at NC State!

THE STROLLING PROFESSOR

If you ever find yourself wandering through the beautiful Gardner Arboretum, a shaded green space just east of the Brickyard, you'll come across

the legendary William R. Johnston, immortalized in bronze, taking a leisurely walk while reading up on chemistry. Professor Johnston started working at NC State in 1959 as a chemical laboratory instructor and later began teaching general chemistry courses. The head of the Department of Chemistry assigned him the task of developing "lecture-demonstrations with as many lights flashing and bells ringing as could be worked in properly" for Chemistry 111. Professor Johnston was beloved across campus and presented at Parents' Day, High School Day and science fairs. Johnston was dedicated to teaching chemistry in the most interesting but relevant ways possible and he is remembered for his success in imparting chemical wisdom to each of his students.

REYNOLDS COLISEUM

Although some of NC State's most popular sports, football and men's basketball, have moved off-campus, the center for much of the university's athletics remains right in the middle of Central Campus at Reynolds Coliseum. Not only does the indoor arena host women's basketball, gymnastics, volleyball and men's wrestling, it's also the historic original home of the men's basketball team and much more. It has welcomed multiple presidents, a Rolling Stones performance and a speech by Martin Luther King Jr! In 1949, the men's basketball team played their first game in the coliseum's arena, now called the James T. Valvano Arena, and the women's team followed in 1974. The Wolfpack took home a win at both first games, of course. NC State students are welcome to take advantage of their time on campus by visiting the historic Reynolds Coliseum for New Student Convocation, to watch a sport they've never seen before or any other exciting on-campus event!



The 1911 Building, pictured here on May 10, is home to the sociology, anthropology and social work departments at NC State. According to the NC State Facilities website, the building has a total area of 45,008 square feet and was once the largest dormitory in the South.

Navigating the Roads

BY GRACE WARNER
DESIGN BY ALASIA DAWN MCCULLEY

Staying safe on and near campus is a team effort: it requires both pedestrians and drivers to do their part. Here's what the law says (as well as some advice) about staying safe while walking around campus:



Intersections Without Signals

Pedestrians DO have the right of way!

Be aware while crossing regardless; just because you can legally walk into a crosswalk doesn't mean it's immediately safe. Here's some advice to stay safe at crosswalks:

Make Eye Contact

When crossing the street, especially on a crosswalk that doesn't have a traffic light, I like to try to make eye contact with the drivers before I try to cross. Don't assume cars will slow down just because you have the right of way; drivers could be distracted and breeze right through a crosswalk without a second thought. Making eye contact with the driver before you cross ensures that you are both aware of each other!

Walk Defensively

You've probably been told how to drive defensively—always aware of any potential hazards— but walking defensively is equally important. You shouldn't assume every single car will follow the rules of the road, even when you're absolutely sure you have the right of way. Wait a few seconds after you're clear to cross to make sure a car doesn't come speeding through the crosswalk, watch for cars turning left or right and be aware of your surroundings the entire time you're crossing the street

Avoid Alcohol and Drugs

Although it's obvious for drivers, pedestrians also put themselves in a dangerous situation when under the influence of alcohol or drugs. You don't want to be navigating the streets with impaired judgement— when in doubt, call an Uber or Lyft! Similarly, be aware of drivers potentially under the influence of alcohol or drugs, especially on Friday or Saturday nights. You should always be careful when crossing, but it doesn't hurt to be a little extra cautious in situations like these.

Intersections With Signals

Pedestrians DON'T always have the right of way! Follow the signals:

If you see a walk sign

You're free to cross! A timer will start to tell you how much time is left before the light turns green and you no longer have the right of way. Don't panic if you are still in the crosswalk when the timer hits zero, but try your best to make it across as quickly as you can!

If you see a solid hand

Don't cross. Even if you don't see any cars nearby, it's not safe (or legal) to do so.

If you see a hand flashing

You should finish crossing the crosswalk if you're on it, but don't start walking if you haven't. You won't have enough time to cross and could potentially put yourself in a dangerous situation.



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Senior Stories

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WELCOME WOLFPACK FRESHMEN

As you begin this new chapter in your life, we encourage you to apply yourself and engage your mind fully. Go for it! Pursue knowledge and academic training in your field of study. College can be one of the best experiences of your life; lasting friendships are developed and your future path is chosen. While here you will no doubt be exposed to various philosophies. College is also a time when many consider the spiritual aspect of their lives. We are a group of faculty and staff who are united in our discovery and experience that Jesus Christ provides intellectually and spiritually satisfying answers to life's most important questions. Interested? Talk with us or go to cfsn-ncsu.org, EveryStudent.com or MeetTheProf.com.

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WE WELCOME YOU TO THE PACK!

My Attempt to be Confucius: A Senior Letter from Bran Poster



Bran Poster, a second-year studying English, sweeps a garage during the 2022 Formula Sun Grand Prix at Heartland Motorsports Park in Topeka, Kansas on July 2, 2022. The Formula Sun Grand Prix is an annual track competition between collegiate solar car teams.

Photo Contributed by Bran Poster

Something that I think about too often is how ridiculous toes are. *What even is a toe?* What sort of evolutionary shenanigans made them...them? I know all the podiatrists will tell me that they're essential for proper balance and weight distribution, but still. Something about those stubby, chubby, wannabe fingers at the ends of our feet strikes me as downright bizarre. Heck, I think we take for granted how peculiar our bodies are in general. In a universe that overwhelmingly consists of stars, rocks and vacuum, we're these fleshy bipedal things with toes. Go figure.

Perhaps even more baffling than the shape of our bodies is the shape of our lives – how we progress through time, shifting between different locations, identities and people like a temporospatial bowling ball in a Star Trek episode that never aired. One moment I'm an anxious high school senior waiting for the coronavirus lockdown to end, the next I'm on a racetrack in Topeka, Kansas reporting on a competition between collegiate solar car teams. One moment I'm on the phone with local businesses, trying to get them to buy ads in Student Media publications, the next I'm editing spreads in Roundabout Magazine. And now I'm sifting through these experiences, trying to distill them into a neat little parcel of Confucius-worthy advice for y'all, the people who are about to have equally wild journeys at one of the most awesome schools in the world.

Unfortunately for my ego, the advice I came up with isn't unique. It isn't a *"hot take."* In fact, it's probably something your parents have already told you. But my hope is that reading a real-life testimony of how this advice can be so transformative will make it be more meaningful than just another pre-college platitude. To make things more fun, I won't say what my advice is right away – I'll start with my testimony and see if you can figure it out!

The story of my NC State odyssey begins where we all were a little over four years ago: trapped inside our homes, hiding from the pandemic. I grew a horrifically scruffy beard and applied my critical thinking skills to repeatedly opening the refrigerator door, trying to decide if I was actually hungry, and then closing it. I was lucky enough to not catch the virus, but I did fall prey to the equally widespread afflictions of cabin fever, lethargy and chronic senioritis.

I revisit that time because more than anything else, it galvanized me, a natural introvert, to break out of my comfort zone and really take advantage of what NC State has to offer. Desperate to get out in the world and do something, little first-year me bookmarked the calendar of events during Wolfpack Welcome Week (*you'll get it in your email soon, if you haven't already!*) and went to everything that looked interesting. I went on a hike with random strangers at Lake Raleigh, auditioned for chorus, popped into the Student Involvement Fair, shared my writing at an English Club interest meeting. I even went to an ice cream social that turned out to be for a religious group, but still stayed to hang out. A trip to the Student Media Open House led to my first extracurricular gig as a media consultant, selling ads in campus publications like Technician and the Nubian Message. I had zero experience in sales (*unless you count handling a restaurant cash register*), but that didn't stop me from giving it a go.

I wasn't just an eager beaver about finding different opportunities – I was equally tenacious about exploring opportunities that were presented to me. A little into my first semester, I wrote an article for the Fall Housing Guide, a publication that unfortunately no longer exists, and the professional adviser for media consultants at the time, Zanna, liked it. She recommended that I apply to be an editor here at Roundabout. This magazine, which was only four years old at the time, had been dealt a devastating blow by the pandemic: for a while, there were literally no students on staff until my predecessor Charles became editor-in-chief. In a fit of wild recklessness, I applied to be photo editor despite never having used a digital camera. I got the job, for the singular reason that nobody else applied! Hijinks ensued.

At that time, the only Roundabout staffers were me, Charles, our design editor Campbell and our professional staff adviser Martha. We also had a copy editor at first, but she was too busy and had to leave. Then Charles and Campbell graduated, leaving me and Martha as the sole Roundabouts remaining. In another fit of recklessness, I applied to be editor-in-chief, and once again got the job because nobody else applied.

Needless to say, building a full staff from the ground up was a daunting task. But I realized that because I was in charge of recruitment and Roundabout was so new, I could create a culture that attracts people who are awesome to be around. I could choose the people I worked with on the editorial team – and so I recruited champions like my fellow graduates Emily and Audrey, who put up with me for my entire three-year tenure as editor-in-chief. Together, we built a website, made a style guide, set up a work operating system, printed promotional swag and overall transformed Roundabout from another victim of COVID to the masterwork you're looking at right now.

While I was at Roundabout, I crossed feathers with an opportunity on the other side of campus: SolarPack, NC State's solar car team. As a journalist, I went to Topeka, Kansas to report on SolarPack's performance at the 2022 Formula Sun Grand Prix. SolarPack ended up achieving the fastest lap in the history of the event and became the cover story for the Fall 2022 Against All Odds Issue of Roundabout. While I was in Topeka, I got to know some of the smartest people I've ever met and developed a new appreciation for how cool the hard sciences can be.

It turned out that SolarPack really needs business and fundraising people – in fact, they had exactly zero business team members at the time I showed up. I recognized that a lot of the skills necessary for SolarPack fundraising mirror what I did as a media consultant. And so, in one more dramatic turn of fate, I became the business lead of SolarPack and rebuilt yet another dream team from scratch.

I will briefly digress to give a shoutout to Ship Community Outreach's Bread of Life program and NC State Hillel, two really incredible places with amazing people that I could write countless pages on if I had more space!

There you have it. Seize the moment, try new things, treat college as a testing ground for life – that's my advice, cliché though it may be. I can't pretend that this one little letter will give you the same impetus to put yourself out there that the coronavirus gave me. However, at the very least I've shown you how taking this advice to heart can make your experience so much richer. **GO PACK!!!**

Bran Poster V

Bran Poster
Class of 2025





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Some of the sisters of the Alpha Chapter of Sigma Alpha Omega pose for a funny photo in Danville, VA, on Oct. 27. Sigma Alpha Omega is a nondenominational Christian social sorority that was founded on NC State's campus in 1998.

Photo Contributed by Renee Bell

Letter from the Photo Editor: Take Some Photos, They'll Last Longer!

I THINK THE MOST IRONIC PART about sitting here and writing this letter today is the fact that I never actually saw myself attending NC State, nonetheless living in Raleigh. Having moved around a decent bit throughout my childhood years, from North Carolina to Virginia to Georgia, I just always thought I would end up elsewhere. For a bit of context, both of my parents were fortunate enough to graduate from college, later going on to attend graduate school as well. In classic North Carolina fashion, my mom graduated from ECU, but my

dad... oh, he was a proud member of the Wolfpack, alongside almost every single other adult on his side of the family. With the vice-like grip NC State had on the minds of many of my family members, I never stopped hearing about its supposed greatness growing up. But, also loving to play devil's advocate from a very young age, I refused to drink the Wolfpack Kool-Aid and rooted for other institutions out of pure spite. When it finally came time to make a decision about where I wanted to go to college, I knew in my heart of hearts that I wanted to *a)* move back

my home state to be closer to family and *b)* make as cost efficient a decision as possible. Taking into account both of these criteria and the acceptances I received (*alongside a waitlist spot from Harvard that I still, to this day, wear as a badge of pride*), I ultimately decided that NC State was the best place for me. What makes this decision even more ironic is that, because of COVID-19 and the fact that I lived out of state during high school, I never even stepped foot on State's campus until I moved in.

Emily Peedin, photo editor for Roundabout, stands underneath the awning of Holladay Hall on April 8. Peedin will graduate this semester with a degree in psychology, a degree in religious studies and a minor in political science.

Photo Contributed by Mia Burchette



Little did I know that this decision – one that I ultimately made out of practicality – would completely alter the course of my entire life. As cliché as it may sound, I can say, without a doubt, that I found myself at NC State. Between participating in campus traditions, joining a sorority, trying new hobbies, traveling the country, making the decision to start going to therapy, meeting my best friends, watching a whole lot of sports and so many other things, I discovered what truly makes me happy and have become a version of myself that I am deeply proud of. Even beyond these contributions, I can also say that I gained one heck of an education thanks to the psychology and religious studies departments. At the end of it all, there is truly nothing I could say to adequately express my gratitude to this institution. There is a certain kind of energy about this campus that is addictive, and I hope each and every first-year reading this takes full advantage of everything NC State has to offer.

Now, before I close out this little novel of mine, there are quite a few thanks that I need to give. Feel free to skip over them, but I must admit that I personally find acknowledgements at the end of books to be some of the sweetest, most loving writing to ever exist, and I would be honored if you spent some time getting to know some of the individuals that made my time here so memorable.

To my PhoTaus (Hallie Walker, Anna Hansen, Griffin Bryant, Jermaine Hudson, Jon Williams and Amanda Bell), thank you from the bottom of my heart. Each of you never fails to make my cheeks hurt from smiling and my stomach hurt from laughter. Although we may have started out as simple coworkers, you all have become so, so much more than that to me. You are truly my best friends, and I can never express my gratitude to Student Media for bringing us together.

To the rest of my visual section, from correspondents and staff to senior staff and editors, thank you. Despite the seemingly never-ending amount of captions I have had to correct over the years, you inspire me every single day with your kindness and creativity. You are not only amazing photographers and videographers, but also just amazing people.

To my Roundabaddies, thank you. Thank you for putting so much trust in me to make the visuals in this magazine the best that I possibly can. Your constant faith, loyalty and encouragement has kept me going in times that I really struggled to see the value of my work. Additionally, your caring seems to know no bounds, and I only hope I can ever repay a fraction of it back to you. Now, I would be remiss to stop here without giving an extra special thanks to Bran Poster and Audrey Javan, my original little squad. We did it, guys! Not only did we revive this publication from the brink of extinction, but we also gained some pretty amazing friends in the process.

To every single person who has given me guidance on my journey as a photographer and editor, like my lovely advisers Martha Collins and Ray Black III, my more experienced peers Nick Faulkner and Sarah Cochran-Murray, and every other kind soul I have met and interacted with in the industry, thank you. Your advice has helped me hone the very little skill I came into this job with into something truly magical – now, the growth certainly does not stop here, but I must admit that I am so proud of how far I have come with your help.

And finally, to all of my sorority sisters, roommates, professors, cats, family and other friends, thank you. Your constant love and support mean everything to me. I would take on the world's toughest challenges as long as y'all are in my corner.

To wrap this letter up, I can genuinely say that I have experienced my highest highs and my lowest lows during my time here at NC State, but I wouldn't trade these four years for anything. I have learned so much about both myself and the world around me, and that knowledge cannot be traded. So, that being said, *please actually leave your dorm room, or your house, for any of our commuter students* – I promise you won't regret it.

All of my love, now and forevermore,

Emily Peedin

Emily Peedin
Class of 2025

A Farewell to Wolves: Audrey's Senior Sayōnara

Dear Wolfpack,

You are reading this in the future, when I'm already long gone. I'm waving at you from Chapel Hill! Hi! As for me in the relative past, I'm beginning this letter only a few hours after walking the stage at NC State's English department graduation. I've changed out of my white dress and regalia into red pajama pants and my someday-vintage Final Four shirt, and I'm holding the graduation bear plushie my mom bought for me outside Reynolds Coliseum. My red nail polish is chipped already. I literally just painted it. What gives?

As I sit here with some YouTube video playing on the TV, I can't help feeling like there should be more to this. This monumental change in my life should have somehow thrown everything off kilter, right? I don't know what I should be doing, but I think it should be something different, bigger, than just what I always do. I guess that's the sticking point of the whole thing: I want to do something grand, but I have no clue what it is.

It's typical for graduation to feel surreal. This is where coming-of-age movies tend to stop, if they ever reach this point at all. Sure, you've graduated before, left beloved homes, teachers, neighborhoods and friends, but college graduation is different from any of that. Over two decades of schooling and growing up all culminate here, and once this is over, for maybe the first time in your life, there's no plan. Before you are only choices, none of them necessarily wrong, but all of them terrifying.

I looked around as I waited for the elevator this morning on my way to check in for the ceremony, mentally

listless in the tides of change, physically already feeling the pain of high heels. Just when I started to drift, my gaze snagged on the familiar bottom shelf of the newsstand and the Roundabout magazines that lie there, and I once again found my strength.

Being a part of Roundabout has been one of the biggest honors of my college career, and it will continue to be so for the rest of my life. I've made dearer friends here than I can put into words, people whom I'll always miss sitting next to at our beloved round table. Katherine and Layney, my beloved wordsmiths and dear friends; Bri, Marlowe and Autumn, our unparalleled artists-in-chief and their respective right-hand-pens; Chase, my successor whom I couldn't be more proud of; countless other writers and designers and photographers whom I've had the privilege of meeting – I can't imagine working at a magazine without them. Special commendation to Ray Black III, the second most intimidating advisor (*I love you, Martha*) I've ever been paid to badger, for always fixing my time sheets promptly, even if he has to send me big angry paragraphs of purple prose first. He knows that I enjoy reading them. And to my mom, who first taught me grammar even though I loathed it back then, this could not have happened without you. Thank you.

Most importantly, Emily and Bran have been with me since the beginning. They are two of the kindest people you could ever have the pleasure of working with, and I like to think we've been inseparable since that first Google Meet. Together, we built this magazine from hardly any staff to a bountiful Slack. It's everyone's wish to leave the world a better place than they found it, and at least with Roundabout, I can rest

easy knowing that we've managed that. Every year, these glossy pages get more and more stunning. If I had my selfish way, maybe I'd never leave our conference room, but I won't fight destiny; it's my time to step off the court and let someone else start. I can't wait to see how future generations of Roundabouts will give our precious publication wings to fly even higher. It'll be an underdog story worthy of the movies, I promise you that.

Sometimes you meet people and just know with deep certainty that they're going places. I've never felt that as strongly as I do with my wonderful cohorts in the arts. In a university with roots so deep in A&T, we are the wildflowers that grow out of cracks in the sidewalk, and I am proud beyond words of everything we've accomplished. From my fellow English Club members and officers to my film partners, I love and cherish all the memories I've gotten to make with you. It's an honor that I'll annoyingly tell everyone about forever hereafter. Even with all of this under my belt, I don't think I'll ever stop thinking that I should have done more with my time – taken more photos, hugged more friends, joined more clubs, gone to more sports, lingered longer and savored it more, more, more. I'll never be in undergrad again, but even so, I like to think I'm leaving without regrets. I've done much more than a younger me could have imagined, from filming a sci-fi short film in a real studio to acing a 19-hour semester to making lifelong friends. And I don't want to brag, but I was recognized out in the world from my photo on our staff page, and that was a rush I'll never forget – Ren Slate, Roundabout's biggest fan, thank you so much!

Looking back on my time, I wonder if I've already accomplished all the grand things I ever will. To quote V'ger from *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*: "*Is this all I am? Is there nothing more?*" I am not so unlike that poor lost telescope, drifting across the galaxy with only questions and no idea where to find answers. What am I? A storyteller, I suppose. It's the one thing I love most in the world. Where do I take that now? Am I actually ready to gather these four years of training up and start chasing my dreams like some fool?

This feeling of pre-failure and timelessness is, of course, a mirage. Everyone feels like this at 22, and it's never the end of the world. Not to spoil a movie from almost 50 years ago, even V'ger found a new place in the universe where it and all its knowledge

and dreams could fit. Looking out at the metaphorical road ahead, the vast rolling fields of possibility, it's perfectly okay to feel dread. I do. But alongside it, there's a bright, strong hope, too. Someday soon, that hope will be strong enough to supersede the dread. I may be leaving Witherspoon and my Tomkins-Caldwell-Winston academic home, but don't think for one second that I won't be around. We in the Wolfpack all share collective blood and one voice that echoes in howls. I will still be here within all of you lovely readers in the wind through the Court of Carolina and the chime of the Belltower. I might be physically hanging around, too; Chapel Hill is not very far from Raleigh. So if you see me at the student media newsstand in the coming years and you somehow recognize me from the ancient texts, don't hesitate to

say hi! And if you someday see my name in the credits of a movie or on the cover of a novel, just know that I ended up there in no small part thanks to my time here with all of you at NC State.

Stay cool and keep reading,



Audrey Javan
Class of 2025



Audrey Javan (bottom left), a fourth-year studying English, makes a hand-heart for a photo with friends at an apartment near Centennial Campus on Feb. 15. Javan and her friends had gotten together to celebrate Galentine's Day.

Photo Contributed by Emily Peedin

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