Welcome to campus Tar Heels – we, Student Life & Leadership, are excited to provide you with a leadership guide that can help you navigate your fall semester at UNC! There are hundreds of ways that you can engage yourself in and with the dynamic UNC community and the Tar Heel Leadership Plan (THLP) is here to serve as a guide!

The Student Life & Leadership team is responsible for facilitating a wide array of experiences through our focus on three central areas of campus: leadership development, student activities, and student organizations. Whether you are interested in connecting with one of the over 800 student organizations, engaging in a fun and social experience, an in-depth exploration of your learning and growth, and much more! Student Life & Leadership (SLL) is committed to serving the Carolina community by advocating for leadership as a process of social change.

Our team of undergraduate students, graduate students, and full-time staff are here to set you up for a successful Carolina experience. We want to help you find an organization that’s the best fit for you, create community on campus, engage in meaningful learning, and help you become your best self. This Leadership Plan will serve as a roadmap for your fall semester and help you get connected wonderful events and resources.

We also want to provide you with opportunities for learning that you can continue throughout your first year. We have an interactive extended digital resource guide at: https://go.unc.edu/THLP
LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY

At The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, we believe leadership is a learned process that results in service-directed change. It is personal to each individual and is an authentic practice of one’s values. We believe leadership never happens alone, and therefore requires inclusivity and respect for the community it serves.

We believe individuals who practice this philosophy of leadership are leaders, and therefore are not tied to a position but rather committed to the process of self-discovery. Leaders develop resilience in their effort to create a positive impact and show gratitude to those who serve along side them.

LIFE LONG LEARNING AT UNC

Starting this fall, Carolina students will be required to attend at least two Campus Life Experiences (CLBs) for each semester they are enrolled on campus. These intentional learning opportunities will further the holistic development of the campus community, and students will be able to select which events they attend from hundreds of eligible opportunities each year. From engaging with a panel of scholars to participating in service-learning to attending a workshop, students will have an incredible array of opportunities to intentionally further their learning. To read more about Campus Life Experiences and check out a list of current opportunities, visit: https://ideasinaction.unc.edu/
WEEKS OF WELCOME AUGUST 14TH – AUGUST 21ST

Save the Date FallFest August 14th

Learn more about FallFest news and information at fallfest.unc.edu

Open House: Student Life & Leadership (SLL), Carolina Union Activities Board (CUAB), & Student Government (SG) Wednesday, August 17th 11am – 3pm in Carolina Union 2501

If you are looking for the perfect way to get connected to what’s happening on campus look no further than this open house! Each office will have lots of information for upcoming programs, opportunities to join and apply for, student leaders to meet, and much more!

The SPARK program is a transformational community building program for self-identified undergraduate women of color that is designed to support them in and through their transition Carolina. Through intentional programming, SPARK creates a supportive community that provides opportunities for leadership and self-discovery. You can learn more about the retreat and how to apply at https://go.unc.edu/UNCSPARK, applications will be open through Friday August 26th!

Important SPARK events and dates:

- August 18th: SPARK Kickoff/Info session 5:00pm-6:00pm Location: The Pitt
- August 23rd: SPARK Info Session (Carolina Union 3503) 5:30pm-6:30pm
- August 24th: SPARK Info Session (Carolina Union 3503) 6:00pm-7:00pm
- August 26th: SPARK Applications close

The Student Organizations Leadership Retreat, Saturday August 20th from 9am – 1pm in the Carolina Union Great Hall. The Student Organizations Leadership Retreat (SOLR) is held annually to bring together the student organization leaders at the beginning of the year to learn new leadership skills and develop collaborations for the upcoming year. Not only can you build your network over a meal with other student leaders, but we will have a first-year student leadership track to strengthen your skillset and get you connected to leadership opportunities.

Sign-up for SOLR at https://go.unc.edu/2022SOLR
WEEKS OF WELCOME AUGUST 22ND – AUGUST 28TH

SmallFest is a student organizations involvement fair that will take place Monday the 22nd - Friday the 26th in the Pit from 11am-1pm. SmallFest offers in-person tabling opportunities for new and returning students to connect with student organizations and learn more about getting involved with student orgs and making the most out of their Carolina experience. Different categories of student organizations will be represented each day and there will be free food and giveaways daily! Check out which groups will be tabling each day and RSVP on the premier student organization hub, Heel Life (heellife.unc.edu).

Heel Life hosts over 800 active student organizations at UNC, thousands of events, resources, and more. If you want to learn more about Heel Life and how you can maximize this essential tool to unlock your experience on campus visit https://go.unc.edu/HeelLifeResources.

Student Organization Spotlights:

The Carolina Union Activities Board (CUAB)
The Carolina Union Activities Board enhances life at Carolina through high-quality programming and events for the entire University community. These include films, art, music, entertainment, and more. Whether you want to join a committee on CUAB and bring exciting programs to life across campus or attend them, CUAB is a constant source of engagement and fun at UNC. Checkout the QR Code or go to linktr.ee/CUAB to learn more about CUAB and how you can get involved.

Undergraduate Student Government
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) Student Government exists to advocate for and lift up the voices of UNC students to effect systemic change. Student Government represents both the undergraduate student body through the Undergraduate Student Government and the Graduate and Professional Student Government. Each body has hundreds of ways that you can get involved and make a direct difference in the campus community and advocate for positive change on campus. To learn more about how to get engaged with SG visit their website https://studentgovernment.unc.edu

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Advice from the Student Life & Leadership Team about Wellness and Student Leadership:

As a student leader, regardless of your position or title, it is critical for you to not allow your engagement in the UNC experience to have a adverse impact on you; mentally, physically, or academically. While there are literally hundreds of ways to get engaged and make an impact in the community, it is important to not over-commit and spread yourself thin. Being the president of 3 clubs, treasurer of 2, and secretary of another is not necessary for you to be successful and ultimately may cause you to lose sleep, takeaway time from your friends, your studies, and your relationship with yourself. We encourage you to commit yourself to meaningful campus engagement that you enjoy and enables you to grow and build a community. We encourage you to prioritize your well-being, engage in healthy life habits and learn more at https://care.unc.edu/resources/.

Student Org Tabling in the Pit

A staple of the UNC experience is engaging with students and community members in and around the Pit! You will find student organizations, departments, and other members of the UNC community engaging between the hours of 11am – 2pm and will be in the Carolina Union Hallery if there is inclement weather.

Latinx Heritage Month: The Carolina Latinx Center coordinates a series of programs throughout Latinx Heritage Month, which takes place from September 15th – October 15th. The month starts off with a kickoff in The Pit, an exhibit in the Carolina Union West Lounge, and much more, visit https://clc.unc.edu/ to learn about the many great ways to engage in this month's programming!
October Events

National Voter Education Week is October 3rd – 7th in an important week dedicated to helping you get informed and help you make a plan to vote. The week of programming is organized by a non-partisan coalition of student groups and is a great way to engage with the Chapel Hill community and understand the impact you and your vote possess within our community and beyond. One of the highlights of the week will be the Civic Engagement Fair on Wednesday, October 5th in the Pit! To learn more visit democracy.unc.edu.

October 8th: ChangeMakers Institute
Are you passionate about making a difference in the world around you but are unsure where to start? Join Student Life and Leadership on Saturday October 8th for the inaugural ChangeMakers Institute— A four-hour, interactive workshop on making change through a variety of platforms such as social media, coalition-building, and more. Stayed tuned for more information!

October 11th: National Coming Out Day Celebration
This year, the LGBTQ Center along with partnering student organizations and departments are planning over a week of events to honor this national observance! Visit go.unc.edu/ncod for up-to-date event calendar.

October 17th: Carolina United (CU) Applications Open
CU is an immersive weekend retreat where students can engage in intentional community building and dialogue to further their understanding of leadership and each other. If you are a passionate student who wants to challenge themselves in an environment of perpetual growth and dynamic interpersonal exploration, be sure to apply!

October 31st: CUAB’s Halloween Carnival
Come celebrate Halloween with CUAB at the Halloween Carnival! CUAB is inviting UNC students to join us on Sunday, October 31st from 11am-3pm to celebrate Halloween! Students can participate in various activities (including mini-golf, axe throwing, and sand art to name a few!) to earn tickets which they can exchange for a variety of prizes while enjoying free food! To learn more about CUAB’s programming visit linktr.ee/CUAB.
NOVEMBER EVENTS

American Indian Heritage Month takes place throughout the month of November and is hosted by the UNC American Indian Center. Celebrations throughout the month will include lectures, art, cultural activities, programs, and more. Events can be found at https://americanindiancenter.unc.edu/events.

November 30th: CUAB’s Gingerbread House Making
Join CUAB for a fun way to celebrate the last day of class! Get in the holiday spirit and build your own gingerbread house. All supplies will be provided. To learn more about CUAB’s programming visit linktr.ee/CUAB.

CO-CURRICULAR LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE
Student Life & Leadership is excited to provide the UNC community with the Co-Curricular Leadership Certificate Program. You will be able to choose from a variety of modules that are grounded in leadership frameworks that will support the development of your skills on an individual, collaborative, and communal level.
If you want to learn more about how you can complete the modules and earn your co-curricular certificate, please visit https://go.unc.edu/CCLC.
NORTH CAROLINA FELLOWS PROGRAM

Founded in 1967, the mission of the North Carolina Fellows Program is to reimagine traditional understandings of leadership by engaging in meaningful dialogue, creating a supportive community, increasing self-awareness amongst its members, and encouraging positive change. First-year students are encouraged to apply for the NC Fellows Program to become engaged in this three-year cohort experience, where you will be engaged in deep and meaningful leadership learning. 25 first year students per cohort are admitted and together embark on a unique leadership development journey during their time at Carolina that includes both curricular and co-curricular components.

APPLY TO JOIN THE NC FELLOWS PROGRAM

Visit: go.unc.edu/2026 to apply!
Questions? Email: NCFellows@unc.edu

Be sure to check out the extended digital resource guide to help you keep reaching your goals at: https://go.unc.edu/THLP.