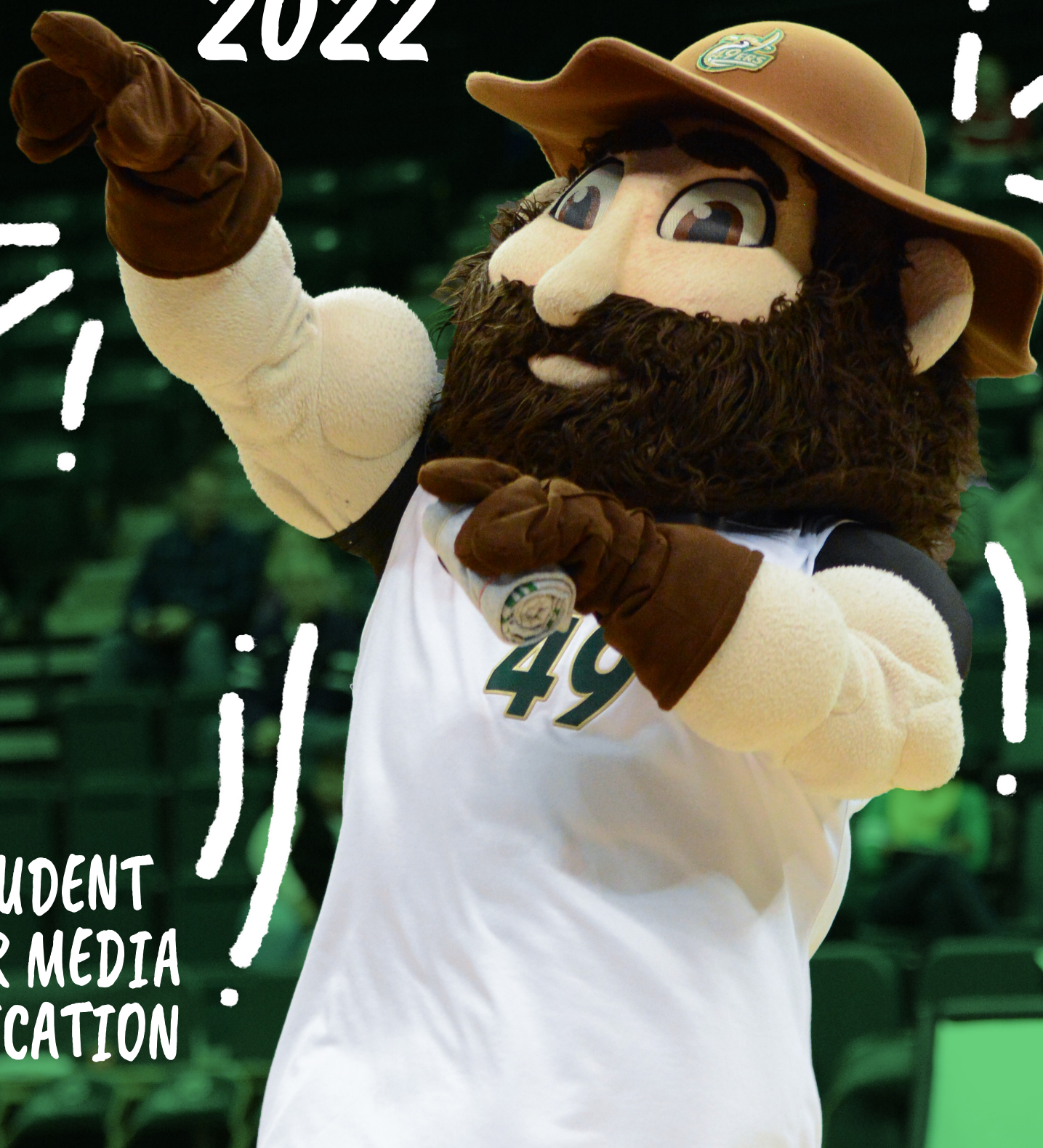


NINER NATION GUIDE 2022



A STUDENT
NINER MEDIA
PUBLICATION



MAKE HEALTHY THE NORM

OUR SERVICES

- Primary Medical Care
- Gynecological Health
- Sports Medicine
- Nurse Clinic
- Laboratory / Digital X-Ray
- Psychiatric Care
- Immunization And Travel Medicine
- Nutrition Counseling
- Sti Testing

PHARMACY

We are a full-service in-house Pharmacy serving the University community! We provide medication consultation, fill and refill prescriptions and offer generic medications that are always available at a low cost to students, faculty, and staff. Most prescription insurance plans are accepted here.





UNIVERSITY RECREATION

EVERY BODY BELONGS AT UREC

C.O.R.E. • BELK GYM • NRFC • HAYES FIELD COMPLEX

urec.charlotte.edu • @clt_urec

SPORTS CLUBS • GROUP FITNESS • INTRAMURAL SPORTS
AQUATICS • OPEN RECREATION • PERSONAL TRAINING



MEET THE STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Sunnya Hadavi
editor@ninertimes.com

EDITORIAL

Zoya Zalevskiy – LAYOUT
Jessica Ceballos – NEWS
Emily Kottak – ARTS & CULTURE
Bryson Foster – SPORTS
AJ Siegel – COPY
Matt Lower – PHOTO
Jackson Martin – ASST. COPY

CONTRIBUTORS

Arin Garcia McCormack,
Trevor DelBen, Bethany Ivan,
Jack Hale, James Levison,
Max Young, Olivia Lawless,
Madison Dobrzanski

COVER IMAGE

Sunnya Hadavi

CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR	4
2021-22 YEAR IN REVIEW	6
DORM MUST HAVES & DON'T HAVES	7
A LOOK AT STUDENT NINER MEDIA	8
"HIDDEN" SPOTS ON CAMPUS	10
49 MORE THINGS TO DO	12
STUDY HOTSPOTS	13
MOVIES THAT DEFINE THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE	14
TAKE A RIDE ON THE LIGHT RAIL	16
DINING ON CAMPUS THIS SEMESTER	19
WHAT TO WATCH FOR IN CHARLOTTE ATHLETICS	20
REFLECTING ON THE CHARLOTTE ATHLETIC SEASON	22
STUDENT ORGS GUIDE	26
WHAT'S GOOD TO EAT AROUND HERE?	28
A GUIDE TO LIVING WITH ROOMMATES	30
ART IN CLT	32
NORM'S SWEET TOOTH	34
MUST SEE MOVIES THIS SUMMER	36
COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	37
BUYING TEXTBOOKS	38
UNC CHARLOTTE PARKING GUIDE	41
ADVICE FROM THE EDITORS	42
MUST HAVE APPS	44

Letter from the Editor

Niner Times Editor-in-Chief welcomes new 49ers

Welcome new Niners!

Those of us here at the Niner Times are beyond excited to welcome you to UNC Charlotte.

College marks the beginning of a new period in your life, no matter how cheesy that sounds. You can change who you are, discover yourself, meet people you would have otherwise never met and form unforgettable memories. Ultimately, your college experience will be what you want it to be, so I recommend you make the best of it starting with your first semester.

Unfortunately, the start of my college experience was all virtual. I had to attend virtual SOAR, virtual classes

and virtual club meetings. To be frank, it was not enjoyable. I had a hard time forming connections with other students, which upset me. I worried that my entire college experience would be the same. Thankfully, I was very wrong.

I found that UNC Charlotte truly has something for everyone. Whether you want to focus on just your classes, rack up extracurriculars, experience Greek life, play sports or hang with friends, UNC Charlotte is perfect for your needs. Through these different aspects of UNC Charlotte, you will find yourself and your “people.” For some, finding where they belong happens quickly, but it can take a long time for others. Both are perfectly okay! It took

me a year to find the people I click with, and I am so happy I found them when I did.

With that being said, you will meet many people from different walks of life on campus. Some will be acquaintances, but others may become some of your closest friends. Be sure to appreciate those you meet and keep your friends close. With the ups and downs of college life, having friends to support you will make all the difference. They will keep you grounded while also lifting you up.

You should also always remember that it is okay to set time aside for yourself. While we are here to further our education, it should not be done at the expense of our mental health. There needs to be a balance, so knowing your limit is key. When you are having a tough time, do not push yourself. Instead, be sure to set time aside to relax. Put some music on in your dorm, walk through the gardens or work out in UREC—whatever helps you. Our campus also has resources to help you, so take advantage of these whenever you need them.

When you put yourself first, you will learn many things about yourself that you may not have known before. I found myself, and my interests changed far more than I anticipated when coming to UNC Charlotte. As a first-year student, I thought I had everything figured out. I decided what major I wanted to study, what career to work toward and what clubs to join. As I tried each of these things, I realized that they were not all for me and other things piqued my interest instead. Now, I am a mix of who I thought I would be and who I have become so far at UNC Charlotte.

Starting college can be nerve-racking, especially if you’re new to the city

and the campus. These next few years will be very different from anything you have experienced before. If only there was a guide to tell you what you need to know... Well, do not fret!

The Niner Times Staff has put together this guide to give you the information you will need for your first year as a forty-niner. With information on the UNC Charlotte campus and the city of Charlotte as a whole, we know that you’ll be ready for the year to come.

It is impossible to know everything that will happen in the next year, so take nothing for granted and enjoy your time here to the best of your ability. Regardless of what comes our way, I am certain that as a student body, we will get through it as one. UNC Charlotte means a lot to us, and as new 49ers, we hope it will be a place each of you can also call home.

Best,
Sunnya Hadavi
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



PLAYLIST OF THE SUMMER:

all night long



ZOYA ZALEVSKIY
LAYOUT EDITOR



SUMMER MOVIES

AT THE
UNION
THEATER

FREE FOR STUDENTS
DURING THE SUMMER!

FOR SHOWTIMES, VISIT:
studentunion.charlotte.edu/inside-union/movies



DEAN OF **STUDENTS** OFFICE HELPING YOU NAVIGATE THE NINER EXPERIENCE

College is a new adventure, full of fun and sometimes challenging encounters. It is our goal to be the compass for your University experience. Your journey may take you down many paths. No matter which direction you find yourself headed, know that we are here to guide you, educate you, and most importantly, support your Niner Experience.

INVOLVEMENT & CONNECTIONS

- Orientation • Leadership Opportunities • Mentorship • Honors & Awards
- Niner Nation Family Events • Bell Ringers

ADVOCACY & SUPPORT

- Veteran Services • Withdrawals • Absence Verification
- Personal Crisis • Sexual/ Interpersonal Assault • Grievances
- Referrals to Campus Resources • Bias-Related Incidents
- Identity Development

RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Academic Integrity • Student Conduct •
- Off Campus Behavior



Not sure where to go? We can point you
in the right direction

dso.uncc.edu | 704.687.0345 | 217 King Bldg

2021-2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

Things you should know from last year

by Madison Dobrzanski
Contributor

UNC Charlotte sexual misconduct lawsuit settled

Although the original story was written in July 2021, its effects were seen in multiple news stories during the 2021-22 school year.

The Title IX lawsuit against UNC Charlotte history professor Dr. Robert McEachnie was settled for \$40,000. The lawsuit began after a former student made allegations of the professor causing “emotional distress through predatory behavior, threats to academic success and sexual assault.”

The professor reportedly tried to contact the student through social media sites. McEachnie’s defense highlighted the vagueness of the current Improper Relations Policy at UNC Charlotte.

Since this story ran, the University limited McEachnie’s classes to online, and he may no longer be on study abroad trips.

University rebrands to “Charlotte”

On Aug. 19, 2021, the University announced a rebranding and began to use “Charlotte.” The formal name has remained “the University of North Carolina at Charlotte” or “UNC Charlotte;” however, the informal and casual name is “Charlotte.” The change came after years of debate over the term “UNCC” because it often was confused with Chapel Hill.

The rebrand also came shortly after Charlotte Athletics announced a logo rebrand in June 2021, which uses the same “All-in C” as the University rebrand.

On the day of the rebrand, Inside UNC Charlotte published a page that said, “Hi, we’re Charlotte. Nice to meet

you.” This page explained the reasons behind the rebrand, listed possible questions people may ask and publicized the new logo for the University.

Since the announcement, UNC Charlotte merchandise has changed, and University websites have shifted from “uncc.edu” to “charlotte.edu.”

Provost Joan F. Lorden retiring

On Aug. 30, 2021, Provost Joan Lorden announced her decision to retire in June 2022. She has been with the University as the provost and the vice chancellor for academic affairs for 18 years.

According to the University Leadership Website, Lorden serves “a role in which she provides leadership and oversight for academic and research programs, enrollment, academic support, and information technology.”

Her main reason for retiring is to have more time to herself. However, she also thought the timing was right to make this decision, considering recent changes in administration and the drafting of the University’s strategic plan.

Senator Jeff Jackson Town Hall at UNC Charlotte

On Nov. 15, 2021, in the Star Quad, approximately 100 people attended a town hall to listen to Jeff Jackson, a senator in the North Carolina state Senate who is campaigning for the United States Senate Democratic Candidate for North Carolina.

UNC Charlotte was one of 14 college town halls Jackson held across the state following his 100-county town hall campaign that he completed within 87 days.

Jackson will be running as the Democratic nominee for the U.S. Senate and in the primary elections in November 2022.

UNC Charlotte welcomes a new chief diversity officer Brandon Wolfe

After a thorough search, UNC Charlotte hired an inaugural chief diversity officer (CDO) and associate vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion. On Nov. 1, 2021, Dr. Brandon Wolfe began in his new role. Wolfe’s position works closely with Chancellor Gaber to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion on campus.

“While we know that Charlotte is relatively diverse and we’ve done well in some areas, we can be better. This is our opportunity to leverage our standing to facilitate an even greater sense of institutional excellence and take our place as a state, regional, national and global leader,” said Wolfe.

UNC Charlotte announces new student tailgating space

An anonymous donation of \$10 million led to the announcement of a three-acre outdoor complex that will provide space for student gatherings, including tailgating football games. The announcement came on Feb. 1, 2022, and the area should be open in time for the fall 2022 football season.

This announcement came after the Charlotte 49ers accepted an invitation to the American Athletic Conference (AAC).

Geology class postponed after Zoom incident

A student in a Zoom Geology 1200 course displayed a gun on Jan. 18, 2022,

resulting in the delay of in-person classes for the course.

After investigating the student involved conducted by the campus police and Associate Dean of Students and Director of Student Accountability Dr. James Lorello, the class resumed in-person instruction.

Car break-ins occurring on the south side of campus

In April 2022, many cars were broken into on the south side of campus and directly off it. On April 15, 2022, over 20 vehicles were broken into in the South Village parking lot alone.

A Niner Notice was sent to help prevent the break-ins.

“Park in well-lit areas if possible. Lock your vehicle when you leave it. Remove all valuables from your vehicle. If you must leave valuables in your car, place them inside your trunk and out of view. Immediately report suspicious activity by calling 704-687-2200 or using the LiveSafe App.”

UNC Charlotte Day of Remembrance is held on April 29

UNC Charlotte hosted its third annual Day of Remembrance to recognize the campus shooting on April 30, 2019, which took two students’ lives and injured four others.

To remember the tragedy, UNC Charlotte held events on April 29 and 30.

DORM MUST HAVES & DON'T HAVES

What to make sure you bring to college and what you should leave at home

by Emily Kottak
Arts & Culture Editor

Packing for your first year of college is a daunting task. Of course, you want to be prepared for any situation, but you also don't want to overdo it and overwhelm yourself by bringing too many things (been there, done that). I am a rising senior and have lived on campus for my first three years at Charlotte. After each year in the dorms, I have learned what I need to bring to my dorm, and I have cut out the things that I don't need. So, I've compiled a list of essential items you should try to make sure you have before moving in, and I also included some things that many people may think you need but you don't.

✓ - Yes -

- Mini-fridge

- A mini-fridge is essential because if you are not in an apartment-style dorm, you won't have a fridge, and you will have to use the community one.
- Multiple sets of sheets and towels
- Desk hutch

- This was life-changing for me. It's basically a wooden structure that goes on top of your desk, and it can hold books, decorations and more. The desk hutch freed up so much space for me!
- Trash can

- Some residence halls come with trash cans for the suite or apartment, but you should make sure you bring some for your room.
- Mattress topper (memory foam)

- You need this! I'm sorry, but the mattresses are not very comfortable on their own. Having a memory foam mattress topper is totally worth the price and
- comfort of sleep!
- TV with HDMI cords that plug into the wall for Charlotte TV.
- Games

- I have had so many fun college game nights. Just do it! Bring your fun party games or board games, and I'm sure you will use them.
- Shower curtain and shower organizer
- Full-length mirror
- Calendar (whiteboard version or paper)
- Desk lamp
- Big back pillow so you can sit up in bed

- No - X

- Iron and ironing board

necessary.
- Headboard

Furniture for the living room

- Unless you bring a little coffee table or cushions to sit on. You don't need extra chairs or seating options.
- Candles

- First of all, these are not allowed in residence halls. Second of all, just bring a diffuser instead.
- Shoe organizer or shelf

- This just takes up too much space.
- Microwave

- You should just use the one in the hall or the one your apartment comes with.
- Hotplates
- Steamer (for clothes)
- Big rug

- This is just too big and not
- Curtains

- Extra Tips -

- Don't overpack!

- Believe me, I have made this mistake every single year, and my parents can't stand it. You can always go shopping and get the things you need, or you can go home and swap out your clothes. It's a pain to have too much stuff to move out and keep track of, so be mindful.
- If you get extra furniture, make sure it is functional and has a purpose
- Check and plan with roommates before moving in

- Make a plan with your roommates for who will bring what so you don't have a lot of duplicates.

A LOOK AT STUDENT NINER MEDIA

Want to join the Student Niner Media team?



Niner Times is the source for campus news, sports, entertainment, opinion and more. The NT is entirely student run and is responsible for producing a weekly newspaper along with the website, NinerTimes.com.

The newspaper is distributed to over 75 locations across campus and the surrounding area and because news doesn't just happen weekly there's NinerTimes.com, a news website that's constantly updated with exclusive stories, videos and photography.



Midas Magazine was formed in the Spring of 2020 to give UNC Charlotte students a place to be unapologetically themselves and to showcase all the good our student body and surrounding city of Charlotte has to offer. We are student run and operated with four main staff departments: writing, photography, design, and social media/promotions. All the content we produce centers around four main pillars: culture, artistry, identity, and lifestyle, specifically as it pertains to UNCC students and our community.



Uptown Audio is the student-run podcasting network at UNC Charlotte. Available online 24/7, we play an incredibly wide variety of music with the highest quality stream of any college radio station in North Carolina. The station is 100% student-operated, with a weekly schedule of on-air shows to cater to the interests of UNC Charlotte students and the greater Charlotte community.

In addition to our regular programming, we're directly involved with a number of activities to make life on campus more enjoyable for students.



Nova Literary-Arts Magazine is a student produced publication that features a curated selection of artwork, audio, poetry, short stories and films.

In 1970, UNC Charlotte launched the literary-arts magazine Sanskrit. Since its debut, Sanskrit became an award-winning magazine that is nationally recognized. In 2021 the students of Sanskrit formed a committee to explore rebranding the magazine and thus Sanskrit became Nova.

WHERE TO FIND US

Instagram:
@niner_times

Website:
<https://www.ninertimes.com>

Contact the Editor:
editor@ninertimes.com

Instagram:
@midas.mag

Website:
<https://www.midasmagazine.com>

Contact the Editor:
midasmagazine@uncc.edu

Instagram:
@uptownaudio

Website:
<https://www.uapodcasts.com>

Contact the Editor:
uptownaudio@uncc.edu

Instagram:
@novauncc

Website:
<https://novacharlotte.com>

Contact the Editor:
novamagazine@uncc.edu



EXPERIENCE THE WORLD WITH UNC CHARLOTTE

oip.charlotte.edu | international@uncc.edu

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE | OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMS

Fall 2022 Events

Study Abroad Fair

More details coming soon

edabroad.charlotte.edu

International Education Week

Monday, November 14 to Friday, November 18
Multiple events

oip.charlotte.edu/IEW

Please visit oip.charlotte.edu/resources for more details on a number of cross-cultural and educational events the Office of International Programs hosts each semester. We welcome your participation.

Live. Learn. Be Global.

Make a friend through the
Friendship and Culture Exchange Program

Become a **Global Engagement Scholar**

Attend an **International Speaker Series** event

Become a **Conversation Partner**

Live in the **Global Gateways** Wing of
Witherspoon Hall

Become an **Education Abroad Student** intern

Join the **Phi Beta Delta Honor Society**

Attend **International Coffee Hour**

Study Abroad 101

Explore opportunities now to go abroad! All UNC Charlotte students going abroad are required to complete Study Abroad 101 before meeting with an Education Abroad advisor or starting an application.

edabroad.charlotte.edu/getstarted

Global Engagement Scholars Program

Open Enrollment

Complement your academic experience while expanding your global awareness: Participate in the GESP. Visit us online for application process and deadlines for Fall 2022.

global.charlotte.edu/GESP

"HIDDEN"

LOCATIONS ON CAMPUS

Six must-see places that you may not already know about

by Sunnya Hadavi
Editor-in-Chief

With a campus as large as UNC Charlotte, it is easy to find yourself lost and unsure of where to go. Of course, there is the Student Union, UREC and Atkins Library, but these are the most popular points on campus, with many people going through them every day. If you explore enough, you will find many other locations on campus with little to no people. Here is a list of just some places of these places.

Special Collections and the University Archives

Found on the tenth floor of the Atkins Library tower, the Dalton Reading Room has a plethora of rare books, manuscripts and other documents relating to both UNC Charlotte and the city of Charlotte. All students can visit this room, view all of the archives and catch a glimpse at Charlotte's history. In addition, you can find a quiet study room behind the Dalton Reading Room. With a great view of the entire

campus, the 10th floor is a great place to study or relax.

Area 49

While it may not be considered hidden as it is on the second floor of Atkins Library, Area 49 has a wide variety of different facilities that may go unnoticed. There is something for everyone with the Gaming Lab, Makerspace, Multimedia Lab and more. For those wanting to unleash their creative side, these labs had the facilities and programs to make designing, editing and filming much more accessible. The Makerspace also contains 3D printers, sewing machines and other supplies. Do not worry if you do not know how to use the equipment! There are workshops and training programs that you can sign up for.

Fretwell hammocks

On a day with great weather, the hammocks between the College of Health & Human Services and Atkins Library are always taken. Even when they are free, there is no privacy since everyone walks by. Thankfully, you can find a few hammocks behind the Fretwell building near the Thoughtful Cup. These hammocks are rarely taken, and their proximity to your classes makes them the perfect place to stop by.

Duke Centennial Hall

On the opposite side of campus, you will find many of the newer buildings added to UNC Charlotte. While all the buildings are pleasant to be in, Duke Centennial Hall has one of the best interiors on campus, and it is typically not

crowded. Its stunning seating area and study lounges make it a great place to unwind when on the east side of campus. On the second floor, you will also find a balcony with a wonderful view of the football field and other buildings nearby. So while the building itself is not hidden, it is an underrated spot that students should visit.

Norm's Loft

Popp Martin Student Union is arguably the most visited building at UNC Charlotte, but there are certain parts of the building you might not know about. Accessible through the mezzanine level of the Popp Martin Student Union, Norm's Loft is a smaller sitting area overlooking the pool tables on the main level. Because of its bland doors, many new students are not aware of this area. Consider checking out Norm's Loft if you want to meet up with your friends between or after classes.

Niner Times Newsroom & Student Niner Media

At the lower level of the Popp Martin Student Union, all the different sections of Student Niner Media have their offices. Between Niner Times, Midas, Uptown Audio and Nova, there is a section for each person to be involved in. Inside the Niner Times newsroom specifically, you will see the walls decorated with the issues from the previous years, and you can come in and ask to see issues dating back to the 1980s. If there are any stories or topics you would like to see covered, or if you would like to join the Niner Times or other sections, know that our offices are open!

— VENTURE OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP —

AMAZE

YOURSELF

Facilitators, Leaders, Students...

EMBRACE THE ADVENTURE

VENTURE.CHARLOTTE.EDU

CLTVentureOutdoor @cltventureoutdoor



● DUKE CENTENNIAL HALL

NINER TIMES NEWSROOM ● ● NORM'S LOFT

FRETWELL HAMMOCKS

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ● ● AREA 49

SEE IT ON
THE MAP

Map of UNC Charlotte
courtesy of UNC Charlotte Web Map

49 MORE THINGS TO DO AS A UNC CHARLOTTE STUDENT

by Emily Kottak
Arts & Culture Editor

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a UREC group fitness class | <input type="checkbox"/> Find the "hidden" room in the stairwell of the union | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer on campus somehow (i.e. trash pickup, planting trees, etc) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get to know a dining employee | <input type="checkbox"/> Learn how to play a different sport | <input type="checkbox"/> Do the winter Polar Plunge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visit the art gallery in the Student Union | <input type="checkbox"/> Try the C.O.R.E. workout area outside | <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for scholarships on ninerscholars.uncc.edu |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lounge in every hammock location on campus | <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a residence hall event | <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about the art and sculptures outside of the COED building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check out the Marriott hotel | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign up for an organization or club on Niner Engage | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit every academic building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Try the scooters on campus | <input type="checkbox"/> Take a family member or friend on a campus tour | <input type="checkbox"/> Place a food or drink order on the Niner Diner mobile app |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend the homecoming football game | <input type="checkbox"/> Walk, run or bike 4.9 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> Donate to or volunteer at the Jamil Niner Food Pantry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hit up the UREC outdoor pool | <input type="checkbox"/> Try to get on the jumbo screen at a sporting event | <input type="checkbox"/> Introduce yourself to and speak with an SGA representative(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mail a letter or package to someone through Prospector | <input type="checkbox"/> Memorize the alma mater | <input type="checkbox"/> Go the campus greenhouse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't get attacked by the geese | <input type="checkbox"/> Leave an idea in an SGA suggestion box | <input type="checkbox"/> Get a gift for someone from the bookstore |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Read a book by the South Village Pond | <input type="checkbox"/> Write a "thank you" note to a UNC Charlotte employee | <input type="checkbox"/> Go uptown and check out the Charlotte Hornets arena, restaurants and shop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check out a book from the library | <input type="checkbox"/> Go on the paddle boats across from campus at the boardwalk | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent a bike on campus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visit Area 49 in Atkins Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve a treadmill or study bike in the library | <input type="checkbox"/> Take pictures at the top of a parking garage and see the city skyline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learn to navigate the bus system on campus | <input type="checkbox"/> Walk in the wooded path near the engineering side of campus | <input type="checkbox"/> Practice for interviewing at the Career Center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hang out with puppies between CHHS and COED when they are there | <input type="checkbox"/> Read every Niner Times issue | <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for an on campus job |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get active on the NRFC fields | <input type="checkbox"/> Try to attend a sporting event for every UNC Charlotte sport | <input type="checkbox"/> Meet Norm the Niner |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Go to the Golden Owl at the Marriott on campus and get mocktails or cocktails | |



STUDY HOTSPOTS

Finding the perfect study spot

by Jamese Levison
Staff Writer

Photo of Popp Martin Student Union
courtesy of Niner Times file photos

You're in your first week of school, and the homework is starting to pile up. You need to get focused and start cracking down on your work. Your dorm or apartment is too crazy with your roommates, and you need a place to go. You need to find a place that suits your needs—whether that be pin-drop silence or a little background noise. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

J. Murrey Atkins Library

It's cliché to suggest the library, but it is a great place if you need somewhere quiet to focus on your studies. The library has nine floors, and the further upward you go, the quieter it gets. So if you need that pin-drop silence to study, I'd recommend the seventh or eighth floor. The library will be offering a Starbucks (formerly Peet's cafe) in fall 2022. You can grab that mid-afternoon pick-me-up coffee or a refreshing snack to get your brain working again.

SoVi Pavilion

If you are an outdoor person, this is the place for you. The SoVi pavilion

has tables and chairs for you to study outside. You can get your vitamin D and accomplish your tasks. When you get too warm, you can head inside. In the SoVi market, you can grab a snack or get a meal downstairs. There's indoor seating as well if that is more your speed. The noise level is usually pretty low the further you sit from the stairs down to SoVi dining.

Hunt Hall Courtyard

This dorm courtyard offers great shade and a fantastic place to study on a good weather day. When you need a brain break, head over to the hammocks and take a quick nap or just relax. After all, you've earned it for studying so hard!

Popp Martin Student Union

This facility offers many unique study locations. On the first floor, there is a variety of seating options available, and there are many dining options available such as Starbucks, Bojangles, Wendy's, Shake Smart and the Market on Craver. Many people frequent this area, so if you need noise and constant bustling to help you study, this is the place to be.

The entire Mezzanine level has seating available for studying and a computer room on one end. The noise level is less here but still present. If you can find it by the stairs, there is a door to the Norm's Hangout area. This part of the building offers, in my opinion, the closest you can get to silence in the Student Union. As we move to the second and third levels, there are places to study and the noise level, like the library, gets quieter as you move in elevation. Crown Commons is also on the second level as the University's second dining facility on campus. There are rooms and a balcony located in Crown that offer study spots as well. There is also seating in the front of the building, side, and back outside the Student Union. If you need that sunlight to get you motivated to study, this is the place for you.

Dorm study rooms

If you don't want to leave your dorm or the weather outside is unsuitable for travel, you can always study in your hall's study areas. I found this most helpful when you need to get out of your room

but don't want to leave the building. The rooms have desks and chairs and sometimes a whiteboard. The rooms are usually located on each floor.

Botanical gardens

Another great on-campus spot is the gardens. Located in east campus, this beautiful area has several quiet spots, and you can spend a few hours here getting work done. The surroundings are quiet and serene.

Panera Bread/Starbucks

Here is an off-campus option if the campus scene isn't your style. You can pop in here and grab a drink to keep you energized, find a quiet corner to settle in and get cracking on those assignments. These are just a few ideas, but this list is not exhaustive. There might be a study spot that you happen across while trying to find these locations. Kudos to you for finding a spot so you will be a successful student here at UNC Charlotte. I hope this will help you on your journey.

MOVIES THAT DEFINE THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

Four movies every college student needs to see

by Zoya Zalevskiy
Layout Editor

Photos from each respective film
courtesy of Variety, MTV, Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center & The New Yorker

College is a huge change of pace for everyone. Even if you think you are prepared for the flip from living at home, the monotonous school schedule or living in a town you know like the back of your hand, being dropped into a new environment with new people is so different. But it isn't a bad thing. Change is good and necessary.

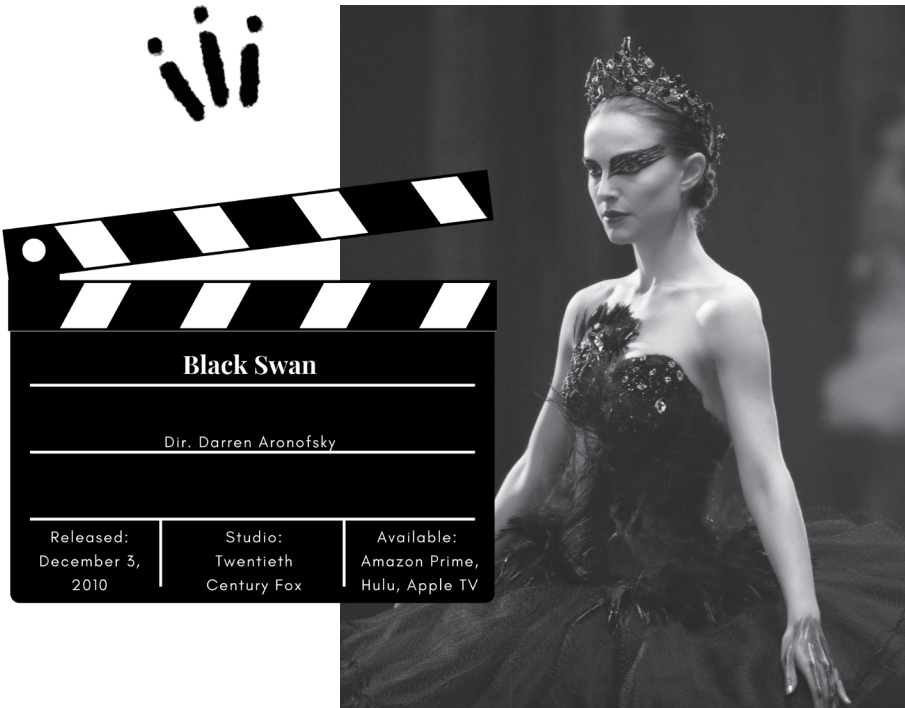
Movies have long served as a comfort to people, representing untold stories or creating a visually appealing representation of your own experiences. So I have made a list of movies that everyone should watch at some point in their college career.



“Everything Everywhere All at Once” came out in theatres in March 2022. I haven’t been left so speechless by a movie in a long time. I laughed, I cried, then laughed and cried some more. Without going into too much, because going into this movie blind makes it an even better experience, this movie doesn’t exactly deal with college, but it does delve into the relationships with our parents as we grow up. It shows the child’s perspective: feeling like a failure like there is no way to fix the strained relationship with over-expecting parents and no way to make them proud of you. It also shows the parent’s perspective: not knowing why your child has become more and more distant, expecting so much of them because you want them to achieve what you never had the opportunity to, and not knowing how to show your love in a way they will understand. Especially from a first-generation American perspective, some themes of this movie are relatable and emotional and made me analyze my own relationships. Beyond the captivating visuals and off-the-wall plotline, you leave this movie with many emotions and a different view of your interactions with others.



Though not a very conventional pick, I think “Black Swan” is an important movie for people, especially those who have suffered from perfectionism and anxiety, to watch. The story follows Nina (Natalie Portman), a 28-year-old ballerina working with one of the most prestigious companies in New York City. As her company prepares for the new show season, performing Tchaikovsky’s “Swan Lake,” Nina begins to fall through the cracks. The acting in this movie is intense and emotional, especially Natalie Portman’s performance. This dark and psychologically daunting film makes you question what is real as you watch a talented character spiral into madness. You watch a young girl’s desperate attempts to be perfect in the already toxic environment of professional ballet and watch as she takes any opportunity to push herself forward in the eyes of those around her, even though it is tearing her apart. I highly recommend this, not so much as a cautionary tale, as it is obviously dramatized, but more as a way to see that perfection only matters so much, to make you question what you would risk to achieve your dreams.



This is a good, nostalgic and heartwarming movie with outstanding performances by Matt Damon and Robin Williams. It follows Will (Damon), a janitor for MIT's campus who is a genius. Actually a genius. He is insanely smart and has a deep understanding of mathematics, science, history and literature, and has an affinity for knowledge and a desire to learn. However, he comes from a complicated background leaving him with low self-esteem and a strong hesitancy to challenge himself. He begins attending court-mandated therapy, leading him to meet Sean Maguire (Williams). The two embark on a journey of trust, healing and self-love. Movies like this are really important to see. Understanding that intelligence isn't a signifier of wealth or upbringing but rather that we have social systems that hold back people from lower social classes and give them few opportunities to escape cycles of poverty no matter their skill set. It further shows how that mindset is instilled in disadvantaged people from a young age; they have no confidence in their future because it feels hopeless for them to achieve their goals, and no one tells them any different. The self-appreciation, friendship and opportunity to become a person to be proud of make this movie a must-watch.



Coming out of high school is daunting, especially when you feel like your teenage years are fleeting, and you've wasted precious time. "Booksmart" is a feel-good and funny movie showing the story of two best friends about to graduate. They were model students keeping their grades high and engrossing themselves in dreams of their future college experiences. It's only days before they conclude this chapter in their life that they realize they had missed out on many high school experiences. They hadn't lived out their teenage years because they had been so worried about their futures. So they embark on a mission to catch up on lost time, which challenges their friendship and encourages self-exploration. Overachievers and people who grew up too fast are no strangers to the feeling of lost time, to mourning the childhood we never really got to have. This movie expresses these feelings comically while still hitting emotional points. "Booksmart" is an easy watch that is relatable and palatable and makes you appreciate the friendships you have grown out of and the ones that stay around.

TAKE A RIDE ON THE LIGHT RAIL

A navigation guide for the CATS light rail

by Jackson Martin
Asst. Copy Editor

Graphic of CATS light rail
by Zoya Zalevskiy

Whether you're a native Charlottean or new to Charlotte, there are many exciting things to experience here in the city. While our primary campus location is somewhat isolated, Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) built a light rail station on our campus to allow us to safely navigate Charlotte—even if you don't own a car. The UNC Charlotte light rail station can be found in North Village. You can walk to this station on campus by walking behind the Popp Martin Student Union building, following the bridge, going past the dorm buildings and there you are! If you live in a dorm such as Miltimore, Lynch, or Wallis, you are really close. However, if you live in South Village, residing in a dorm such as Scott, Sanford or Laurel, there's no need to fret! It is not that bad of a walk to the other side of campus; I used to do it all the time.

And don't worry if you live off campus! Thanks to our university, it is free for all Charlotte students to ride the CATS light rail. If a CATS employee comes aboard your ride and they are checking for tickets, be sure to show them your student ID card. You will be riding the CATS Blue line, which takes you from UNC Charlotte all the way down to I-485 South Blvd. Be sure to download the CATS app on the app store to view what

time you can expect the train to arrive!

Now that you have the city of Charlotte at your fingertips, I want to highlight some stops on the light rail that you can take advantage of to make the most of your time here. It's free, so you might as well ride!

J. W. Clay Blvd. / UNC Charlotte

This is the first stop after you leave the UNC Charlotte main station. Here, you can eat at some great restaurants such as Sabor Latin Grill, Panera Bread and more. You are also within walking distance to the Boardwalk from here, which is a popular dining and date location!

36th St.

Once you reach 36th St., you know you're in NoDa. NoDa is one of Charlotte's most famous arts neighborhoods. So whether you're going out bar hopping with your friends, catching some live music at the Neighborhood Theater, grabbing a cup of coffee, eating a nice dinner or going on a nice walk in a neighborhood, NoDa is the place to go.

7th St.

7th St. Marketplace is a cool place to be! It houses various shops, coffee, food, clothing and knick-knacks, so you will

surely find something to do there.

Charlotte Transportation Center (CTC)

Welcome to Uptown Charlotte! While 7th St. is in Uptown as well, CTC station is in the heart of the city. While Uptown Charlotte could have its own article, here's a list of some of my favorite places.

The Mint Museum is full of a variety of astonishing pieces of art. While tickets are only \$10, there is free admission for everyone on Wednesday from 5–9 p.m.!

Coco & The Director is one of my favorite study & hangout locations. There are a bunch of different places to sit, and you have a great menu of coffee and tea. If you are looking to get some work done in Uptown, check this place out.

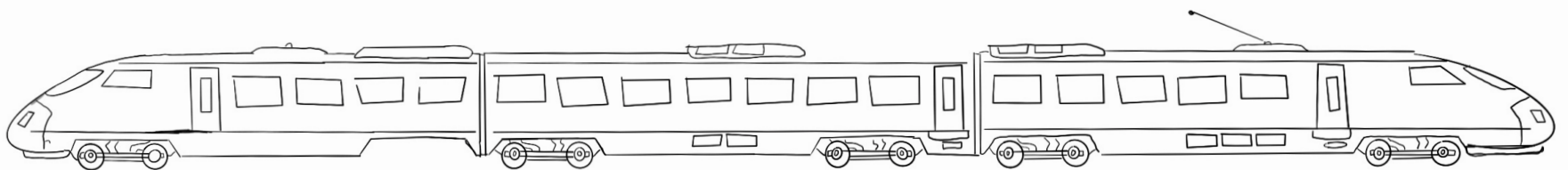
Fourth Ward is one of Charlotte's most historic neighborhoods. Take a walk in Fourth Ward Park, check out the historic architecture in the neighborhood, and you will find a great view of the city.

Epicenter has its ups and downs business-wise, but there's always something to do. You can always count on finding a new shop in Epicenter, and there are a variety of clubs you can visit for a night out.

The UNC Charlotte Center City location resides in First Ward Park. If you have a class up there or just want to check

it out, you can walk there from this light rail stop.

While Charlotte may feel like a big city if you have just moved here, don't let it overwhelm you. I found myself acquainted with the area fairly quickly, and moving into my senior year, I am now connected with the local music scene in Charlotte and work with a small business in Plaza Midwood. When I started my first year at Charlotte, I didn't have a car. I took full advantage of the light rail, and I got involved with my city easily. That being said, anything can happen in the city once you leave campus; you should be sure to always keep your wits about you and travel the city with a friend! There's plenty to explore, so make the best of your time here in college, and don't forget to spend time off campus.



LIVE ON CAMPUS

90% of residents report that they would recommend living on campus to a new student.

**Resident Satisfaction Survey*



HOUSING.CHARLOTTE.EDU | 704.687.7501 |     @CLT_HRL

LIVE ON.

CHARLOTTE HOUSING AND
RESIDENCE LIFE

Cultivating A Community of Care

We believe that the entire University community is responsible for the safety and emotional well-being of our students. Therefore, we are committed to providing mental health and suicide prevention initiatives at UNC Charlotte that strive to enrich the community of care that is an intrinsic piece of the institutional identity.

Scan to learn more:



FOLLOW US:



**COUNSELING AND
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES**

Services Provided

- Individual Counseling
- Discussion Groups
- Workshops
- Group Counseling
- Referring Counseling

**LET'S
TALK**

- Brief, drop-in and confidential virtual problem-solving consultation with a CAPS staff member
 - No appointment necessary and brief wait time
- caps.uncc.edu/lets-talk

caps.charlotte.edu

Price Center (adjacent to Student Health Center)

Contact Us: 704.687.0311

COME CHECK US OUT!

Popp Martin Student Union Suite 252



SAFE

The SAFE Academic Year Program is an opportunity for first year students who were unable to attend Voyage to still get connected with our office, gain a mentor, and participate in our academic and social programming throughout the year. Visit safe.uncc.edu/apply to learn more.

QUEER YEAR ONE

QY1 is a cohort based program that engages first year LGBTQ+ students through community building, intentional dialogue, and connects students to both campus and community resources.

identity.charlotte.edu/education/queer-year-1

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

MLK Celebration • Activate!
Women of Color Programming • Rainbow Racket • Friendly Peer Training
Race Consciousness Conversations • Experiential Learning Trips
SPARK: An IEE Leadership Development Institute.

CLT_IEE

 OFFICE OF IDENTITY,
EQUITY, AND ENGAGEMENT

IDENTITY.CHARLOTTE.EDU
OFFICE-IEE@UNCC.EDU
704-687-7121



Dining on-campus this semester

Where students can find good food at UNC Charlotte

by Jessica Ceballos
News Editor

Your stomach is grumbling, and you need food now. However, if you don't want to leave campus to grab food, where do you go? There are options for students to spend their meal plan swipes, declining balance (DB) and other payment forms. The locations vary all over campus in many buildings. Here are a few options to choose from.

SoVi

South Village dining facility, otherwise known as SoVi, offers a variety of food options cooked by the staff. SoVi is located in South Village near Laurel Hall on the lower level. There are five main sections in SoVi. Homestyle offers a hot meal along with veggie, protein and gluten-free options. There is also a pizza section, burger section, and salad and fruit section. The Dine On Campus app has more information regarding the daily menu and the hours of operation. SoVi offers meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner. There is also a SoVi market and bakery on the upper level of SoVi. The market is a mini convenience store full of college essentials, and the bakery offers warm baked goods.

Crown Commons

Located on the second floor in the Popp Martin Student Union, Crown Commons is the second dining facility on campus. Crown offers food similar to SoVi. Crown might be a little confusing at first, but it is sectioned based on the type of food served. Two hot sections, one near the front and

one in the back, serve hot meals and burgers. They have gluten-free menu options as well. In addition, there is a fruit and salad section. Be sure to check the Dine On Campus app for the menu for Crown and the hours of operation. Crown offers meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Fast-food options

There are quite a few choices available to students on campus as far as fast food is concerned. In Lower Prospector, there is a Chick-Fil-a and a to-go market when you need something quick to eat. The to-go market has sandwiches, fruit and coffee. In Upper Prospector, there is Sushi to-go, Salsaritas and Mama Leone's. Salsaritas sells create-your-own bowls, burritos and quesadillas. Mama Leone's sells ready-to-go piz-

za and a variety of pasta. You can check the Dine On Campus app for hours of operation for all of these locations.

In the Popp Martin Student Union, Bojangles, Wendy's, Shake Smart and the Market on Craver. Shake Smart is a recent addition to the Student Union as of fall 2021, replacing Einstein Bagel Bros., Shake Smart offers a healthy option for students on campus by selling shakes, bowls and oatmeal. Market on Craver is a mini convenience store with essentials for any college student and a sandwich shop.

In the Cone center, there is Panda Express and Subway. As of the fall 2021 semester, they introduced a delivery service. The on-campus dining article says, "The Hand Off Delivery program through the Niner Diners Mobile Ordering. For a \$3.95 delivery fee, Panda

Express and Subway offer this service for five locations across campus at lunch. Dining Services is also launching the FanFood app that will allow students to mobile order concessions during football and basketball."

A new addition since spring 2022 to UNC Charlotte is Auntie Anne's and the Change Please Coffee in the new Science Building. Auntie Anne's has pretzels, pretzel bites and much more. Change Please Coffee is a non-profit coffee shop that opened in spring 2022. They hire the homeless to work and earn wages.

If you are in the mood for coffee, hot or cold, or a snack, Charlotte offers a little variety and different locations. In the Student Union, there is a Starbucks. In J. Murrey Atkins Library, a second Starbucks will replace Peet's coffee. Lastly, on the first floor in Fretwell, we have the newest coffee shop, Thoughtful Cup, as of spring 2022. Thoughtful cup replaced the Peet's cafe that was previously there.

You can also use the Mobile Order app to order your food ahead of time and reduce the wait time for all the locations aside from SoVi and Crown. In addition, the app has reward opportunities and re-order options if you need to save time ordering.

These are just the on-campus options. If you're interested in dining off-campus, read the following article. I hope these options help you find what you're looking for in an on-campus eating experience.



Photo of Popp Martin Student Union
by Chris Crews

WHAT TO WATCH FOR IN Charlotte Athletics — — — — — FOR 2022-23

Here is what to look out for in the upcoming year

by Bryson Foster
Sports Editor

Photos of the Charlotte's Ethan Sawdon with the ball
by Chris Crews

As a new athletics season approaches, all teams' excitement and expectations are high. After historic seasons for multiple programs, the ceiling will only get higher for Charlotte athletics. Here is an inside look into the five things you need to watch for in the upcoming athletic year:

5. The continuing emergence of both tennis programs

Both men's and women's tennis had historic seasons that saw both teams

have runs to the final of the Conference USA (C-USA) Championship tournament. Both seasons consisted of win streaks and impressive performances against some of the best in the nation.

The men's tennis team finished the season 17-7 while boasting a nine-game win streak, defeating No. 60 UTSA, No. 72 Liberty and No. 74 East Tennessee State. The 49ers reached No. 47 in the national rankings before losing the C-USA title game to No. 18 Middle Tennessee. Next season, the team re-

turns seven players, including superlative award winner Stefanos Savva. Expect this team to be a force under fourth-year Head Coach Kyle Bailey as they look to continue their success.

The women's team had an all-time season posting 19 wins and being invited to the ITA 2022 Kick-off weekend for the first time. The team went on a tear, winning eight-straight games while peaking at No. 51. The 49ers, led by Ruxi Schech and Rocío Safont took to new heights before a loss in the C-USA title game to No. 33 Old Dominion.

The future is bright for both squads as they continue to put themselves on the map.

4. New look for Charlotte soccer programs

Both soccer programs will enter into new eras in the coming year. The year will be highlighted by new coaching hires and changing conferences.

The women's team is coming off a solid 7-5-4 record with wins over Gardner Webb and Wofford. Legendary Head Coach John Cullen decided to retire after 131 wins in 13 seasons at Charlotte. Cullen, who led the 49ers to an NCAA tournament appearance in 2016, passes the reigns over in 2022 as the team prepares to enter new territory.

The men's squad will move from the C-USA to the American Athletic Conference (AAC) as an affiliate mem-



ber for the 2022 campaign. The 49ers, who reached the NCAA tournament last season, will face some new faces in Memphis, SMU and defending American champs Tulsa. The team will start a new soccer age as a member of one of the emerging power conferences.

3. Who will emerge for men's basketball?

The men's basketball team finished the 2021-22 campaign with a 17-14 overall record and was 10-8 in conference play. The 49ers are losing their top three scorers from a year ago, and the big question is who will take the next step this season?

The team relied on junior guard Jah-



Photo of Charlotte versus Coastal Carolina
courtesy of Charlotte Athletics



Photo of the Charlotte football team celebrating in the huddle
by Chris Crews

mir Young for a chunk of their production the last three seasons. He averaged 19.6 points, 5.9 rebounds and 3.7 assists. Young decided to enter the NBA draft but announced he would be keeping his collegiate eligibility to transfer to Maryland. Transfers Austin Bulter and Clyde Trapp combined for an average of 21.6 points per game a year ago, which paired nicely with Young.

The 49ers have a plethora of young talent who shined in spots throughout the season. Jackson Threadgill, Aly Khalifa and Robert Braswell IV will look to take the next steps in their game to produce at a high level. The team also added Virginia transfer Igor Miličić Jr., Missouri State transfer Lu'Cye Patterson and Tarleton State alum Montre Gipson to their ranks.

The options are endless, and it is shaping up to be an intriguing year for the 49ers.

2. Charlotte football to take on top programs in primetime matchups

The Charlotte football team has some marquee matchups on their schedule for the 2022 season. A year ago, the team started the season on a high note by beating power-five opponent Duke at home in Jerry Richardson Stadium. The 49ers will try to re-capture that magic in 2022.

The 49ers open the year against C-USA rival Florida Atlantic on Saturday, Aug. 27, in Boca Raton, Fla. Char-

lotte will return home to face William & Mary and Big Ten foe Maryland on Saturday, Sept. 10. The team will play their second power-five team of the season in SEC program South Carolina, which former Heisman favorite Spencer

Rattler will lead.

The team then opens up their final season in the C-USA before heading to the AAC at home against the UTEP Miners on Saturday, Oct. 1. Throughout their conference schedule, the 49ers

will face UAB, Western Kentucky and Louisiana Tech.

1. Women's basketball looks to defend their C-USA crown

The Charlotte women's basketball reached the NCAA tournament for the third time in program history in 2021-22. The 49ers made it over the hump giving Head Coach Cara Consuegra her first appearance in the tournament. The team finished the season with a 22-10 record and was 15-3 in conference play.

The 49ers had a slow start posting a 1-4 record through the first three weeks of play. Once the C-USA play started, Charlotte rattled off multiple winning streaks that catapulted the team to first place in the conference. In the C-USA tournament, the squad kept things going, defeating Rice, North Texas and overcoming a 14-point deficit to clinch the automatic bid over Louisiana Tech. The historic season came to an end with a loss to the No. 3 seed in the Bridgeport region Indiana.

Charlotte is set to defend their C-USA crown in 2022-23 and will look to taste championship gold once again.



Photo of Charlotte women's basketball players celebrating the C-USA championship
courtesy of Conference USA

REFLECTING — ON THE — CHARLOTTE ATHLETICS SEASON

Athletic Director Mike Hill shares his thoughts on the athletic season and his plans for the future

by Bryson Foster
Sports Editor

The Charlotte athletics program is coming off a year of firsts and accomplishments. As the season comes to an end, there is much to take away from action-packed moments. Athletic Director Mike Hill sat down with the Niner Times to reflect on the year and where he sees the program going in the future.

Niner Times: What are your overall thoughts on the athletic season?

Hill: When I look at the totality of our program, we made good strides last year. We had our highest number of NCAA postseason teams ever with four, and we still have a chance to do that this year, but it will be more of a challenge, so we're waiting to see how

we finish out. We're not where we want to be yet, but I also feel like we are continuing to climb up the mountain to build a championship-level program for our sports.

NT: You have mentioned before that we are in a better spot than we were five years ago; what do you feel has made athletics better?

Hill: I think we have amazing coaches. The coaches and student-athletes make the magic happen, and it's our job to put incredible people in positions to succeed. I'm proud of the job we've done in either trying to support coaches who were already here when I arrived four years ago or were some of the hires we've made. You look

across the board, and we've had some successful coaches join an already successful staff. It does boil down to having great coaches and student-athletes committed to a common goal. We've established our expectations pretty clearly so that there's alignment, and I think alignment is key. When we have alignment, you have a chance for great success... We are clearly on the rise, and the ultimate goal is to be a championship-level program for all of our students.

NT: What aspects of athletics do you feel have been the strongest this year? Also, Where do you see the program growing in the next two to five years?

Hill: I want to acknowledge our fans. Our student-athletes and coaches struggled with the pandemic, we had limited attendance last year, and we couldn't enjoy the atmosphere they provide. To have our fans back in the stands this year made an enormous impact. The fact we had a capacity or near capacity crowds at every football game this fall speaks to the passion of our fan base, particularly our students. I think our students have been incredible. They're just tremendous fans, and we rely heavily on their support, and we need their passion. There's no greater tribute to our overall athletic program than the fact that we were invited to join the American Athletic Conference. It's a very strong conference, and we were selected because of the passion of our fan base, the support of our city, the strength of our campus and

the strength of our athletic program. In the next five to 10 years, you'll see Charlotte as a part of a conference that will push the envelope to be viewed as a power-five league.

NT: What areas do you believe athletics can improve on?

Hill: I think we've got to continue to grow our fan base. We have a phenomenal fan base here, but we also have to grow our donor base to support the program financially. We understand how this works; they will support you, but they also want to see you win. We've got to win at a higher level and in the sports that draw the most eyeballs. We're on our way there, but we're still on a journey, and the goal is to get to the end of the journey quickly and start holding up trophies again to energize our fan base.

NT: Why do you feel that appearing at sporting events and giving a face to the athletic director position?

Hill: I want to support our student-athletes and our coaches. While I can't be everywhere all the time, I've tried to be there as much as possible to support all of them. I think that knowing their athletic director is present, engaged and paying attention. If I'm on the road, I promise you, I'm on my phone, checking the scores, watching the stream, or sometimes I'm at an event, and there's another one going on simultaneously. I can't be in two places at once. From a fan perspective, I also believe that's important. It's hard for me to ask fans to show up and support



Photo of Charlotte fans storming the field after defeating power-five opponent Duke
by Chris Crews

teams if I'm not there. I need to make sure that I'm present and that people find me accessible. I try to be a transparent leader. I try to be engaged because I represent Niner Nation in many ways, and I have a responsibility here as a steward of this program.

NT: How would you describe your relationships with the program's coaches?

Hill: Our coaches are the lifeblood of this program, and they're the ones who are the face of their programs in a lot of ways. Coaching is tough, and it's harder than ever right now. It's essential that the coaches feel supported authentically. Coaching can be lonely. You're the face of the program, and you're talking to booster groups, you're recruiting and you're at games. It never ends. It's during the tough times when that relationship matters the most. Everybody texts the coach after a win, but not many people text the coach after a loss, and to me, that's when coaches need to hear from you. It's essential to feel supported, and that's why it's important to me that our coaches know I care about them as people and their roles. That's the only way I know how

to do business. When you can create a unique culture between your head coaches, your athletic director and your athletic staff plays a big part in the overall success of a program.

NT: What is your top athletics moment of the year?

Hill: The top moments to me would be watching women's basketball cut down the nets after beating Louisiana Tech in the C-USA Championship. It was just an incredible run. They had three tough games at the tournament, which could have gone either way, particularly in that championship game. Seeing the joy on the faces of the young women and coaching staff was special and meant a lot. I'd be crazy not to talk about how we started the year. The win over Duke in football was an absolute all-timer for us. It was our first chance to host a power five and ACC school, and we won that game on national television on a Friday night. It was an amazing scene and environment. I was proud of the job that our football team, Coach Healy and the staff did that night. Those are two moments that stand out for me. I was able to attend in person and able to celebrate that.



Photo of Charlotte cutting the nets after beating Louisiana Tech
courtesy of Conference USA



1 IN 3

College Students Experience
FOOD INSECURITY

*If you or someone you know is
experiencing hunger, we're here to help.*



LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

Jamil Niner Food Pantry

1224 John Kirk Drive | ninerpantry.charlotte.edu

POPP MARTIN STUDENT UNION

ENHANCING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

YOUR CENTER OF CAMPUS LIFE FEATURING

Union Square:

- ♦ Wendy's
- ♦ Shake Smart
- ♦ Bojangles

Crown Commons

Starbucks

Art Gallery

Information Center

Union Station

ID Card Office

Office of Identity, Equity, and Engagement

Leadership & Community Engagement

The Market Convenience Store

Erbert & Gerbert's Sandwich Shop

The Union Theater

Lounges & Outdoor Seating

Center for Student Involvement

Reservations Office

Barnes & Noble at UNC Charlotte

NinerTech Computer Store

The Campus Salon

Norm's & Norm's Loft

Student Employment

Meeting Rooms and Event Spaces

Student Legal Services



LOOKING FOR MORE WAYS TO BE INVOLVED?
CHECK OUT THE **CONE UNIVERSITY CENTER**

STUDENTUNION.CHARLOTTE.EDU



POPP MARTIN STUDENT UNION

CONE UNIVERSITY CENTER

STUDENT-RUN AND STUDENT FOCUSED



EVENT SPACES

YOUR SPOT
FOR CONCERTS,
COMEDY, KARAOKE,
SPEAKERS, AND
SPECIAL EVENTS

After Hours
Cone Plaza
Lucas Room
McKnight Hall
Meeting Rooms
Piano Lounge
• with Nap Pods!



STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

FIND YOUR FRIENDS AND
GET INVOLVED ON CAMPUS!

Lavender Lounge
Niner Central
Office of Fraternity
& Sorority Life
Peace Haven Meditation
and Reflection Space
Student Assistance
and Support Services
University Scholarship Office



DINING & SERVICES

WHETHER IT'S A BITE TO EAT
OR A/V TECH SUPPORT,
WE'VE GOT YOUR FIX!

Cone Center Administration
Conference Services (CRES)

Main Street Market Food Court:
• Subway
• Panda Express
• Market/Grab & Go

Multi-device charging station
Student Employment
A/V Technical Services

CONE.UNCC.EDU

cltconeecenter

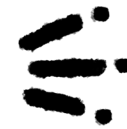
LOOKING FOR MORE WAYS TO BE INVOLVED?
CHECK OUT THE **POPP MARTIN STUDENT UNION**



STUDENT ORGS GUIDE



Finding the best student organization
for you on campus



by James Levison
Staff Writer

Photos of student organizations
courtesy of the Niner Times file photos

So you're looking to join a student organization? UNC Charlotte has a wide array of over 250 clubs that touch on many areas that can suit anyone's tastes!

Academic/Pre-Professional

Are you looking to meet more people in your major or in a field you want to know more about? Look no further than our academic and pre-professional clubs. These clubs focus on a variety of fields such as Biology, Criminal Justice and Social Work. If you want

to network and establish skills and connections that will help you develop throughout your college career, these clubs are for you.

Examples: Biology Club, Criminal Justice Association, Social Work Club

Fraternity & Sorority

Are you looking for friendships that will last a lifetime and opportunities to serve your community while you do it? Try one of our fraternities or sororities! Whether your family has some roots in fraternities or sororities or you want

to enrich your college experience by rushing, we have many Greek societies that are suited for you!

Examples: Alpha Chi Omega, Delta Sigma Phi, Zeta Tau Alpha

Honor Society

Would you consider yourself a "high achiever?" Do you like being around like-minded individuals? Perhaps one of our honor societies would suit you! They work on developing leadership skills and can offer benefits such as scholarships and recognition for your

academic achievements.

Examples: Latinx Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta, Psi Chi

Interest

Do you like animation? Gaming? Writing? Regardless of your passion, our interest groups on campus are perfect for meeting new people that are as passionate as you. If you're looking for a fun way to spend your time outside of classes, try one of these clubs out!

Examples: Japanese Anime and Manga Society (JAMS), Niner ESports





Center for Student INVOLVEMENT

Make friends, participate in activities you're passionate about, and develop your leadership skills! Visit us in our brand new, renovated Center for Student Involvement on the second floor of the Popp Martin Student Union!

studentinvolvement.charlotte.edu
@cltinvolvement

Student Orgs SHOWCASE

Connect with over 200 student organizations
Event Date: Sunday Aug 21, 3:30pm, CHHS Plaza
studentorgs.charlotte.edu





International

Are you a fan of learning about other cultures and languages? Our international clubs are perfect for that! These clubs work to create a community based on educating others about the many cultures that our diverse student body brings to the table and a mutual understanding and appreciation of the beauty of said cultures.

Examples: 49er German Club at UNCC, Bridges International at UNC Charlotte, Nihon Club

Media

The number of media clubs we have may be small, but they shouldn't be overlooked! We have Student Niner Media, a program composed of multiple forms of media such as Niner Times (the school newspaper), Sanskrit LiteraryArt Magazine (annual literary-arts magazine that publishes every Spring), Midas Magazine (our culture and identity magazine) and Uptown Audio (for student podcasts). The other two clubs we have in this section include Heroes and Comics (for those who like Marvel, DC and the like) and MOVE Dance Alliance (for dancing enthusiasts).

Multicultural

Do you find yourself wanting to be more involved in the diverse communities that make up our student body? Try our multicultural clubs! These clubs focus on the many ethnicities, nationalities and orientations that make up our community.

Examples: Black Student Union, Iranian Student Organization, Pakistani Student Association

Performance

Do you like to dance, sing, or act? Maybe all three? We have many performance clubs that can suit all forms of performing artists. If you wish to find an outlet to express yourself, try one of them out!

Examples: Codachrome, Cheer Act

Political

Do you find yourself passionate about politics? Are you looking for somewhere to discuss it with your peers? Our political clubs are ideal for that kind of environment! If you're looking for a place to passionately debate the issues that affect our world,



these clubs are for you! Examples: Amnesty International UNC Charlotte, Health Care Justice at UNC Charlotte, Network of Enlightened Women at UNC Charlotte

Religious/Spiritual

Are you all about your faith? Are you hoping to find comfort in a community that is built on religion or spiritual health? Try out one of our religious/ spiritual clubs! No matter what your religion is, there is a place for you!

Examples: Muslim Student Organization, Campus Bible Fellowship, Hindu Youth for Unity Virtues and Action at Charlotte (Hindu YUVA)

Service

Do you love helping others? Maybe you were a National Honor Society or Key Club member in high school? You can continue this trend with one of our service clubs! These service clubs allow for UNCC students to serve around campus and the local community.

Examples: Student Government Association, Niner Pantry Student Organization, Ninerthon

Sport Club



Were you a huge sports player in high school? Do you plan to continue playing through college? Why not join one of our sports clubs? Whether you're a basketball player, football player or swimmer, our sports clubs are perfect for those who have a sport they are passionate about and wish to continue playing in college.

Examples: Men's Basketball Club, Women's Club Softball, Club Swimming

We have many amazing clubs on campus that make the college experience all the more special. Regardless of what club you decide to join, it's what you make of your experience that makes college worth it! If you would like to learn more about our student organizations, check out Niner Engage or <https://studentorgs.charlotte.edu/>.

What's good to eat around here?

Best taste and value for eating off-campus

by Arin Garcia McCormack
Contributor

One of the first and most essential things you come to learn about any new area is where to eat. Of course, getting to know any new location is a gradual process, and if you're a new student on campus this year, you may not get this time right away in the first few weeks. Here are some of the closest, best-value and tastiest options off-campus, all within a ten-minute drive. From places to grab a bite to eat in a rush of all-day classes to specialty shops that sell unique desserts and drinks, here is a guide to the best off-campus eats.

Off-Campus Local Restaurant Options

King Fish Poke

Only a three-minute drive across the street on the south side of campus, King Fish Poke is a quick-serve eatery specializing in poke bowls and sushi burritos. Offering healthy and filling food, King Fish Poke allows you to customize your poke bowl or sushi burrito and provides various toppings, including different proteins, vegetables and sauces. An excellent option for sushi-lovers or those looking for a fresh, clean option. King Fish Poke is open daily from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; however, they are closed Wednesdays.

Order suggestion: Poke bowl with sushi rice, salmon, jalapeños, edamame, with kingfish and shrimp sauce (about \$15)

Price: \$\$ out of \$\$\$\$\$

Taste: 4/5



Photo of King Fish Poke's salmon poke bowl
courtesy of Axios Charlotte

Tea Fusion Cafe

Located within the same plaza at King Fish Poke, McCulloch Commons, Tea Fusion Cafe is perfect for grabbing a cheap but filling Banh Mi during a quick in-between class break and a chic indoor cafe where you can sit comfortably to complete assignments. Tea Fusion Cafe is an eatery specializing in Banh Mi's (a savory Vietnamese sandwich with a baguette bun, seasoned meat and pickled vegetables), desserts and various boba drinks in different flavors. Most sandwiches range from \$5-\$7, while drinks range from \$5-\$6, including milk teas, tropical drinks, and slushies.

Order suggestion: Grilled Pork Banh Mi and Mango Bubble Tea (about \$12)

Price: \$ out of \$\$\$\$\$

Taste: 4/5

Ninety's Ice Cream Shop

If you need a break from the stress of everyday life and feel like indulging in something sweet, Ninety's Ice Cream serves some unique and tasty desserts you won't find in most ice cream shops. Offering luxurious but not overly pricey desserts, Ninety's specializes in options like their stuffed macaron ice cream sandwiches, cereal-and-whipped cream rimmed milkshakes, and classic treats



Photo of Ninety's Ice Cream Shop's Cookies n' Cream milkshake
courtesy of Pinterest

like Mangonada’s. In addition, this shop offers quality ice cream and unique toppings like Fruity Pebbles, Cookie Crisp, and Cinnamon Toast Crunch. Open Monday-Sunday from 12-9 p.m.

Order suggestion: Macaron ice cream sandwich with graham cracker crunch ice cream and cookie crisp topping
Price: \$\$/ \$\$\$\$
Taste: 5/5

Monterrey Mexican Restaurant

If you’re looking to sit down for a meal with friends or craving Mexican food, Monterrey Mexican Restaurant offers filling meals at a good price. Monterrey offers complimentary chips and salsa and Tex-Mex and Authentic Mexican fare only a three-minute drive from campus. In addition, the Dinner/Lunch combo meals offer a cheap but filling meal, including rice and beans, allowing you to combine three entrees for \$12. Open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily.

Order suggestion: Enchilda, taco and chile relleno (\$8).
Price: \$\$/ \$\$\$\$
Taste: 4/5

Halal Food Cart

Just a walk across the street from campus, the Halal Food Cart is an excellent option if you’re sick of junk food. Choose from tasty, authentic meals like lamb over rice, chicken and lamb gyros and falafel meals. Meals usually cost around \$8, and portions are generous. Make sure you bring cash—they don’t accept card payments. Open late into the night; this food cart is a perfect choice if you’re looking for something filling for a reasonable price after a night class.

Order suggestion: Lamb over rice with white sauce (\$8).
Price: \$/ \$\$\$\$
Taste: 5/5

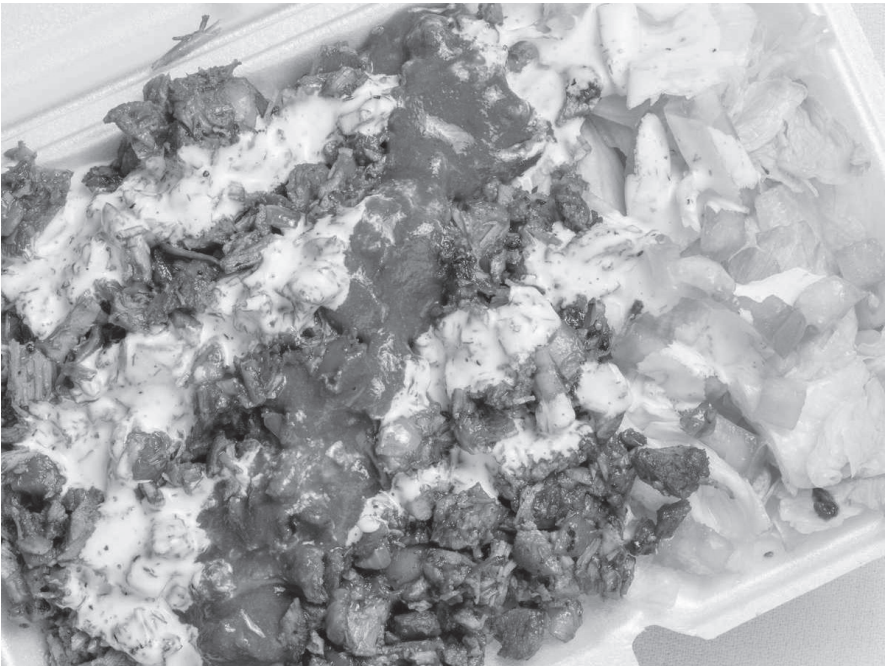


Photo of Halal Food Cart lamb over rice
courtesy of Doordash

Off-Campus Chain Restaurant Options

Cookout

A classic option, you just can’t go wrong with this crown jewel fast food eating establishment of the South. Choose from a main entree, two sides and a milkshake for \$10. It is perfect for late-night eating after a night out, as they are open until 3 a.m. on weekends. However, it’s best not to go on Fridays unless you’re prepared to wait in line for more than an hour.

City Barbeque

A bit more on the pricier side but delicious and authentic-tasting, City Barbeque offers entrees like ribs, slow-cooked brisket and classic sides like fried okra and baked mac and cheese. A three-minute drive from campus and is located in University Plaza.

I-HOP and Waffle House

The place to go when you need a good meal after a long day of studying or want to enjoy a dinner with friends, these two diners are only three and four minutes off-campus.

Boba Shops Off-Campus

Quickly’s

The cheapest and best-value Boba in the University Area Quickly offers dozens of flavors with a variety unseen in other shops, for a great price. You can get a relatively large milk tea with boba for about 5 dollars, and they also offer milkshakes, protein shakes, and snacks like spam musubi and popcorn chicken.

Binki’s

Offering “fancier” boba drinks, including glow in the darkglow-in-the-dark fruit teas and specialty milkshakes, Binki’s is another good option for boba fanatics, and offers cool inside seating.



Photo of Quickly boba and snacks
courtesy of Pinterest

A GUIDE TO LIVING WITH ROOMMATES

How to make living together healthy and fun

by AJ Siegel
Copy Editor

Starting college comes with many challenges and new experiences, but one of the unique parts of college is living with roommates. It can be quite the adjustment to share a living space with roommates, whether you know them or not. So, here are some tips for making your roommate experience the best that it can be. Most of this advice is for on-campus roommates, but a lot still applies to off-campus living.

Set rules and boundaries

Even though it may feel weird to start a new relationship with rules, it will make your life much easier in the long run. At the beginning of the year, you will fill out a roommate contract that covers anything from cleaning schedules to quiet hours and room temperature, so make sure to take it seriously. Making your personal boundaries clear from the beginning will help things go much smoother in the long run. These boundaries can be as tight or loose as you want, but make sure you cover all the bases. It's important to be on the same page about anything from sharing food to cleaning and entertaining guests. You can certainly have more discussions about rules as issues come up, but they are much easier to address when you and your roommates have already established things that are and are not okay.

Designate personal versus communal items

This is one of the most important things to set boundaries for. Sharing a space with someone means that many of your belongings will be in the common areas, so make sure that you designate which items you are alright with other people using and which you are not. Of course, it's up to your own discretion, but you should make it clear from the beginning so that you don't run into issues later. Luckily, many of these items are included in the roommate contract, but make sure you cover things that the contract may miss.

Communicate

As with any relationship, you should maintain communication with your roommates so that your dorm is a comfortable environment for everyone. Setting boundaries is a big part of this, but you should be transparent about something that's bothering you any time of the year. Unresolved tension is uncomfortable for everyone, so feel free to express your concerns and discomforts with your roommates. That being said, everyone has different communication styles, so try to find one that works for everyone involved.

Reach out to your RA

Even though it's probably best to resolve conflicts (and work to avoid

them in the first place), your resident advisor (RA) is always available to help with roommate issues. There is an RA on duty at all times in the residence halls, so you always have someone to reach out to about all kinds of issues, including roommate conflicts. They're a great resource and mediator if conflicts require a neutral voice, so don't feel like you and your roommates have to work things out on your own.

Personalize your space

This may seem like a more individual thing, but my roommates and I always felt closer once we made our space feel like our own. We worked together to pick out decorations—many of which were late-night Amazon purchases—which helped make all of us feel like we belonged in our dorm. College is a weird transition, so it helps to make your new place feel like your home away from home. Decorating is also a great way to get to know your roommates more since you have a common goal of making your space something everyone will love. Whether for laughs or genuinely attractive aesthetics, it always helps to make the space your own.

Have fun

Of course, college is about school work, but you should also enjoy yourself. Living with roommates is a great

way to make friends on campus. Be sure to take advantage of having these people so close and try to get to know them better. There are all kinds of ways to do this, but my roommates and I would have “family dinner,” when we would all cook and eat together. Setting up these small things can be a great way to get to know each other and hang out. After all, having pancakes at two in the morning is much more fun with friends than being alone at home. Going to on- and off-campus events with your roommates is also a fantastic way to get more comfortable exploring campus. It can be intimidating to go to events alone, so take your roommates with you. You can get to know each other better and make some new friends along the way. So try to get to know your roommates—they could be an opportunity for lifelong friendships.

SOME SAVE GREEN

WALK TO CAMPUS • 4 BEDROOMS • 2 & 4 BATHS
INDIVIDUAL LEASES • FREE PARKING • ALL INCLUSIVE
RATES STARTING AT \$415 and \$475 PER MONTH



NOW ACCEPTING 2022 RESERVATIONS!

CALL OR COME BY TODAY!

NEXT TO CIRCLE K, BESIDE UNCC

UNIVERSITY TERRACE NORTH



UNIVERSITY TERRACE





Exploring Charlotte's art scene

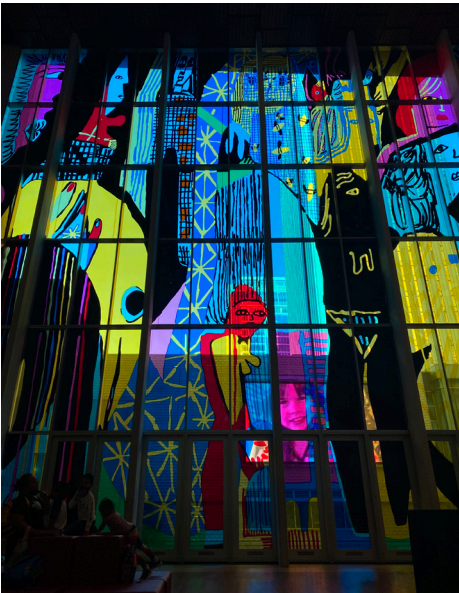
by Zoya Zalevskiy
Layout Editor

Photos of art in Charlotte
by Zoya Zalevskiy

The art scene in Charlotte is something that sets the city apart from others in North Carolina. There are opportunities to experience new artists and exhibits littered throughout the city, and they are constantly changing and adding new displays. I have compiled some must-visit spots to experience the work of local, national and international artists in the Queen City, as well as recurring events to put on your calendars.

Mint Museum

The uptown Mint Museum is an enjoyable art museum with a good collection of contemporary, modern and interactive art housed in different exhibits featuring well-known and up-and-coming local artists. The museum



itself is a big space that houses a lot of works, so you can easily spend 2 hours just absorbing the main exhibit halls. They are constantly changing the feature exhibits, so you can always revisit to see what is new. There is free admission on Wednesdays, which is a great opportunity for Charlotte students to experience the museum.

Bechtler Museum of Modern Art

The Bechtler is situated right beside the Mint, making it easy to hit both in a day. This museum houses some cool displays of midcentury modern pieces ranging from sculptures to paintings and photography. A large portion of the museum is under remodeling construction right now, so the actual display space is relatively small. However,



there is free admission on Wednesdays from five to nine, making it worth swinging by to see.

Walk through Uptown: Sculptures, Murals and Displays

Uptown Charlotte is riddled with art. Many walls feature local artists’ murals, and every corner has an interesting sculpture or fountain. So while you are exploring your new home, keep your eyes open for the hidden works of very talented artists.

Visit <https://www.charlottegotatolot.com/articles/arts-culture/charlotte-public-art> for a more detailed description of the location of these public art pieces and more information about their artists.



I Heart Rail Trail

Coming to Charlotte, you will become well acquainted with the Charlotte light rail. It is a public transport system that can take you through Uptown and back and is convenient, especially for students without cars. The Charlotte Rail Trail is an effort to create a community-driven atmosphere around the light rail, allowing visitors to explore local restaurants, have a safe and accessible place to make their way through the city, and see art exhibits right off of the railway. There are cool and unique works littered throughout the trail, which is a great way to incorporate art into Charlotte’s transportation infrastructure. They have permanent exhibits and sponsor limited time events from time to time. Check out <http://www.charlotterailtrail.org/gallery> to see what they have to offer.

The Light Factory Photo Arts Center

The Light Factory is a cool and innovative exposition of local photographers’ work. They work to provide space for impactful and meaningful collections featuring a diverse range of artists. The Light Factory also has classes centered around photography, Photoshop and film development. The classes range from \$100 to \$300 depending on the program topic, but they are a great way to learn and gain hands-on experience in one of your passions. If you are a photographer looking to gain a new perspective or skill, or if you are just interested in learning more about the art of photography, I would recommend checking out <https://lightfactory.org>.



NORM'S Sweet Tooth

Places on and off campus to visit if you are craving sweets

by Bethany Ivan
Staff Writer

Photos and logos of the featured locations
courtesy of aux.charlotte.edu, Ninety's Ice Cream & Amelie's French Bakery

Let's set the scene: you come to UNC Charlotte, you start studying, you are in need of a snack, but you have a sweet tooth. Fear not: UNC Charlotte has plenty of places to grab a quick bite as well as some other places off-campus.

As someone that loves sweets, these are definitely my go-tos:

On-Campus

Peet's Café

First up on our list is Peet's Café. When I first came to campus before an afternoon class, my classmates and I stumbled upon this cozy little café on the ground floor of the Atkins Library. Curious, we decided to try it. They not only had pastries and coffee but smoothies, snacks and go-to lunches such as peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, turkey sandwiches, and salads. Peet's was a complete

life-saver when it came to a pick-me-up snack or an iced coffee either in the morning or afternoon. It is also a really nice place to sit and wind down before your next class or if you have to go back to your dorm. Side note: I definitely recommend the croissants! Be sure to check out Peet's while you can! The cozy coffee shop will become a Starbucks by the end of fall 2022.

Thoughtful Cup

Another great place to get coffee is located in the Fretwell building. The Thoughtful Cup opened in fall 2021, and like Peet's Café, it has become

another student favorite to not only grab a coffee or a quick bite but also to relax and study. My go-to is always going to be their sweet and rich hot chocolate. If you need another place to get coffee, another study spot or another place to hang out with your roommates or friends, add the Thoughtful Cup to your list.

Auntie Anne's

Auntie Anne's is another excellent place to grab a sweet snack when you

have a sweet tooth. It is located in the Science Building and has recently opened in spring 2022. As soon as my roommates and I heard of Auntie Anne's grand opening, we went straight to the Science Building to secure our spot in line. Long story short: it was heavenly, and I will be most definitely coming back for another cinnamon sugar pretzel.

Starbucks

This is a classic place to get coffee, pastries or both. Starbucks is located in the heart of UNC Charlotte: the Popp Martin Student Union. This all-time favorite serves more of a grab-and-go rather than like the two cafes on-campus. Another perfect place to grab a quick breakfast in the morning as you are passing through the student union. For breakfast, my little go-to includes a decaf iced brown sugar shaken espresso with oat milk and the bacon and Gruyère egg bites.



Off-Campus—Charlotte

If you want to explore Charlotte a little bit more and take a break from studying, feel free to go to these places in Charlotte.

Amelie's French Bakery

This cute little French-inspired bakery is a great place to hang out with friends and get your hands on the best pastries and sweets, such as macaroons and delicious chocolate cake. Amelie's also has soup, salad and sandwiches if you are up for a little lunch.

Ninety's Ice Cream

Located about five minutes from UNC Charlotte and near the boardwalk, you will find Boardwalk Billy's and Ninety's Ice Cream. For anyone that either wants a couple scoops of ice cream or a towering milkshake, this is the place for you; if you have a sweet tooth, of course!

Off-Campus—Concord

Now, if you want to take an incredibly long break from studying, feel

free to travel all the way to Downtown Concord. As a Concord native, I have always loved visiting these two places when coming home to visit my friends and family.

Cabarrus Creamery

The Cabarrus Creamery has always been a childhood favorite. Whenever I visited the ice cream shop with my friends, it always brought back so many memories. It had almost every ice cream flavor known to man! So if you want delicious cookie dough ice cream or another place to hang out, the vintage ice cream shop is a must-see.

Press and Porter

Personally, this is one of the best places I love going to whenever I come home. Not only can I get chai scone from here, but I can also get either a delicious iced coffee or seasonal drinks that are a must-have or must-tries. And the best part of Press and Porter: it connects to a quaint bookstore next door!



MUST SEE MOVIES THIS SUMMER

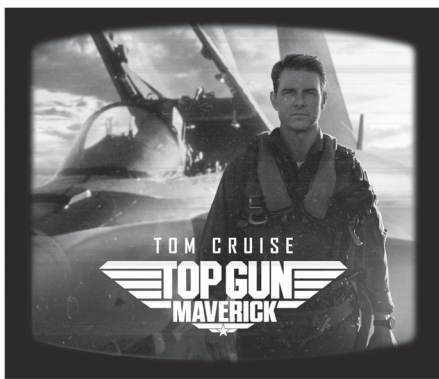
New arrivals to the big screen this summer

by Jack Hale
Staff Writer

Photos of upcoming movies
courtesy of IMDB.com

It is the best time of the year for moviegoers, as summer blockbusters are in full swing and are not planning on slowing down. This summer is a great mix of huge sequels, superhero movies and original movies that look phenomenal. While there are certainly more movies coming out this summer that will be worth checking out, these are the absolute must see movies this summer.

“Top Gun: Maverick”



One of the most anticipated sequels, Maverick is back in theaters after 36 years. While the original hasn't aged very well, it is still a fun and cheesy 80's movie, but “Top Gun: Maverick” is taking a drastically different angle. Much more is at stake with Goose's son learning under Maverick. The flying scenes look absolutely incredible, and Tom Cruise seems to be right at home with this character. Make sure to catch this in theaters on May 27.

“Jurassic World Dominion”



To say the new Jurassic trilogy has been disappointing would be an understatement. However, “Jurassic World Dominion” has the potential to make up for these disappointments, as director Colin Trevorrow has mentioned that this is the story he's been waiting to tell. Not only do the dinosaurs look fantastic, but seeing them

in our world is something that I didn't know I wanted until I saw the trailer. Anytime a new Jurassic film comes out, it will always be a must-see. It will arrive in theaters on June 10.

“Lightyear”



When this movie was initially announced in December of 2020, I was fairly skeptical of it. But then the trailer dropped, and I was absolutely blown away. Even by Pixar standards, the animation is stunningly beautiful. It looks to not only be for kids but a sci-fi action adventure movie that everybody can enjoy. With a great cast consisting of Chris Evans and Taika Waititi, “Lightyear” is sure to bring back some nostalgia on June 17.

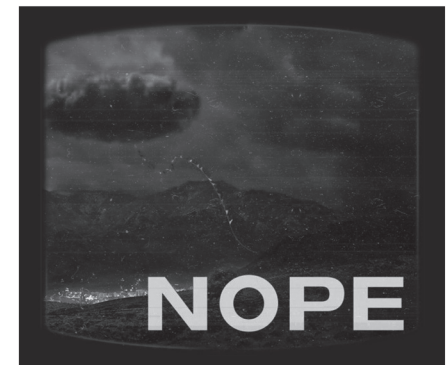
“Thor: Love and Thunder”



Ever since “Thor: Ragnarok,” the character has been one of the best in the MCU. Incredibly funny, with some real character development from “Infinity War” and “Endgame,” Thor is now done being a superhero and is trying to find who he really is. With the additions of the Guardians of the Galaxy, Gorr the God Butcher (Christian Bale) and Natalie Portman becoming Mighty Thor, “Thor: Love and Thunder” looks to be an absolute blast. This is the must-see movie of the summer, and it

releases on July 8.

“Nope”



Bursting onto the horror scene in 2017 with “Get Out,” Jordan Peele is back with his latest nightmare, “Nope.” Even with a trailer out, the movie's plot is a bit ambiguous, which is actually a huge positive. It showcased some cool visuals and was an attention grabber, something that all trailers should do without giving away big plot details. Even with “Us” not being as good as Poole's feature film debut, he is still a very creative director, and this looks to be no different. Horror fans can catch this on July 22.

“Bullet Train”



Looking to be one of the best action comedies of the year, “Bullet Train” pits five assassins on a train together, all after one briefcase. While Brad Pitt is one of the best dramatic actors working today, he has always been great at comedy too, which he showcased in the trailer. The supporting cast looks great as well, with Sandra Bullock, Zazie Beetz and Brian Tyree Henry, and the director of “John Wick” helming the film, which guarantees some great action sequences. Definitely going to be a fun and entertaining popcorn flick, “Bullet Train” arrives in theaters on Aug. 5.

Counseling and Psychological Services

Check out everything CAPS has to offer



by Max Young
Contributor

Photos of UNC Charlotte's Wellness Day
by Jade Suszek

The Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at UNC Charlotte is an accredited counseling service that meets the needs of students, faculty and staff by licensed or license-eligible psychologists and social workers.

As the semester begins, every student is making some sort of transition into the school year. These changes may vary from student to student, but they can all take a toll on one's mental health. This service seeks to help students through tough times and develop healthy coping mechanisms.

CAPS appointments are made by calling in or going to the CAPS office and making one as a walk-in. Appointments tend to fill up quickly, so calling the office early is the best way to secure a time. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Students are advised to call first, if possible, to hear options about the best time to arrive. If the situation is potentially life-threatening, call 911 or campus police at 704-687-2200 immediately.

Students are allowed a maximum of four to six individual sessions per academic year. While this may seem like a strict rule, if you spread these out over a few weeks, you can make the most of them.

Once you make an appointment,

you will be called in for an initial consultation, either virtually or in person. This is meant to determine the best path for you. Next, you will meet with a counselor, and they will refer you for either on-campus resources or possibly an off-campus referral.

The best advice that anyone can follow is that you get out of CAPS what you put in. If you are referred to additional counseling, you will benefit the most by working actively with your counselor. Opening up to a stranger can be one of the hardest things someone can do, especially when you may feel alone. The staff at CAPS works diligently to ensure that you are as comfortable as possible and never pressure anyone to say or feel a certain way. They genuinely care about their clients and counseling may make you have an emotional breakthrough.

Another important service that CAPS offers is its group sessions. These allow members to relate to others and understand themselves in the process. These groups can deal with issues that arise in race, gender, sexuality and veterans affairs, just to name a few. Group therapy is usually decided between you and your counselor after receiving individual counseling. If you are skeptical, there is no harm in trying; however, you must go to most meetings to keep up with the group and their conversations.

Going to therapy has the possibility

of saving college experience if need be. In-person therapy isn't for everyone. You may not even know what answers you are trying to find, but CAPS can put you in the right direction.

To make an appointment, call 704-687-0311 or visit CAPS at 9502 Poplar Terrace Dr.

You are not alone.





What you need to know about buying textbooks

Advice on getting your course materials, from used books to online codes

by Olivia Lawless
Contributor

Photos of Charlotte bookstore
courtesy of Niner Times file photos

First of all, don't worry about getting your textbooks immediately. While they're essential for college, most professors don't expect students to show up to class on the first day with the textbook for the course.

Some will even tell you the textbook is optional. In my first year, I panicked over buying a textbook and ended up overpaying. I was skimming through the syllabus for a Spanish course I was taking the next morning, and part of the syllabus said to have the textbook ready for class every day. I debated with myself whether that included the first day of class. Well, the bookstore closed in 15 minutes, and my class started at 8 a.m. the next morning, so I didn't have much time to decide. I literally jogged across campus to make it to the bookstore before it closed. In my rush, I bought the extended version of the textbook. It was the correct version, but I spent an extra \$60.00 on material I wouldn't need. The next morning, half the class didn't have their textbook, and the professor

wasn't worried at all. I felt ridiculous. I had freaked out for no reason.

If your professor doesn't explicitly say to have the textbook ready for the first class meeting, don't worry about it. Course materials can be pricey even without accidentally buying too much of them. Additionally, many textbooks now come with online codes that are easy to mix up. It's in your best interest to wait for the syllabus or consult with the professor about what you need and when you need it.

Once you know what you need, you can search a few different places. Don't just buy the first option you see. Most places charge a lot for textbooks, but if you're patient, you can find something a little cheaper. This is especially true if you're willing to buy a used copy. Amazon is an easy place to start for textbooks, workbooks or general literature. They'll often offer used options to buy.

You can also rent some materials from the UNC Charlotte bookstore. This includes both textbooks and

smaller books like autobiographies, fiction novels or anything outside of the "textbook" type. If the renting option is available, you can keep the book for the whole semester and return it when you're finished. It's always cheaper than buying.

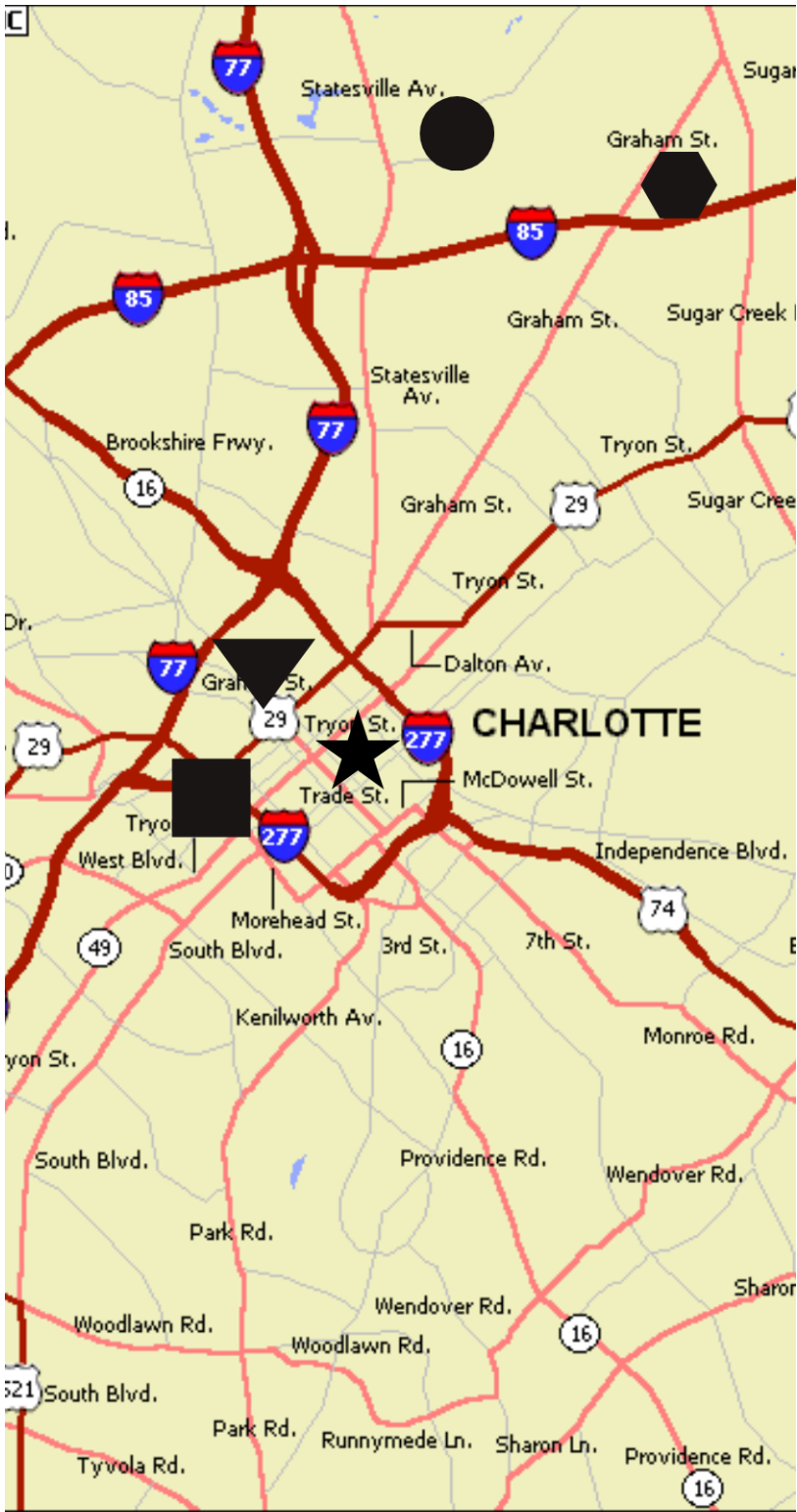
If you only need an online textbook and software, you may only need to buy a code to access it. These codes come in wrapped packets at the UNC Charlotte bookstore or can be bought online. Unfortunately, these course materials are often the most expensive and rarely have cheaper options. If a code for semester access costs \$120, you likely will not be able to find it anywhere else for cheaper. Unlike physical books, these codes are not reusable once their access expires and thus cannot be resold. Be suspicious if someone offers to sell you a "used" online code.

Lastly, if you've got the time to search around or are determined to save some money, you can check with friends, other UNC Charlotte members and social media. The UNC Charlotte Reddit is flooded

with posts about selling textbooks for specific classes during the beginning and the end of semesters. Many other students are just looking to get some money back on textbooks they've bought and are willing to sell them at a discount.

Once you've got your options lined up, check again to ensure you have the right online code or textbook edition. As I've said, it's easy to get the wrong thing when the only different features are a few different numbers or letters on a code. You can also check the International Standard Book Number (ISBN), to make sure you have the exact edition of the textbook you need. The ISBN is a unique numeric code that can usually be found on the barcode of a textbook.

Gathering all of your course materials is usually a tedious and expensive process, but I encourage you to be patient. Start the process early. Find several purchasing options, double-check your codes and don't rush it.



Popp Martin Student Union Art Gallery

Student, Local, and Professional Artwork
studentunion.uncc.edu

CHARLOTTE
POPP MARTIN STUDENT UNION

SAFE

Student Advising for Freshman Excellence

SAFE is a peer mentoring program that supports the transition of first year students to UNCC. Our pillars are **Mentorship, Academic Support, & Social Integration**. Housed within the Office of Identity, Equity, and Engagement, SAFE is open to all first year students although it has a unique focus on students from historically marginalized backgrounds (students of color, first generation students, low socioeconomic status, etc.).

Two Ways to Get Involved

SAFE Voyage - A week-long program held the week before classes where students learn to navigate campus & are introduced to academic & student support resources while networking with students, faculty, & staff.

SAFE Academic Year Program - Students who do not participate in Voyage can still join the Academic Year Program. You will still be paired with a mentor, have access to participate in all of the resources of the SAFE program.

CLT_SAFE
 704.687.0363
SAFE.CHARLOTTE.EDU
SAFE_PROGRAM@UNCC.EDU

OFFICE OF IDENTITY, EQUITY, AND ENGAGEMENT

Visit our website for more information!

LIVE ON CAMPUS

91% of residents report that they feel safe in their hall.

**Resident Satisfaction Survey*



HOUSING.CHARLOTTE.EDU | 704.687.7501 |



@CLT_HRL

LIVE ON.

CHARLOTTE HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

WELLNESS STARTS

WELLNESS

STARTS

HERE

WELLNESS STARTS

WELLNESS STARTS

CENTER FOR WELLNESS PROMOTION



SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION STARTS WITH KNOWLEDGE AND EMPOWERMENT



HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS STARTS WITH RESPECT AND CHANGING CAMPUS CULTURE



INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION STARTS WITH BYSTANDER INTERVENTION



RECOVERY FROM SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS STARTS WITH COMMUNITY



SAFER SEX STARTS WITH FREE ACCESS TO SUPPLIES AT THE SAFER SEX STATION

THE CWP IS AN AFFIRMING RESOURCE FOR ALL STUDENTS



CENTER FOR
WELLNESS PROMOTION

704.687.7407 | WELLNESS.CHARLOTTE.EDU |



@CLT_CWP



UNC Charlotte parking guide

What you need to know about parking on campus

by Trevor DelBen
Staff Writer

Photo of a UNC Charlotte parking lot
by Jade Suszek

Finding parking at Charlotte can be intimidating. What helped me become acclimated to finding parking was understanding where each parking area is and knowing how they are color-coded. There are a variety of resources available on UNC Charlotte's website that can help new students learn about parking. In this guide, I'll go over some of those resources, what they mean and where you can find them.

First, you can find the website for UNC Charlotte's Parking and Transportation Services at pats.charlotte.edu. On the homepage, there are "Parking," "Transportation," "Policies" and "Frequently Asked Questions" tabs, which allow you to navigate to other pages. The homepage also displays a brief video overview for parking, news and each parking deck's current capacity. For new students, the most relevant pages are "Permit Types & Where to Park" and "Parking Maps," which can both be found in the "Parking" tab. In "Permit Types & Where to Park," a color-coded list of each permit type is listed with a short description. There are two types

of parking passes available to commuters: commuter and night. Commuter passes allow 24/7 access to campus, whereas night passes are only valid from 3 p.m. to 8 a.m. There are also two types of parking passes available to residents, depending on whether they are assigned to the Greek Village. Finally, there are discount remote parking passes for commuters and moped/motorcycle parking passes. When purchasing a parking pass from the NinerNet portal, you are given the option of buying a daily pass or a pass for the academic year. Which option you choose depends on your needs; if you only commute to campus on certain days, buying daily passes may be cheaper.

As previously mentioned, each parking pass is color-coded. These codes also correspond with each parking lot or deck. For example, commuter parking passes give access to yellow and orange-coded parking areas, while resident parking passes give access to blue-coded parking areas. Green-coded parking areas are reserved for faculty members. However, certain parking areas are open to additional types of

passes. A complete list of parking availability can be found on "Permit Types & Where to Park" under the "Where to Park" section. On the "Parking Maps" page, there is an interactive map of the campus with each parking area highlighted in the appropriate colors. There is also a printable version of the map included as a PDF file. In addition to parking areas where permits are required, five visitor parking areas are located across campus. These are the rooftop of Cone Deck, levels four through six of Union Deck, East Deck 1, level four of CRI Deck and level one of South Village Deck. A word of warning: if you hold a parking pass, do not enter through a visitor gate! You will still be expected to pay for the parking ticket. More details about visitor parking, including ticket rates, can be found on the "Visitor Parking Decks" page under the "Parking" tab.

When choosing a parking area, try to find one close to where you need to be. Knowing where each parking area is relating to where your classes are is a major help. However, some parking areas like Union and West Deck see a

lot of activity, so make sure to check the capacity of each parking area before you arrive. Additionally, it may be worth considering what the walk to your classes will be like; if you have to walk uphill, you could also consider parking farther away for a longer but more level walk. When parking, there are also some considerations to keep in mind. The campus police routinely check each parking area for parking violations, a complete list of which can be found on the "Citations and Appeals" page under the "Parking" tab. Common violations include parking without a permit or parking without a license plate visible. And always remember to be courteous to other drivers. The last thing anybody wants is to get in an accident because someone was speeding or took a turn too quickly in a parking deck. Hopefully, this guide has helped you become prepared to park at UNC Charlotte! If you have any additional questions, check the Parking and Transportation Services website and the "Frequently Asked Questions" page.



ADVICE FROM THE EDITORS

Members of the Niner Times share advice for new students



AJ Siegel - Copy Editor Take Chances

Many people come into college with an expectation of what kinds of people they'll be friends with, what classes they'll take and what clubs they'll be in. I started college with a lot of those same expectations, but an entirely virtual first year put many of those expectations on hold. So, when I started my second year, I decided I would take more chances and my first and second years were like night and day. I never imagined that I'd be on Charlotte's speech team as someone who rehearses dinner orders five times or be a newspaper editor as a psychology major. I've found my place at Charlotte by saying yes to opportunities as they arise, whether or not they were something I imagined myself doing as I started college. So take some chances this year. Register for that weird elective, join that club and grab lunch with that kid from your 8 a.m. Who knows what will come from it.

Bryson Foster - Sports Editor Your Time Will Come

People feel that you have to have everything together when you enter college. You need to know what major you will study, what you want to do after college and what clubs you'll join. The truth is every good thing takes time, and it is okay if you don't know precisely what you want to do from the moment you step foot on campus. I came to Charlotte with an idea of what I wanted to do until I discovered my passion for journalism and writing. If I had listened to the status quo, I would have felt that it was too late for me to find new talents. I started writing for the Niner Times steadily during 2020-21, and I kept with it to become the Sports Editor. Don't let anyone tell you; you need all the answers now because being patient with self-discovery could change your life forever. Your time will come, so stay positive and try new things.





Emily Kottak - Arts and Culture Editor

Put yourself out there and get involved

I know it's scary sometimes, but you have to put yourself out there. College is a time for finding yourself, discovering your passions, your interests and what makes you happy. Get involved! Go to student organization fairs and meet new people. Introduce yourself to people at the different tables and see if there is a club, organization or something else that sticks out to you. Having something to do outside of school is very important and it's also a great way to meet people and have a creative or some sort of outlet. You will likely meet lifelong friends, have something for your resume and create so many memories to share for years to come. You just have to be willing to do the hard part, which is being confident enough to put yourself out there and find someone or something. You can do it! And you will be so glad you did.

Jessica Ceballos - News Editor

Be Prepared

I was given a little advice when I started college that I want to share with you. 1) Read the syllabus all the way through. Throughout the semester, it will help you if you know the contract between you and the professor. Also, look for special notes from professors, such as flex passes or the number of unexcused absences allowed. 2) Make a friend or two in each of your classes. You can compare notes from class, study together and prepare for tests. 3) Don't buy the textbooks before the first day of class. Sometimes the professor doesn't even use the textbooks they list online. Go to class first and see if it's truly required for class. 4) Get organized. If you're organized before school starts, you are two steps ahead of the game. 5) Make goals for the semester. You are more likely to meet those goals if you have them posted on your desk or computer. A constant reminder of where you want to end up at the end of the semester will increase your chances of meeting those goals. I hope this helped a little. Good luck!



Zoya Zalevskiy - Layout Editor

Take Care of You

I know I am not alone when I say that I have spent a lot of my life putting other things ahead of my mental health and overall happiness. I have been a victim of overworking myself, taking on too much and then stressing about how I am going to accomplish every goal. College is an entirely unique time in your life and it is especially important that you start making habits and routines now before you are sent out into the real world. Try out things you have always wanted to do, like morning yoga or afternoon hikes, that you may not have had the time for before. Make time in your day to check in with yourself, give yourself time to breathe and be mindful of where you are (physically and mentally). Now is the time to give yourself space to grow without the pressures of others and find your passions, find what makes you happy. It sounds easy when you put it like that, but it takes intention and effort to make positive changes. But it is so worth the trouble; you will come out the other side happy you took care of yourself when you did.



MUST HAVE APPS

Some mobile apps that will make college much easier

by Sunnya Hadavi & AJ Siegel
Editor-in-Chief & Copy Editor

Photos of the icons of the featured applications
courtesy of the Google Play Store

If there's anything that makes starting college in the twenty-first century, it's the reliance on technology. Phone apps have become a staple on UNC Charlotte's campus, but it's often hard to know which ones you actually need. So, here's a list of the most important apps to download to make your first year run a little smoother.

Canvas

You may be familiar with Canvas from high school, but be prepared to use it daily from this point on. All classes at Charlotte utilize Canvas to organize assignments and grades. While you can access Canvas through your computer, the app will be a lifesaver. With notifications, you will be reminded of upcoming deadlines and notified whenever grades are added. If you are ever stuck out when there is an assignment due, you can also use the Canvas app to easily submit your work.

Discord

It is no secret that Discord has been growing in popularity recently, and as a college student, you will see it used in many ways aside from gaming. Discord is an app that can be used to easily communicate through messages or voice chat in an organized manner. With the ability to make detailed servers, many classes and clubs have been using Discord to keep in touch with one another and give updates. Discord also has the Student Hub feature, which makes it easy to find any student-run servers relating to our university. The most popular servers that Charlotte

students run in the UNC Charlotte Hub are: "Niner Esports," "Real Woodward Hours" and "UNC Charlotte Subreddit."

GroupMe

Similar to Discord, GroupMe is one of the more popular ways for students to connect. They're frequently used for classes and clubs to make it easy for students to get information and ask each other questions. Like Discord, you can also link groups with UNC Charlotte, so they are discoverable by any Charlotte student. Almost every class will end up with some form of group chat, and GroupMe is an easy and popular choice. You'll undoubtedly need to ask a classmate for help at some point, so it would be good to get a head start and download GroupMe now. You could even be the one to start class group chats to help you and your classmates.

Mobile Order

The Mobile Order app is one of the easiest ways to order food on campus. It includes every dining option on campus except the two dining halls, so you can place your order on your way to a restaurant rather than wasting time waiting after you place your order. Like

any mobile ordering app, you can customize your orders and monitor how long your order will take. You can pay on this app by linking a credit or debit card along with your 49er account or your declining balance.

Passio GO

With the massive hills and many buildings on campus, using the Passio GO app for the UNC Charlotte buses can serve as a great way to get around. With three main routes and so many stops, it can be hard to know when the bus you need will arrive. To save yourself from waiting for a long period of time or having close encounters where you miss the bus, the Passio GO app will show you where each bus is on campus. On busy days, you can count on this app to help you best save your time.

Venmo or Cash App

Both Venmo and Cash App are used to send money to people. These apps will be lifesavers for late-night fast food cravings and gas money for last-minute road trips. Not many people use cash now, so Venmo and Cash App are easy ways to finally return that \$10 you owe

your roommate. Many fundraisers also accept these as forms of payment, which can be much easier than messing with card readers. Club fundraisers or even puppy-petting charity events often accept digital payments and donations, so these apps are a great way to take advantage of these campus events without worrying about having your cash or card on you.

Yik Yak

For those living on campus, Yik Yak is a way to see what other students are up to and have a good laugh. The app lets you anonymously send submissions and threads that those within a five-mile radius can see. While it is not like the other apps on this list, it is a way to feel connected with other students. Who knows, maybe your submissions will get featured on student-run UNC Charlotte Instagram pages.



LIVE HERE. LEARN HERE.
LEAD HERE.



RESIDENT49ERS.CHARLOTTE.EDU |    @CLTRSA

CHARLOTTE | HOUSING AND
RESIDENCE LIFE



LEAD. SERVE. LIVE.

*Learn to lead and serve
on the campus and
in the community!*

Popp Martin Student Union, 280

LEADERSHIP.CHARLOTTE.EDU



Now an *All-Student Community*

You've never lived like this.

Walk or bike to class
Private bedrooms and bathrooms
Amenities for a fit and healthy lifestyle
Academically oriented environments
Swimming pools with sun decks
Roommate matching powered
by RoomSync



 **PROUD PARTNER OF THE
CHARLOTTE FORTY-NINERS™**

Learn more at
AmericanCampus.com/Charlotte

 **UNIVERSITY
CROSSINGS**


UNIVERSITY WALK

 **THE EDGE**

 **AMERICAN CAMPUS COMMUNITIES**

Where students love living.



Amenities are subject to change. See office for details.



WELLBEING IS THE NORM AT CHARLOTTE

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

**STUDENT HEALTH CENTER • CENTER FOR WELLNESS PROMOTION
UNIVERSITY RECREATION • COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES**

As a campus community, we are focused on the implementation of wellbeing for every student. The AMPLIFY Campaign was created in order to increase knowledge of the HWB services and allow students to build and maintain a healthy lifestyle on UNC Charlotte's campus. Through the eight pillars of foundation, growth, community, balance, routine, identities, heart, and future we are able to help students achieve a wellbeing-centered lifestyle.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| ★ Foundation | ★ Routine |
| ★ Growth | ★ Identities |
| ★ Heart | ★ Community |
| ★ Balance | ★ Future |

wellbeing.charlotte.edu • [@clt_wellbeing](https://www.instagram.com/clt_wellbeing)