Dayna Wilkerson

Chapel Hill, NC | daywil@ad.unc.edu

Journalism and Political Science student with hands-on newsroom experience in fact-checking, copy editing, and print production, plus leadership experience running large student organizations and statewide programs.

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Expected May 2027 B.A. Journalism & Media, Political Science | Chapel Hill, NC

Honors: Dean's List (Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Fall 2025, Spring 2026) · Order of Omega Honor Society (Fall 2025) · Carl Council Scholarship (Spring 2026) · Reese Felts Scholarship (Spring 2025) · Quincy Sharpe Mills Memorial Scholarship (Spring 2024) · Chick-fil-A Leadership Scholarship (Spring 2023, Spring 2024)

SKILLS

AP Style · Fact-Checking & Verification · Copy Editing · Adobe InDesign · News & Political Reporting · Editorial Leadership · Content Management Systems · Deadline-Driven Writing

EXPERIENCE

Reporter — *Carolina Week* August 2026 – present | Chapel Hill, NC • Producing and providing content for the weekly student-run newscast covering local news

FactCheck Research Intern — *CNN* June 2026 – August 2026 | Atlanta, GA • Fact checked CNN's live packages, stories, podcasts and digital video on a tight timeframe • Ensured what came out of the outlet was factual with meticulous vetting

Assistant Copy Desk Editor — *The Daily Tar Heel* September 2023 – Present | Chapel Hill, NC • Serve on the Copy Desk leadership team, laying out articles for print in Adobe InDesign and serving as a final editor for accuracy and clarity before publication

- Previously wrote for the Opinion Desk and served as an Editorial Board member and University Desk writer covering campus issues

Student Assistant — *NCSMA / Hussman School of Journalism* May 2024 – May 2026 | Chapel Hill, NC • Organized and ran Hussman School summer camps, including the National Scholastic Media Summer Institute and Carolina Sports Camp

- Administered statewide media contests for high school and collegiate journalism programs

Resident Advisor — *Carolina Housing, Granville Towers* August 2025 – Present | Chapel Hill, NC • Build relationships with residents and maintain a safe, supportive floor community while guiding students through their UNC experience

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Chapter President — *Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.* April 2024 – Present | Chapel Hill, NC • Lead the Kappa Omicron Chapter's community service initiatives and foster collaboration among members; previously served as Treasurer and Co-Chair for the Physical & Mental Health and Political Awareness committees

ACTIVITIES

Black Pre-Law Association, Member — Chapel Hill, NC — August 2024 – Present

Black Student Movement, Member — Chapel Hill, NC — September 2023 – Present