Ben Chesser

4140 King Charles Rd, Durham, NC 27707
https://github.com/wbenchesser | bchesser@unc.edu | (919) 564-9696

Education

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC	**August 2022 – May 2026**
B.S. Computer Science with Creative Writing Minor	GPA: 4.0

Languages/Technologies

- Python, Swift, Java, JavaScript, TypeScript, C, SQL, HTML5/CSS
- SwiftUI, React, Angular, FastAPI, SQLAlchemy, HTTP, Nginx, Git, GitHub, Figma

Experience

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Chapel Hill, NC   **Aug 2024 – Present**
Computer Science Teaching Assistant
- Courses Taught: ***Systems Fundamentals, Computer Organization***
- Instructed and hosted weekly office hours for classes totalling more than 500 students
- Developed skills in teaching and **communicating complex ideas**
- Designed and edited homework, review guide, and quiz questions

App Team Carolina – Chapel Hill, NC   **May 2024 – Present**
Chief Executive Officer and iOS Developer
- App Team Carolina is a nonprofit organization that provides students with **realistic iOS development industry experience** by partnering with other 501(c)(3) nonprofits and working through the full mobile app development process in teams of developers, designers, and product managers
- Designed and directed the initiative to open bootcamps for all university students
- Developed skills in managing and mediating projects in real-world problem-solving scenarios
- **Worked with a team** to develop applications using technologies including Swift, SwiftUI, Figma, Slack, and Github

UNC Computer Science Department – Chapel Hill, NC   **Aug 2024 – Present**
Computer Science Experience Labs Staff Member
- Promoted open communication between students, enhancing engagement and collaboration across projects
- Managed scheduling and **effectively communicated project needs** to ensure smooth coordination

Southpoint Estate Planning – Durham, NC   **May 2023 – August 2023**
Legal Assistant
- Digitized all legal files using Clio, ensuring accurate and efficient electronic record-keeping
- Managed the front desk while **addressing client needs** and adhering to attorney directives/office protocols

Awards

- Won HackNC 2024 Hackathon Best Game Hack award in the general track for SwiftUI app, Magic Missiles
- Won HackNC 2022 Hackathon Best Mobile Hack award in the general track for SwiftUI app, Crittr
- Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024 UNC Dean's List
- Created social media content achieving over 13 million views

Projects

CHAIN GAME – *React Framework, FastAPI, OpenAI API*   **August 2024**
- Created a free, open source word game that uses GPT AI semantic analysis
- Used React for the frontend with Fast-API connecting the Python backend
- Hosted on a DigitalOcean droplet using nginx

Whisker – *Swift, SwiftUI, SwiftData*   **April 2024**
- Lead a team to develop an iOS app that streamlines the selection process in pet adoption, matching users with pets based on information including location, description, age, and breed
- Employed LocationManager and RescueGroups API to get available pets from a user-specified radius
- Leveraged SwiftData to store matched pet profiles locally on device
- **Won Design Award at the Spring 2024 App Team Gala**

Computer Science Experience Labs 'Academic Planner' – *Angular, PostgreSQL, Kubernetes, Docker*   **April 2024**
- Created a new section of the UNC computer science website that allows students to select classes they have taken and see what classes they have and have not satisfied the prerequisites for.
- Utilized FastAPI, and SQLAlchemy to save changes to UNC Student's profile
- Built a GUI with Angular, Typescript, HTML5, and CSS