

Zaria Hanchell



Zaria Hanchell is a Senior Political Science Major with a Concentration in Theory and Pre-Law at North Carolina Central University (NCCU). Ms. Hanchell is from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and she graduated from high school at the age of fifteen. At the age of 18, she will graduate from NCCU with her B.A. in the class of 2025 with a 4.0 GPA. Upon graduating from high school, Ms. Hanchell was awarded the Cheatham-White Scholarship, which is a fully funded four-year merit based scholarship. She has served on the Cheatham-White Scholarship's Leadership Council and is a member of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity Inc., NCCU's Political Science Club, as well as the Caribbean Student Association. As a political science student, she actively raises awareness for pressing issues, planning multiple events with the National Caucus of Black Lawyers to increase student engagement with political issues. She is also active in the arts, as she paints, draws, sings, and has been classically trained in piano for over a decade.

Zaria Hanchell has written a number of scholarly papers on various topics including eugenics, racial discrimination in the U.S. Justice System, racism in Brazil, and food insecurity in Durham and Chapel Hill. Ms. Hanchell is a member of a Duke Bass Connections Research Team. This team researches Afro-Brazilian culture, politics, and citizenship, and over the summer traveled to Brazil for two weeks to undergo field research on these topics. Over the summer of 2024, Ms. Hanchell completed a 3-week long internship in Nassau, Bahamas, with Great Commission Ministries, which is a Non-Governmental Organization that works on poverty alleviation and hurricane relief. Following her research on food insecurity the prior semester, this summer internship served as firsthand experience regarding food insecurity in the Caribbean.

Following graduation, Ms. Hanchell plans to obtain her Juris Doctorate. She is interested in social justice and international relations, and believes her education at North Carolina Central University has primed her for a vocation in the legal field