

Hello, Class of 2024!

Welcome to our great university! This is a difficult time to be starting college, but that hardship will only strengthen your bonds with others as you make it through this year together. Whether at home or on Grounds, you are a part of the UVA community, and we are so excited to have you.

There are so many things to love about UVA, but some of my favorite things happen right on the lawn. Trick or Treating on the Lawn is one of my favorite UVA events. The lawn is full of people from the UVA community and the Charlottesville community, all dressed up in costumes enjoying the fall weather. Another UVA event I love is Lighting of the Lawn, which happens in December. We drink hot chocolate, meet friends at Lawn rooms, and come together to watch the Rotunda light show. Both of these events really make me feel in touch with the UVA community. I can't wait until your class can experience these UVA traditions, and I know that I will return to UVA from wherever I live after graduation to be a part of them again.

While difficult during a virtual semester, I encourage you to do your best to connect with others. As I move closer to graduation, it becomes even more clear that the people you go through college with are the most important part. Try your best to make friends through classes, labs, or club meetings. With some effort, I am confident that you will find your people at UVA. Best of luck with your first semester!

Sincerely,  
A Friend from the Fourth Year Class  
Class of 2021