

Hello, Class of 2024!

Welcome to UVA! I hope you're excited to be a Hoo! I know that this is a difficult time to be entering college but I know you will find ways to make the most of your time here. Whether you are at home or on Grounds, we are so very excited to have you join the UVA family.

With everything going on, I have had some time to reflect on my time here at the university. One of the opportunities that I have been most grateful for was joining UPC (University Programs Council). UPC plans events for all students throughout the year. I joined UPC my second year and was able to meet one of my closest friends. As a member of UPC, you work with your committee to organize fun events for the student body. As an example, my committee puts on an event called Teeny Tiny Zoo where we bring a petting zoo to grounds. Not only do you get to be creative, but you get to meet new people from every year. Keep an eye out for the virtual events UPC has in store!

One of my favorite memories is the road to the National Championship. Every game had you at the edge of your seat, and the whole community came together for every game. Looking back to that night always makes me smile and I still can't believe that it happened. Sorry football fans, but we're a basketball school.

In all seriousness, I do encourage you to make yourself uncomfortable and try new things. UVA provides you with so many opportunities, which can sometimes be overwhelming, but make the most of it! Even in this virtual environment, many clubs have been working extremely hard to adjust. I'm confident that you will find your home at UVA, just like I did! I wish you the best of luck with your first semester and the rest of your years at UVA. We're very excited to have you!

Go hoos!

Sincerely,
Melanie O.
Class of 2021