

Hello, Class of 2024!

Welcome to your first year at UVA! I hope you have been able to adjust and continue to do so during these times. Lots of things are changing and I can understand that it can be a bit overwhelming. We must pull through, however, and continue to do what we can. The one thing that remains the same though is our excitement for the new class. Like our fellow Hoos, you are an amazing individual and we can't wait to see what you will accomplish!

I will always be grateful for the time I spent here. This is the time to take "risks," when you're trying to come into your own and figure out what you want from life. I was a bit hesitant at first, but once I opened my mind and went for it the rest was history. Talking to everyone in my classes and joining all these different clubs, it's not an experience you'll find everywhere. I made friends from all over and tried things I never thought I would be doing. I never played a sport in high school and now I am part of a Division I team. I didn't have prior experience but now I work with others to build and race vehicles (I am excited for our Formula car). You make lifelong friends if you can handle travelling together, especially abroad. I never saw myself doing these things and thinking about it, if I didn't try to step out of my comfort zone, I wouldn't be able to reminisce about them now.

I was a First Year once. I was focused on getting through my classes and that was about it. It wasn't until I put myself out there that I was able to see what UVA could mean to me. Now it's your turn. Make it memorable. You might find yourself in the same place I am as a Fourth Year. Also, congratulations on graduating high school and good luck with your first year!

Sincerely,

Your Fourth Year Friend

Class of 2021