

Hey new Hoo!

Welcome to Cville! I can't even imagine what it must feel like to be moving cities and starting college in the middle of such a chaotic year. From health safety concerns, to online classes, to moving to the South during an election year– I know it must seem overwhelming. At the same time, I'm a little jealous of you because you have so much time ahead of you here! It may feel like you're off to a rocky start, but I promise that UVA and Charlottesville have so much to offer, and you'll be shocked at how much you'll grow over the next four years and truly make this town your own.

If you feel uncertain or alone or are just not used to having so much free time, know that everyone else is feeling the same way. One of the most valuable things I learned during my past four years is to really just be OK with doing some things alone. College is definitely one of the most constantly-social, constantly-busy environments you'll probably ever be in, but it's also good to use this time to learn to love yourself. Value the late nights spent with friends but also value that time you took yourself out to brunch.

I think the biggest piece of advice I can give (as cliché as it's going to sound) is to try EVERYTHING. If you're even vaguely interested, sign up! Go to that interest meeting. Get a socially distanced coffee with that person that you're staring at on the Zoom screen. Start a Cville bucket list now (definitely include a Shenandoah hike on there... and Moe's BBQ)! Even during a global pandemic, your time here will only be as good as you make it.

Know that the class of 2021 is rooting for you! Go Hoos!

Cheers,
Hannah T.
Class of 2021