

Hey, Class of 2024!

Welcome to UVA! I know that this is a really rough time to be starting college, regardless of if you're on Grounds or at home, but I do think that you'll still be able to fit in here and make the most of your college experience. Always remember that all of us at UVA are excited that you are a part of our community. You belong to UVA! We are UVA!

The main things that I have loved about UVA are all the opportunities I've had to meet new people and get involved in things I am passionate about. One of these opportunities, specifically, was the chance to join InterVarsity Christian Fellowship during my first year here. Even though it is a religious organization, you don't have to have a religious affiliation to join. It welcomes students of all backgrounds. InterVarsity quickly became the main source of community for me and was the reason UVA began to feel like my home. I got to meet with a small group of students every week and talk about life at UVA. Through small groups, I was able to develop deep, strong friendships with other people who have different backgrounds and majors. And, on weekends, we would go hiking, have game nights, take a trip to the beach, etc. These students from first year are among my closest friends now. The relationships that I was able to make through InterVarsity are invaluable and made my experience at UVA the best that it could be.

I really encourage you to step out of your comfort zone and try some new things at UVA, even though most things are currently virtual. I believe that you will be able to make the most of this semester and see UVA as a second home. I wish you the best of luck with your college experience. We're very excited to have you!

Go Hoos!

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