

Hello, Class of 2024!

Welcome to UVA! Graduating high school is a feat on its own, and you now have a very well-earned spot here at this university. I'm sure it wasn't easy, but you made it, and we're glad that you're here! While it may be a difficult time to be entering college, I hope that these hardships won't hold you back in finding chances to make the most of your time here. Whether you're on Grounds or at home, you belong here at UVA!

One of the great things about UVA is, believe it or not, the group chats. If you haven't already been added to one, you will know that students here love GroupMe. From a 300-person chat for an intro chem class to smaller chats dedicated to things like cats around Grounds, we have GroupMe's for almost everything. GroupMe is a great way to connect with people outside of class, especially given that we are all now very much a part of Zoom University (lol). Class-wise at least, I know lots of study groups have been created out of these chats, and I've been to a fair share of them myself. I met lots of new people this way and even made a few friends who stuck around for a lot longer to boot. If you find an invite for a group chat for one of your classes or even just one of the silly ones, then I would definitely join. You could even take it upon yourself to start one up and invite others!

Despite this being a mostly virtual semester, I am confident that you will find your home at UVA, just like I did! It won't be the first time you hear this and it won't be the last, but it's definitely unprecedented times, and what the school, and maybe even society, is asking of you to take on is a lot. But if you're ever in doubt, just know that you can reach out to anyone, and I mean anyone, and they will do their best to help or point you in the right direction at least. One last and great thing about this school is that we really do our best to try and help someone when they say they need it. So it doesn't matter if it's a professor or someone in your group chat, your fellow Hoos have got your back. :) I wish you the best of luck with your first semester here and the rest of your years at UVA! Wahoowa and go Hoos!

Sincerely,

Kayla N.

Class of 2021