

Hello, Class of 2024!

Entering college, especially at this time, must be difficult. Nonetheless college is an important part of your life and these experiences will help shape you. You need to know that (although we may soon return home) you are still an important part of UVA.

Meeting new people may not be fully possible at this point, but remember you are all in the same boat. Maintain social distance and wear masks! As a result, you will soon you will be able to have the college experiences you desire like going to *classes, libraries, visiting office hours* and more. In fact, some of my best memories are in libraries where I can hang with friends on a lazy Friday night, catch up, and unwind after a long week with a pitcher of water.

Although this year is looking very unique and different, there is still a lot to look forward to and a lot you can do! Starting with advocacy for causes that matter to you, joining organizations that are helping your community, volunteering (online or safely-Madison House), randomly reach out to professors or researcher, learn a new skill online (Coursera) or more. You are **not** going to miss out on the college experience, you will simply have a different experience and a different story. Stay safe and make the most of your year!

Sincerely,

Shreya Ram

Class of 2021