

Dear Class of 2024,

My name is Kaitlyn, and I am a 4th year studying Public Policy & Leadership with a minor in Religious Studies. My time in college has undoubtedly been the best time of my life so far, and even though your experience has already and will be very different from mine, I hope it will exceed all of your expectations. You are so welcome here, and even though I'm sure you are experiencing some disappointment and uncertainty, I hope you will be open to all the amazing things in store.

One of the best things about my time here has been the people. Although right now it may feel harder to connect with each other, other students, professors, and UVA staff are still wonderful. CIOs are great, and I really loved building community in one CIO in particular, Grace Christian Fellowship. Just like planets are connected to each other as they revolve around the sun, if there is something connecting me to others, it doesn't matter how far away we are from each other or how we differ because we are united by something bigger than ourselves. I hope you can build quality friendships and find community this year and in the years to come!

As you get more into your first semester, I hope you don't feel overwhelmed or feel like you're by yourself at all. Take opportunities to get to know your professors, TAs, classmates, and those in the CIOs you're interested in. If you're living on grounds, cherish the time you get to spend with those you live with (even if it sometimes feels like too much time together!). We are all in this together, and I am excited for all that is ahead of you! If you have any questions about my major or just want to talk, feel free to email me at kh2ed@virginia.edu.

Sincerely,
Kaitlyn Hyun
Class of 2021