

Hello Class of 2024!

Welcome to your first year at UVA. I know it is a very untraditional one, with a multitude of hardships you and your family may have had to face this year. However, whether you are on grounds or attending from home, please know that you are as much a part of UVA as any of the other students and alumni! You've all made it this far, and I am so proud to have you all as part of the UVA class of 2024.

My experience at UVA has been so colorful and unique as each year has passed. As a first-year I joined a variety of clubs that fitted my needs and interests, and as the years passed, I was able to find a couple that I stayed with my whole time at UVA. Please go out and look up all the clubs UVA has to offer, I am sure that you will form life-long friendships through these clubs as I have! One happy memory I have of my club experience was when I volunteered with Encore, a club that works at senior homes! This club made me realize how I can help spread so much happiness in the smallest of ways. The club I felt most at home with was MSA, the Muslim Student Association. The defining memory of this experience was when all the sisters prayed the Maghrib prayer on the lawn during sunset! It was such a surreal and beautiful experience for me! Please, please, please join a club at UVA, this will just be the first memory of many you will form as a first-year!

I know this year is bound to be a unique experience for all of us, especially you all, the first-years. Just know that all of UVA is here to listen, and support you in any way possible. Good luck with your first semester, and work hard! I hope your journey will be an enjoyable one and filled with growth!

Sincerely,
Fatima Ahsan
Class of 2021