

Hey,

In case you haven't heard it enough already, Welcome to UVA! You have embarked on one of the biggest milestones of your life, and it will be full of growth, laughs, and memories. It honestly feels like first year was so long ago, but the time that has passed has flown by. I don't know if I was more scared as a first not knowing where my place was at UVA or now as a fourth year knowing that my time at UVA is coming to an end. Anyways, I just want you to know that you are here for a reason and you will soon feel like "home" is here, at UVA.

Alright, so I can easily say that I have not lived that stereotypical UVA life. When I got to UVA, I fell into that trap of trying out for clubs I didn't really care about and doing things to "buff" my resume. I quickly came to the realization that I was now an adult in college, and I needed to start doing things that I actually enjoyed doing, and not doing them for a superficial reason. My motto for joining clubs has been if going to the meetings ever feels like a chore, then I am quitting. In terms of finding "my people" that took longer than I had hoped. My roommate and I were fine but weren't great friends or anything and that was okay. I came to be best friends with two girls on my hall, one of which I currently live with now as a fourth year. You just need to know, that people are constantly expanding and changing their circles and it isn't too late to make new friends. One of my bestest friends that will likely be at my wedding one day I met in my first year ENWR, and I thought that she was the most annoying person in the class at the time. She just looked like she knew exactly what she was doing in the class and in college overall, and that was super intimidating to me as I was totally just going with the flow. We kept running into each other at parties, the library, and other random places. We ended up becoming friends. Then we lived together third year and became the best of friends. I'm telling you this because I think that you should always be willing to talk to people around you because you really never know if you'll end up clicking with one of them, even if they annoy you at first.

Okay, so this letter was longer than I expected and a lot more sentimental, but I'm a fourth year and I have no regrets at this point. Honestly that should be your motto, if you want to do something just do it because this is a once in a lifetime experience and you need to savor it. I wish I could go back and relive certain parts again like rushing the corner when we won the National Championship or boolin in clem at 3am during finals. So, some short advice, do what YOU want to do, don't be afraid to do things that seem scary, and invest in a lawn blanket earlier rather than later.

Sincerely,
Fourth Year
Class of 2021