

Hey Class of 2024!

Welcome to UVA! I hope that you've been enjoying your first few weeks as a UVA student whether you're here on Grounds or studying from home. I imagine that it could be really hard transitioning to college at this time, amidst a pandemic and social/political injustice and unrest. However, I want to encourage you to look for the good things in life and focus on building relationships. You are welcome at UVA and you belong here!

Even though this year will look different than it normally would, there are still so many groups to join and things to look forward to! Some of my favorite moments at UVA have been the times when I'm just hanging out with my friends and we end up talking until 4am. A CIO that has had a profound impact on my UVA experience (and life in general) is Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship. One of my favorite funny memories from Chi Alpha is when my core group pranked our brother core group at Fall Retreat by putting hot dogs all over their room. It was so funny to see their reaction after they burst into the room through the door we had not barricaded well enough. I'm so thankful for the genuine community I found in this group, including my best friends who I know I will remain close to even after college.

Good luck with this semester! If you ever find yourself struggling, please reach out to friends or university resources like CAPS or peer advisors because they are here to help you! One thing a lot of people do not realize is that the E-school offers free peer tutoring for a lot of intro classes, so definitely take advantage of that if you need it. And finally again try to invest in relationships -- it's crucial that you not underestimate the importance of great friends and knowing your professors. Remember that you belong at UVA, and your fellow Hoos are very excited to have you join our community!

Go Hoos!

Sincerely,
Lindsey S.
Class of 2021