Welcome to UVA! This semester probably isn't what you expected your first semester as a Hoo to look like. I know my semester is definitely different than I expected it to be even three weeks ago! It may not seem like it right now, but you are in the process of joining an extremely tight nit, welcoming community.

One of my favorite things about UVA is the passion that students have for a variety of activities outside of the classroom. I strongly encourage you to get involved to whatever extent you can this semester! UVA has such a wide range of student run clubs and activities that it is easy to get overwhelmed. I recommend looking at every opportunity with an open mind, but find the activities that you really want to invest your time in and run with them. It is really difficult for many of these activities to run at full capacity right now, so take this semester to try a bunch of new things and find the ones you care about most.

I came to UVA knowing no one, and I can't even imagine going through that on top of all of the things going on this semester. If that is the situation you are in keep your head high and remember that many of your peers are feeling the same way. If you came to UVA with a lot of strong relationships remember that you are lucky and go out of your way to include others in a safe socially responsible way. Best of luck starting off your semester!

Go Hoos!

Sincerely, Connor P. Class of 2021