

Hello, Class of 2024!

Welcome to UVA! I know that this is a difficult time to be entering college in a number of ways, and that the last of year of your high school career did not end in the way you would have wanted. However, this in no way should define your lives or the rest of your time here at UVA. I am optimistic that you will find a number of ways to be productive, creative, and revolutionary here in Charlottesville. Remember that you are a Hoo through and through, and your fellow Hoos are very excited to have you join our community!

Something that I love about UVA is that there are so many different opportunities to get involved, try new things, and meet new people. One of the opportunities that I have been most grateful for was joining Air Force ROTC, which I joined during the beginning of my first year! As a cadet I have learned about professional development, leadership, and courage. My favorite part of the program though has been building strong friendships with the other people in ROTC, which consists of UVA students of all different majors, years, and backgrounds. It has been wonderful to have spent the last three years working and growing with an extremely supportive group of leaders who have also become close friends.

I encourage you to push yourself to try new things during your time at college, even during this mostly virtual semester. DO not let your doubts today limit tomorrow. I'm confident that you will find your home and your people here at UVA, just like I did! I wish you the best of luck with your first semester and the rest of your years at UVA. We're very excited to have you! WAHOOWA GO HOOS GO!

Sincerely,
Makayla B.
Class of 2021