

Hello, Class of 2024!

Welcome to UVA, whether you're on Grounds this semester or staying home. Us old people are psyched that you're here (at least virtually)! This semester is off to a pretty weird start, and we admire how well you are handling both the transition to college and the apocalypse at the same time.

While it may be tough to get into the groove this semester, I am sure that you will love your time at UVA. As an out-of-state student, I came to UVA not knowing anyone. I met some truly amazing people in my classes and extracurriculars that helped me make UVA my home. I was definitely shy at first, but once I made an effort to talk to people, I was really surprised at how welcoming and kind the people around me were. I am very grateful for the UVA community for providing me with so many opportunities to make connections that I will carry with me after I graduate.

If I had any advice for you, it would be to try and talk to people in any way you can. Make a class group chat, send your cool professor an email, or find an organization that seems interesting to you and attend a virtual meeting. Being far apart doesn't need to mean being alone, and making an effort now will definitely pay off.

I wish you the absolute best in this semester and those to follow. Good luck and Wahoowa!

Sarah Garzione  
Class of 2021