



"One Day in May"

(May 15, 2020)

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Class Year: 2021

Connection to the College (student? faculty? alum? friend of the College?): Student

Describe your day today -- did you go out? what did you do for fun? did you cook or eat anything special? did you do work or chores? who did you spend time with?

As a history major at Hanover, I really appreciate the efforts we are taking to document how our community experienced the COVID 19 Pandemic. For future Hanoverians interested in this period, I want you to remember how lucky you will be to have any time on our beautiful campus. The memories I have made and hopefully will continue to make in the fall I will treasure for the rest of my life. Before finishing the semester, I spent most of my time on my back porch doing homework. Transitioning to remote learning did not encroach on the academic standards of our professors, something I am proud to have experienced knowing other students at different schools felt they did not receive the same commitment to their education. Daily readings, weekly zoom calls, countless emails, and multiple papers became the new norm. It provided a different view of lives with which I thought I was familiar. I was introduced to many classmates' pets and was able to see what my professors' homes looked like. Since the semester has ended, I have been going on daily walks with my own family and studying for my upcoming LSAT. I was lucky enough to continue working in these unprecedented times as many were not so fortunate, I now work for my father doing inventory and cleaning for his essential office. My family has been working on multiple projects around the house with all our extra time, especially since we have had some rainy and overcast days that makes it hard to get outside. I have actually had both an uncle and a cousin test positive for the coronavirus. Our family was blessed enough that both members have recovered and we did not lose anyone to this virus. Many of my thoughts have gone to the seniors that are missing so many milestone moments in their lives, my sister included who will have no commencement ceremony and received her University diploma in the mail. Two of my friends have lost grandparents during this time, one to COVID 19 and another to cancer, and I felt sorry that I could not do more for them than send letters in the mail to support them through such a difficult time. I am grateful for the technology we have that allows to stay in touch with my friends and family members that I have not quarantined with. I myself have been in touch with many Make a Wish kids whose wishes were postponed due the virus, one family in particular is worried that their daughter may not live to reschedule her wish to Hawaii. Although I am very blessed to have a safe home and environment to quarantine in, not everyone is so lucky and I hope that all experiences of the quarantine are remembered. I hope we remember the lives lost to not only corona but other illnesses, suicide, and domestic abuse but I also hope we remember how the virus brought families together and hope for our future, for nothing is simply all good or all bad.

What do you remember best about being on campus in May of other years?

My last May term I was lucky enough to travel abroad to Ireland where I created some of the best memories and foster lifelong friendships. I am empathetic to those students whose study abroad trips were cancelled and missed those memories in the year 2020. May on campus is also beautiful in its

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own way. Hanover in May is full of life and laughter. Some of my favorite memories are from May term because it is less stressful only taking one course, however, you are still within the college environment. Students are hammocking between our numerous trees and dogs are being walked on every sidewalk. It is hard to feel anything but happy at Hanover College during May term.

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