Meet your
Fall 2014 Undergraduate
International Peer Leaders!

These current students will join you
during international orientation.

They’re a great resource for you!
Angel Zhang

I am a Senior at W&M majoring in Accounting with concentrations in Finance and Economics. I am from Shenyang, China.

I am involved in International Student Advisory Board and I have done several study abroad in different countries.

Getting Ready Tip:
1. Please pack light, because you can buy many things when you arrived in Williamsburg.
2. Bring a raincoat, because it rains quite often here.
3. Make sure to bring at least TWO adaptors when you come, so you can charge your computer, ipad or other electronic devices.
I am a junior from Virginia, and I am a History major with a business minor. I was a transfer student this past fall. In my first year at W&M I have been involved in a social sorority, as a Tribe Ambassador, and an intern in the Admissions Office.

Things I love include: Harry Potter, hot tea, acoustic music, Italian food, Ewan McGregor movies, and the College of William and Mary!!

My Orientation tip: Don’t be afraid to go up and introduce yourself to people during orientation. No one else knows anyone either and they’re just as anxious to make friends as you are. Trust me, they’ll be glad that you stepped up and said hello first, and you’ll be excited to meet some new friends!
United States: Richmond, VA

Senior: French/Francophone Studies & Government majors

I speak French and Italian, but in total I’ve studied 6 languages. Besides languages, I love soccer (football) and many other sports.

Quick Tip on making friends: Be talkative and outgoing. Go up to people in your dorm and introduce yourself or sit next to people in the Caf and start up a conversation.
Lillian Fu

Hometown: Richmond, VA
Year: Junior
Major: Government and Neuroscience double
How I Spend My Free Time: work at Mad About Chocolate, volunteer through Alpha Phi Omega, a co-ed service fraternity, reading, rowing
Beginning of Semester Tip: Try out different extracurricular activities that you might be interested in, even if none of your friends are interested. It’s okay to do things alone; nobody will judge you!
Jiaorui Jiang (Jorie)

Country: China

I’m a junior with a Psychology major and Marketing Minor.

I’m a research assistant for AidData, and I’m also the VP for Design Thinking Club on campus (join us!)

*Beginning of semester tip: Don’t get stuck with major requirements the first semester, try out classes that sounds fun to you!
Rising Sophomore, Prospective Government, Africana Studies Major from Virginia

I love going to concerts, making all types of foods, and planning birthday parties

My favorite activities on campus is being Social Chair of Amnesty International, William and Mary Debate Society, and SPAN Mentoring...and of course being your OA!!

TIP: Make food in your hall kitchen to share. People will come and you already have a conversation starter!

Makayla Donigan
Hi everyone! My name is Naiwen Tian, and I’m a rising junior majoring in Film and Media Studies and minoring in Creative Writing. As a W&M student, I’ve also studied at Charles University in Prague and Skidmore College. I’m currently the president of the W&M badminton club and have published photography on Winged Nation on campus.

Tip for Fellow International Student

W&M is one of the best colleges in the US, which means you’ll be rewarded for every bit of effort you put in. Don’t be afraid because your English is not good or you don’t know how to make American friends. People will be nice to you if you are nice and genuine. Be your true self and be brave to step out of your comfort zone. I know it’s a lot of information to take in, but hope it helps with your first semester here!
Rhea Menon

I am a sophomore from India, and a potential IR major.

I enjoy travelling, reading, and trekking. During my freshman year I have been a part of the Amnesty International club and the Reves global friend program.

Making Friends Tip:
Help your new roommate or dormmate unpack. It will give you a chance to get to know the people you will be living with and will also help you become great friends!
Maria Loverde
Thailand, Cambodia, Switzerland
Class of 2015
Double Major: Chinese Language and Culture; International Relations

Getting ready for W&M: Before coming to W&M, I spent time getting to know my roommate. This made me feel like I already had a friend before arriving at school.
Jessie Du

I am a rising sophomore from China, And I’m a potential accounting major.

I like to travel and learn about different cultures. I am involved in Chinese Student Organization, Circle K International, and Winged Nation.

Making Friends Tip: Leave your door open during the beginning of the semester and don’t be shy to stop by your hallmates’ rooms to strike a conversation. Everyone is seeking for friends.
Diana Roh

- Junior, majoring in Chemistry
- I was born in Seoul, Korea and grew up in Nice, France, Qingdao, China, and Baltimore, MD.
- I am in a coed fraternity, Phi Sigma Pi, which allowed me to do a lot of service works in the community. I love running, biking, and SCUBA diving.
- **Getting Ready**: When I packed for William and Mary for the first time, I tried not to overpack. You can get pretty much anything here, and it is very easy to overpack, which will make your trip and the move uncomfortable.
- **Orientation/ Beginning of Semester Tip**: Don’t be afraid to branch out to different clubs on campus, sign up for all the club listservs you are interested in. You can always unsubscribe!
Heyyyy!! Name’s up there ❄️’m a sophomore from Ghana(I hope you guys know where that is).

Potential Geology major and Marine Science minor (yikes)

I love dancing and listening to music and artsy stuff and shopping and reading (yeah I have a lot of hobbies 😊)

In my first year I was a member of ACS (African Cultural Society) and I’m now the Secretary yay! (It’s a fun club y’all should join!)

WM TIP: GET INVOLVED!

Seriously that’s the key to success here and everyone’s always here to help. So be excited and welcome to the Tribeeee!!!
Torey Jackson, US

Junior Government & Middle Eastern Studies major, trying to take some classes at the Business School!

I enjoy running and I’m a member of the International Relations Club. I also get to travel to other parts of the US doing Model UN.

Orientation tip: take classes outside of your major, it’s a great way to learn something new and make new friends at the same time!
I am a rising senior majoring in English and minoring in French and Francophone Studies. My hometown is Manassas, VA but I am a Peru-US dual citizen.

At William & Mary, I am the President of the Art House Film Club. Last semester, I studied abroad in Paris!

*Making friends:* Join a club that interests you and attend meetings. Going to hall meetings and activities in your dorm is also a great way to meet the people living around you!
I’m a rising junior from China, majoring in finance & concentrating in accounting.

• During past 2 years at W&M, I developed all kinds of new interests. I loved playing the violin in the symphony orchestra. I missed the studying abroad experience in Japan. And now I’m ready to make some new friends!!

• Orientation/Beginning of semester tip: TRY NEW THINGS!! Pick a class that you’ve never taken before and get yourself ready for some exciting stuff!

• Making friends tip: SPEAK UP & TAKE INITIATIVES!! Attend mixers during the orientation and bond with your hall-mates. To grab a meal with someone would be a nice start.
Yimeng Zhang (Cathryn)

Hometown: Nanjing, China
I am a rising junior majoring in Mathematics and Finance.

I am currently involved in CUSA, Common Ground, WM Women’s Chorus. I live in Italian House on campus.
I am a rising sophomore from Canton, China with potential IR and marketing double major. I am currently involved in a coed fraternity AKPsi, Japanese cultural society, and Chinese Cultural Organization. I enjoy travelling LOVE making new friends. I am also really into reading books and writing.

TIPS:

- Ask questions so that you will get to know various academic and wellness services W&M provides!
- Find out about available clubs on campus and try out the ones that interest you!
- Hang out with your orientation group and hall mates!
- Just be yourself and enjoy orientation!
Hey y’all! Can’t wait until we meet in August, but here are a few things you should know about me first –

- **Hometown:** Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- **Social Class:** Senior
- **Major:** History
- **Campus involvement:** Greek Life (social sorority), Project Phoenix tutoring, Students for Stop Hunger Now
- **Fun facts:** I once spent two months traveling across the USA in a motorhome, and last summer I studied abroad in Germany (who could ever say “no” to spending six weeks in Berlin??)

**Making Friends Tip:** As an international student myself, I was nervous about meeting new people, but orientation really is the perfect time to make friends! Proof: one of my best friends and I actually met during international orientation. Don’t be afraid to branch out – everyone’s in the same shoes as you anyway!
Hometown: Shanghai, China
Major: Finance and East Asian Studies
Year: Junior
Tips for the New Students: Do not freak out. It is new for you and everyone else here. Try out things that you have never done before and you will make friends that way.
Fangyi Xu (Lulu)

Year: Junior
Majors: Mathematics & Psychology
From: Beijing, China
Things I like to do: I am in the Eating Behaviors Lab in the Psychology Department. We have a variety of studies involving eating and food! I also like to hang out in Colonial Williamsburg or the Sunken Gardens with my friends.

Getting Ready Tip: Do NOT overpack. You will be able to get almost everything after you arrive. But make sure you pack some food/snacks from your hometown so that your stomach doesn’t “miss” home.
Denise Bonsu

- Who am I?: Hey guys! I’m Denise and I am an Economics major in the class of 2016. I’m originally from Accra, Ghana and i’m hoping to work in the International Development field after graduation with a focus on francophone countries in Africa.

- What I do during my spare time: During the extremely rare moments I have spare time I enjoy reading fiction books and writing short stories.

- Any tips?: Research what classes you’d be interested in taking before you arrive on campus and try not to get too overwhelmed with all of the information that will be thrown your way your first few days here. Also, establish a way to keep in touch with friends/family back home to help fight homesickness.
Rebecca Schectman

The boring stuff:
- Junior from Charlottesville, Virginia
- International Relations major, Art History minor

The cool stuff:
- I spent this past summer in Kampala, Uganda and last summer in Florence, Italy. Now back in the ‘burg!
- I swim, bike, and run with WM Triathlon club—wanna TRI? Talk to me!
- I’m a Research Fellow with AidData. We track development finance to make information more accessible and actionable ((best job on campus)).
- I play violin in a quartet with friends (the cool-tet).

Insider info: **hanging out** around campus is a great way to meet people and **relax**— check out the Grind, the docks on Lake Matoaka, or one of the language houses!