

Longwood University

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Longwood: Life during COVID-19

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### Corona Documentation

Anonymous

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## Corona documentation

### Option 2 English 400

COVID-19 has been a very trying predicament. Unfortunately, as a senior in their final semester it could not have come at a worse time. I did not get to have a senior week, I did not get to finish out those final weeks with the lifelong friends iv weathered the collage experience with, and I have been left wondering what's next in life. I am relatively used to being alone and independent so the solidarity has not been too devastating, but I can feel it starting to become overwhelming even for an introvert. All nightlife activities have become nonexistent and its hard to face sitting down and doing nothing after a long day of college responsibilities and work. I usually find myself staring at my phone for hours aimlessly scrolling through the same social media feeds that I've already viewed a thousand times before or browsing Netflix without watching anything until I fall asleep. One thing COVID has helped me with is getting back into fitness. With all the gyms closed and life becoming ever more meaningless I've picked up running and biking again to pass the time. Although they are not the most fun activities, they do realize some of the stress of being cooped up inside all day and have helped to counter the effects of staying continuously stagnant, like gaining weight. One thing I constantly ponder about is whether society will be the same again once the pandemic has passed or If it will be forever changed. I am a big music festival fan and the festival season is always the biggest thing to look forward to for me, but now that they're all cancelled indefinitely, I can only wonder if they'll come back the same. One of the things that give music festivals their magic is all of the people that you meet and dance with and I worry that I'll never get to experience massive crowds in front of outdoor stages partying for three days straight. To someone that has never experienced these things they might think its

similar to a concert but its completely different and the atmosphere is so much more alive and the people are much more open to having fun and meeting strangers. Even though I am naturally an introvert, that is the environment I thrive in. I am training to become a sound engineer so that I hopefully one day can make being apart of these festivals a career that I know I'd enjoy for the rest of my life. I lately have had a feeling of existential dread looming though that COVID might ruin musical festivals for the foreseeable future. We are in the most technologically advanced and most wealthy nation in the world, but the government's response to this pandemic has been catastrophic. I have completely lost faith in the system that we entrust to keep us safe and protected and to provide for us when we need relief. The government has given mixed responses on what it is currently doing to help and the states have been left to fend for themselves. I have also lost faith in the average American because of this pandemic. Many people continuously ignore stay at home orders, protest the closing of businesses, and continuously spread false information on the virus to people in the hopes that it will get the nation to come out of a lockdown. Its almost like we have gone back to a time where science is only a second thought and all these deaths and suffering mean nothing to people that haven't been directly affected by the virus. Even though the pandemic itself has not physically touched me or anyone in my life, thankfully, it has scarred my perception of the American public and evaporated my trust of the state and federal governments ability to handle anything competently and I feel that I might never be able to rebuild that trust with the system again. Although I may have lost my faith in the system, this pandemic has not caused a fear inside me of going outside like It has many others, once everything has passed I believe that I will be able will be able to readjust to normal life, whatever it is that may turn out to be.