

My name is Tristen Rivera, I am a Sophomore Political Science and History double major and a Law & Society minor running for election in the January 2025 midterm Student Government Association.

Working as an Orientation Leader for the University of Vermont for two semesters has given me experience in helping students transition to starting their college experiences here. I want to use those skills to do what I can to make the UVM better for the current student body. Through my experience as an Orientation Leader, I have enhanced my strong leadership and time management skills. I am also goal oriented and hardworking, and it is my aim to enter situations with an empathetic ear and an eagerness to create solutions that benefit both sides as much as possible.

I am committed to listening to what current students are passionate about changing or enhancing at UVM, and prioritizing that in any discussions with fellow Senators. I am dedicated to advocating for student voices and interests on whichever Student Government committee I would be working on.

I have some ideas of some things that might benefit the UVM student body. One idea is to work with the Committee of Academic Affairs and colleges to expand their work on detailed course descriptions with the goal of adding an example syllabus to the Schedule of Courses. Not only would this allow students to make more informed decisions about what classes they sign up for during the registration period, but it would also set general expectations and allow students to prioritize their course loads.

Also, through my experience as an Orientation Leader, I am sure it would be possible to work with the Orientation Office to add any resources the student body may have felt were lacking from their experience. Understanding what resources are important would allow SGA to

help the school prioritize advertising different assets the school has to make sure students are fully aware of all that is offered to them as undergraduate students.

I would consider it an honor to be a Senator on UVM's Student Government Association and have the opportunity to not only work with my peers, other senators, campus partners, and different colleges, but also be able to represent the student body to the best of my ability.