Through the Help Us Make History [1] project, the University Archives has documented the stories of Yale undergraduates during the 2020 Spring Semester. The first prompt “Share a picture of your study space” was a great success. See some examples of how Yale undergraduate students finished out their semester. If you would like to participate, there is still time to visit the site and send us a pic of your study space from the past semester. Otherwise, stay tuned for more prompts coming soon!
Desk in my brother’s room at home. Around me were childhood stuffed animals, a turtle tank and a full-size bed. Important to me is the sunlight filtering in. Lighting has had a drastic influence on my mood, motivation and study habits. The same is what occurs in my brain, the logical connections, the development of claims, the cranking out of problems. But nothing outside my mind has continued the same. I miss the intellectual generosity that the Yale space fosters and that my peers bring into my life.

I lived in Baker Hall, my work-space was the desk next to my bed. I had a nice view of the trees from my window. In had everything I needed in my small work-space: a small pot to warm water for tea, my computer for attending my online classes, a lamp, a calendar, and pictures to remind me of my family and home (Mexico). I played the ukulele to relax, each post-it was a new ukulele song. I had three boards on the walls to write down my ideas, a section of my one of my boards can be seen in the reflection on the mirror.

My family and I moved from CT to NJ during our spring break. Due to the quarantine, we weren’t able to buy a lot of the furniture we were planning to and I built myself a makeshift desk out of boxes and totes. The desk is in my room and was definitely a huge improvement from sitting on my bed for hours on end.