

Personal Report

University College Copenhagen, WiSe 2021/22, 1 Semester FB4 – Social Work: transnational - Bachelor

Language

Which language did you use? How did you communicate with your fellow students?

English.

How well were you able to follow classes linguistically at the partner institution? Did the partner university provide language classes?

Well. I did not learn any other language (Danish), because there was no course. Communication in English.

Accommodation

Did the host university arrange for accommodation? How would you describe the quality of your accommodation?

No, unfortunately the possibility did not exist.

It was okay. It was really expensive, but at least you got to meet other students.

How high were your overall monthly costs for accommodation (in Euro)?

1200€

How well was the accommodation situated? How long did it take you on average to reach the partner university (in minutes)?

It was 30-40 minutes (bike/bus) away from the university, there are a lot close locations. The accommodation was on the other side of town.

Which web sites, forums, facebook pages, contacts, etc. can you recommend for looking for accommodation?

Facebook

Where have you been accommodated (name of dormitory, location, part of town, etc.)?

BaseCamp South Campus. It is located in the south of Kopenhagen, near to the beach, a few supermarkets and bars. The city center is 15-20 minutes away and other attractions are easily accesible as well.

Arrival at the Partner University and Orientation

Which is the best arrival time?

In Kopenhagen during the afternoon. Regarding the university, it does not make any difference if one participates in the welcome week or not, so it is fine to arrive as soon as classes start..

How did you organize your arrival? Were all important questions answered? What did you have to find out yourself? How fast were you able to get in contact with the domestic students?

I arrived for the welcome week, which was not necessary at all. There was almost no getting to know each other and only basic stuff, which we already learnt in Germany. Questions were answered. I basically hadn't had any contact to domestic students until my last 5 weeks in Kopenhagen, because the internationals were in classes separated from them. We only had contact to other internationals. Service was annoying, because it seemed like a lack of communication between the responsables, I had to run after my documents for 2 months.

Living Abroad

Compared to Frankfurt, how high was the cost of living abroad? What additional expenses did you have during your semester abroad?

Higher Living cost, like 200%. Lidl and Aldi are recommendable.

How far were you able to travel with your semester ticket? How were the libraries? Was their use free? Did the university provide computer workplaces/ computer pools? Was Wi-Fi available on-campus? Did the university provide a sports program? Was this free of charge?

With the ticket, you could go until Malmö, but it costs quite a lot. Student life off campus was okay due to the other internationals. Mensa was good. There was always a vegetarian/vegan option, for Kopenhagen prices the meals were affordable/cheap. The university library was not that good, but had a lot of nice hanging out places, we used the public library Den Sorte Diamant, which is really good and free! University did not provide computers, as far as i know. There was really good wi-fi everywhere. Due to not knowing how to exactly book study rooms, i did not use them, but there are a lot. There were sports programs, but only yoga and at the end zumba, so nothing much and often times far away.

Studying at the Host University

How would you describe the academic standard of classes compared to Frankfurt?

A lot easier.

Did you experience any difference in teaching methods/ class structure? Which were the difference regarding your expectations and your experiences at the partner university?

A lot of group projects, anytime possible basically. I though academic standard would be way higher, it was quite low. You had one module and 5 to 8 different teachers, with different topics, but all under the same module, which i found strange. They knew that we were not that used to group projects so they helped us a little more. Difficulties were handled directly through conversation.

Final Remarks

What should future exchange students know/ do/ avoid? How would you overall rate your exchange experience? In what ways have you benefitted academically, personally, linguistically for your future career?

The academic standard is not that high, the university is a little chaotic and you are not able to get in touch with a lot of Danish students, because you will be in separated classes with only internationals for the first 3 months. The exchange experience was not that great, I did not benefit academically, due to COVID it was all a repetition. Linguistically it was a good experience. I was able to improve my English.