



My Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Host University	Copenhagen Business School
Semester & Year of Exchange	2019 S1
Otago degree(s)	Commerce
Major(s)	ECO/FINC

Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent	Otago credit value
EU Business and politics	English	POLS200	18
Political economy of development	English	ECON200	18
Strategic management	English	MANT200	18
Financial derivatives	English	FINC306	18

Any comments about these papers?

Papers were very similar in style and structure to Otago.

How did the academic experience/ workload/ style of teaching differ from Otago?

CBS do focus on more independent, in your own time reading of literature than Otago does. Most Otago Commerce courses do not require a lot of readings and are generally not examined. Whereas they are examined at CBS. I enjoyed this. Most readings were interesting and in my case, based on countries I knew little about. Workload was same/if not lighter than Otago. Domestic students all have jobs so they accommodate for them.

Accommodation

What accommodation did you stay in? What were the pros and cons of your accommodation?

I stayed in a hall called Kathrine Kollegiet. It is exchange students only with around 90 spots. It was slightly out of the main part of the city but a metro (the stop is close) or a bike (everyone bikes) got

you there quickly. Good location for lecture halls. There is no common space here which can make it harder to meet people. Supermarket within 2minute walk.

Money matters

Please detail your basic costs, e.g. accommodation, flights, visa, food, insurance

Accommodation was \$6000 for one semester. Most halls are around this with a few being slightly lower or higher. Food is roughly the same price as NZ in supermarkets but buying food or drinks out is really expensive. A coffee and a pastry will set you back around \$15-20.

What means did you use to access your finances? What would you recommend? (Credit card, Cash passport, foreign bank account, etc.)

I used my NZ visa card. I got a low fee on every transaction and fees on cash withdrawals. I don't think for NZ banks there is a way around this. I would recommend withdrawing cash in NZ and taking it with you. Try to determine which currencies you may need. Denmark is fully eftpos so don't worry about Krone. But European countries like Germany use only cash a lot of the time. You could set up a bank account in Denmark but the cost was ~\$250, which looking back may have been worth it.

Visas & Insurance

Did you have to apply for a visa? What was the process?

Yes you need a visa. NZ'ers can apply for a specific visa called a 'residence permit'. You can only apply for this in Auckland. If you send an email to the Danish Consulate I believe you can apply for this once you get to Denmark. This will save you flights to Auckland, the \$450 fee VFSGlobal charge for the service and the actual permit was around \$400. So look into this to save money.

Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?

No only Otago did. Denmark has free healthcare for foreigners so this isn't an issue.

Extra-curricular/Social Activities

What organised activities were available to students? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future exchange students?

The first week there were activities every night. These ranged from a comedy night to a ball. These events were good to get to know other exchange students from your and other halls. You need to buy the pass for the week, which I recommend.

What was the university/ city like?

The university is very modern. There are 4 main campuses all located within a short bike of all the halls. All campuses have a library and a café area for lunch/dinner.

Any recommendations for things to do, places to visit, places to eat etc.?

Any tips for future students?

Overall Experience

Please write one paragraph (or more) about your exchange experience. Please include some photos!

Going on exchange through the Otago programme is an amazing experience. It gives you so much freedom, while at the same time the opportunity to live in another country and have the structure of study. To me, it almost felt like a six month holiday away with friends. Once you settle in and meet people you will find yourself travelling (if in Europe) all over the continent. Some weeks I found myself flying to Austria for a long weekend, back to Uni for the week and then off again to France on the following Friday. If you are looking to step outside your comfort zone, keen for a change of scenery while progressing your degree, exchange is an opportunity I highly recommend. I am welcome to any questions that students may have, because I know I had a lot when I first started thinking about it!



In Copenhagen, enjoying one of the many great sunsets by the lakes near Norreport.



In Tromsø, Norway during March. Five of us when hunting for the Northern lights.