



My Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Host University	University of Copenhagen (KU)
Semester & Year of Exchange	2018, Semester 2
Otago degree(s)	LLB/BA
Major(s)	Psychology and Classical Studies

Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent	Otago credit value
Artificial Intelligence and Legal Disruption	English	N/A	15 ECTS
Danish Culture Course	English	N/A	7.5 ECTS

Any comments about these papers?

The Danish Culture Course was very broad with a lecture on many different areas of Danish culture (e.g. early history, politics, architecture) and some excursions (including a walking tour of the city). It was interesting but quite broad and I found that the examination at the end was really left up to you to choose what to write (you can choose either to do purely attendance based or write an essay – I did the latter).

I really enjoyed the Artificial Intelligence (Law) course and the lecturer Hin-Yan was great. The examination at the end was a group assignment which we got to choose our group for so the workload was reduced quite a lot.

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

I picked these papers so I wouldn't have any oral or written exams and it really reduced the workload for me at the end meaning that I could work on my two essays when it suited me.

I found the law class was quite disorganised and class discussion-led compared to Otago law courses but I think that some of the other Law classes weren't like that so much and it really was as much to do with the content of the course than anything else.

Accommodation

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

I stayed in BaseCamp which was a student hall accommodation with around 500 students, mainly international students. Each room has a private kitchenette and a bathroom in the room so it is quite self-contained. The kitchen didn't have an oven but there are shared ovens that you have access to. There were also plenty of common areas to hang out in to drink or just hang out during the day.

The location of BaseCamp was so perfect and I think a lot better than many of the other student hall's (such as Signalhuset or Tietgen) as it is very close to Indre By (centre of town), bars and restaurants, museums, the Lakes and many of the beautiful residential suburbs. However it is slightly further away from Southern Campus which is where my classes were held.

Money matters

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

Accommodation – BaseCamp was one of the more expensive halls I think but am not sure on exact cost per week as was paid upfront

Visa – N/A

Food – expensive, although can save money by cooking most of your own meals as supermarkets are not too expensive

Insurance – had a policy for my 8 months away but the website should tell you a quote!

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

I had a CashPassport but it was such a hassle to load money on to that I ended up just using my ANZ card which charges you a percentage for every transaction.

Visas & Insurance

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

I have a British passport so I didn't have to apply for a Visa, but I did have to go through a residency permit application process which was a drama in itself. They have special student days at the immigration office but they are so busy you have to get there hours early to make sure you get the residence certificate.

Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?

Not that I know of but I used Air New Zealand/CoverMore travel insurance.

Extra-curricular/Social Activities

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

Plenty of activities were available – most of them were advertised on Facebook so keep an eye out there.

What was the university/ city like?

The University campus that my classes were at is beautiful and really well designed and laid out. The city is so easy to live in – you need to get a bike but once you have wrapped your head around the cycle lanes it is very easy to get around and much quicker than walking or public transport.

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

The modern art museum Louisiana is about an hour north by train and walk to get to and it is definitely worth going to. I also went across to Malmö by train which was nice for a day trip (but not much more than that). I never made it to any other Danish cities or towns which I regret!

When the weather is nice get a group of friends and go GoBoating on the canals (hire a boat and drive around – bring a picnic and drinks). Not open in the winter months though.

Take the time when you have your bike to explore the neighbourhoods such as Frederiksberg, Østerbro and Nørrebro. If you like shopping the second hand shops are incredible and you will find things in them that are still on sale brand new in the shops!

The Danes also have these communal dinners – two I recommend are Absalon (cheap and good community vibes) and also one at Lille bakery on Friday evenings (the food is amazing and they have a different performance each time).

There is jazz nights on Wednesday and Thursdays at Søjhesten which is free jazz between 8-10pm and it's nice to go and listen and pretend you're Danish.

Also if you like studying in café's there's one called &tradition by Rosenborg gardens which doubles as a showroom for Scandinavian furniture and it's the coolest to study at. Kebaben is the best kebab shop by FAR, and District Tonkin have good cheap-ish banh mi's if you want a meal out. LA Tequila bar have free beer from 9-10 on Tuesdays.

Any tips for future students?

Get a bike as soon as you can! Also there is no Uber (but it's fine because you will have your bike). Also eating out is SO expensive but worth it because the food in Copenhagen is so incredible.

Overall Experience

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

I could not recommend Copenhagen more! It is small enough so you feel that you really get to know the city, but also there are so many more things I wish I had time to do – there are always events and fun things to explore no matter what you are interested in. There are also a lot of exchange students who go there so I met so many friends for life from all over the world. The airport is very accessible by Metro which means it is easy to travel to and from, and from my experience other international students will probably want to travel also – I ended up travelling with friends from New Zealand but also friends from all over the world! I would return in a heartbeat and I think it is the perfect city to do an exchange.



Botanic Gardens



The University



Tivoli – go at Halloween, Christmas, or in Summer



Louisiana art gallery gardens



Nørrebro



Cool ceramics studio called Studio Arhøj



GoBoating!



Studying in the old part of the Black Diamond library



Danish themed birthday dinner at BaseCamp



Fars Dreng café