



Student Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Otago degree(s) Bachelor Of Commerce	Major(s) Accounting and Finance
Host University Copenhagen Business School	Semester & Year of Exchange Semester 1 2018

Academics/ course load

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent	Otago credit value
Corporate Finance	English	FINC 206	18
Marketing	English	MART 112	18
Management Accounting and Control Systems	English	ACCT 302	18
The Corporations in Society: Managing beyond markets	English	ACCT 3** (maybe 325)	18

Any comments about these papers?

All papers were graded 100% on a final exam.

The way the papers are examined is very different to Otago. Corporate finance was a written exam (on the computer), Marketing was a take home essay that we had a week to complete, Management accounting and control systems was an oral exam where you sit and have a discussion with the lecturer about the course content, and The Corporations in Society was a sit in exam answering question (on the computer).

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

I felt like the work load was a lot less than Otago mainly because we didn't have assignments during the course of the papers only the final exam which weren't too difficult for the papers I took. Their semesters are also set out a bit differently have quarters, so some papers were for the whole semester but most were just half semesters either in the first half or last half. Depending on what papers you pick you could have exams half way through the semester or at the end of the semester. I would recommend choosing papers in the first quarter of your exchange so you finish early and have more time to travel and have fun before you leave!

Accommodation

I stayed in the hall Nimbusparken. We were the first exchange students to move into the building as it was newly build. Nimbus was very flash, large shared kitchen and living and decent sized rooms with bed desk and your own bathroom, although recently they have changed this hall into a graduate only hall. I loved having the shared kitchen and living space as it was easy to hang out and make friends with the people I was living with and was great for having parties!

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

Nimusparken cost 6000DKK per month + 5200DKK deposit so about 32000 DKK which is around \$7,500 NZD. Most halls were similar to this price although exact prices as on the CBS website. Bear in mind that this doesn't include food.

Flights you can expect to pay around \$3500+ return depending on dates and how early you book your flights.

Once you get there and get settled in it is a must to buy a bike! Biking is very popular in Copenhagen and an easy and fun way of transport around the city fast. There are heaps of Facebook pages and a couple of resell websites, people usually spend around 500 to 1000DKK, but I would recommend getting a decent bike to start out so you don't have any problems with it throughout the semester.

When it comes to buying food there are heaps of different supermarkets that range massively in price. Stay away from Fotex!! This supermarket may look super nice but it is very expensive! Would recommend Netto or Fakta for your weekly groceries.

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

There weren't many options through NZ banks for travel cards in Danish Kroner, so I ended up getting a Danish bank account while over there to avoid fees (Nordea bank). This could then be used while I was traveling with little or no fees. It's handy to have easy access to Danish cash from the bank as it can be very tricky having to pay people back who have foreign bank accounts.

Visas & Insurance: Did you have to apply for a visa? What was the process?

Yes. I had to apply online and pay the first payment of around \$400 then organise an appointment time at the Danish embassy which is in Auckland. At my meeting in Auckland I had to bring proof of acceptance to my host Uni in Copenhagen, copies of every page my passport and a bank statement showing I had sufficient money. At the meeting you then have to pay another \$400 ish then all your info is sent away! I think it took less than a month to get a response.

Extra-curricular/Social Activities

In the first 2 weeks of exchange CBS organises events for pretty much everyday. You have to buy a ticket for each week and I would definitely recommend taking part in both weeks as it helps you to meet people and make friends straight away! There were also Uni sports teams that you could join and play for throughout the semester.

What was the university/ city like?

The Uni was quite flash, nice library and plenty of options for food everywhere, including a buffet sort of meal where you just fill your plate up with what you want and pay by weight! All of the lectures were about 2 or 3 hours long which took a while to get used to but they gave you plenty of breaks to go get a coffee etc. so they weren't that bad.

Copenhagen is a beautiful city to live in, very clean and quite safe compared to some other European countries. Everyone knows how to speak English so there was no problem with the language barrier.

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

There are heaps of touristy things to do in Copenhagen, including museums, art galleries, Tivoli, Reffen, Nyhavn, Christianshavn and heaps more. Copenhagen is two completely different cities in winter and summer, I would recommend getting out and about and doing everything in both seasons as you get to experience a very different city each time.

If you're wanting a taste of home there is actually a pie store owned by a Kiwi called Wild Kiwi Pies that I'd recommend you visited! Buying food out in Copenhagen can be pretty expensive but there are so many amazing cafes and restaurants there so would recommend going to as many of them while you're over there. Grød and Sticks and Sushi were two of my favourite places to get food out.

Overall Experience

Exchange was definitely the best 6 months of my life!! It was so amazing meeting people from all over the world and learning about all of their different cultures. Going over alone was scary but exciting and I'm definitely much more confident from it.

Going on exchange in Europe came with many benefits as you're so close to so many other countries, literally 1 or 2 hours flight away from pretty much everywhere! I got to travel heaps with the friends I met over there, just popping over to France, England, Norway or Sweden just for the weekend.

I would recommend doing your exchange in the first semester of the year if possible due to the weather. When I arrived in January it was their winter (which was very COLD) but that meant that for the rest of the semester the weather was improving. It was Summer by the time I had finished all my exams and then was able to experience the European summer traveling with all the friends I met until I had to come back to NZ.

Photos from Copenhagen



feel free to email me (Ruby) with any questions on priru845@student.otago.ac.nz (: