****

# **My Exchange Evaluation**

# Basic Information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Host University | Copenhagen Business School |
| Semester & Year of Exchange | Semester 2, 2022 |
| Otago degree(s) | LLB and BCom |
| Major(s) | International Business, Minor in Chinese |

# Academics/ course load

#### Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Course title | Language of instruction | Otago equivalent |
| Global People Management: Human Resource Management & Leadership | English | MANT 3XX |
| International Business and Sustainable Development | English | MART 326 |
| Business, Gender and Labour Market Inequality | English | 200 Level Commerce |
| Doing Business in China and Asia Pacific | English | MART 326 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

#### **Total Otago credits gained**: 🞎 54 points **🞎 72 points** 🞎 108 points 🞎 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### Any comments about these papers?

I enjoyed all of my papers at CBS! They provided for a great opportunity to learn about things not offered at Otago.

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

The style of teaching was very different – we all got a lot more involved in class and did a lot of group work and reflection. In terms of workload, I just had 4, 10 page assignments due at the end of the semester. Some papers had optional readings/presentations throughout.

# Accommodation

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

I stayed at a CBS hall called Kathrine Kollegiet. It was in a great location, and everyone had their own bathroom and kitchenette. However that was about all that was good about it haha! A lack of common areas made it harder to meet people, and it is quite expensive.

# Money matters

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

My accommodation worked to be around $325NZD a week – which is quite a lot! I was allocated a large room however hence the more expensive price.

I travelled beforehand so it is hard to give an indication of return flights – but I would estimate around $2500-3000NZD.

I got my residence permit (visa) done in Denmark, saving me around $500 instead of doing it NZ – I would highly recommend getting on to this option!

Everyone has to get StudentSafe insurance which has a range of policy options depending on how much excess you want. I paid around $850 for a $0 excess which came in handy a few times.

Food in Copenhagen is delicious, but not cheap. Groceries are cheaper than in NZ, but coffee for example is around $8-$10.

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

I opened a ‘wise account’ which removed many transaction costs, instead of using my NZ Bank card.

# Visas & Insurance

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

Yes, you have to get a residence permit for students. I did all of this over in Copenhagen. As CBS is in a different municipality (Frederiksberg) my application was slightly different from others. I had to apply and pay online, then go and get my biometrics done in person (showing proof of income, accommodation etc). After this was all approved, I had to apply for my CPR number with the Frederiksberg Municipality.

#### Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?

No.

# Extra-curricular/Social Activities

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

There were a lot of organised activities for exchange students, organised by CBS students. We had a whole orientation week and multiple events throughout the semester. I would highly recommend going to these, to meet as many other people as possible. I also participated in the Danish crash course – which was a language course held prior to the orientation week. Whilst this was good to get to know people and have a taste for the language, I would not recommend for the price point ($350).

I also attended a few yoga classes held at CBS, all taught in English – another great way to meet people.

#### What was the university/ city like?

I loved CBS! CBS has many gorgeous campuses located near lots of great cafes, restaurants etc. Everything was very organised and clean and there were great facilities.

Copenhagen as a city is unmatched. There is so much to do and see, and the people are actually very friendly (despite what people commonly say about Scandanavians!). I wouldn’t say there are so many ‘sites’ as per se to see – but the general vibe of the city is amazing and I would highly recommend anyone to visit or live there.

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

I have so many!! But the must-dos would be:

* Reffen Food market in the warmer weather
* Strolling through the many gorgeous gardens (Frederiksberg, Christiansborg..)
* Getting a drink/coffee at Minas in Nørrebro
* Getting pastries at any of the following; Lille Bakery, Ard Bakery, Buka, Anderson Malliard, Juno the bakery
* Vintage shopping!
* Going for a swim at Islands Brygge
* Community dinner at Absalon (only 50dkk)

#### Any tips for future students?

Get a bike (non-negotiable) and be open to meeting a whole range of people and trying new things. Exchange is for putting yourself out there – so don’t hold back.

# Overall Experience

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

I thought Copenhagen was the most amazing city to live in and do a university exchange. Not only is the place gorgeous, but there is so much to do and experience. It is a bit expensive, however, so I would recommend planning and budgeting ahead. I would go back and live there in a heartbeat – all of my friends I travelled with there/met would also say the same.

The Danes are known for being a bit reserved, however, my advice is to just be yourself and be friendly – the Danes are very fun and humorous people once you get to know them.

You will not regret going on an exchange – it provides a great opportunity to learn about yourself, get to know new people and try new things.