

WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Nutrition and Health
Study period exchange	02/09/2019 - 17/12/2019
Country (exchange)	Finland
City (exchange)	Kuopio
University (exchange)	University of Eastern Finland
Faculty (exchange)	Public Health

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

- To experience different learning contents
- To improve a foreign language (English)
- To develop soft skills, such as adaptability, problem solving, curiosity
- To experience different learning and teaching practices
- To live abroad and to meet new people
- To gain knowledge of another country
- To build up a personal and professional network

What is the reason you chose for this country/university?

- Quality of courses
- Facilities and services for international students
- Feedback from Erasmus+ alumni

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination? (E.g. bus, train, etc.)

Flight to Helsinki and take the Onnibus or VR train to Kuopio

4. University and studying

Could you provide some general information about the followed courses?

	Course	ECTS	Short description of the contents	Appreciation of course: 1(low) - 5(high)	Remarks
1	Public Health in Humanitarian Crises	5	Writing an essay about either the war in Yemen or hurricane Dorian, focusing on how it affected public health and the role of an international organisation dealing with the problem	4	
2	Global and Local Public Health Issues	5	Online course. It consisted of commenting and asking questions about a certain health issue (eg NCDs) on a discussion forum with other students	3	
3	Advanced Health policy	3	Lectures about the health policy process, policy formulation, health policy implementation, policy evaluation and healthcare management, motivation and leadership	5	The lectures were very well structured and for me as a nutrition and health student, I found the content of the course very interesting.

How is the study formalized? (E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material)

• Writing essays, learning diaries and exams

What is the culture of the university? (E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with the WUR?)

- Lectures are often mandatory
- Little engagement with local students. I did not meet any Finnish students in class.
- One difference with the WUR is that some lectures do not have a break in the middle

What does the university offer the student additionally? (E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?)

- Very good catering (€1,97 for a meal)
- Multiple sports facilities
- Laundry facilities are offered at student housing

5.Housing-travelling-living

What are the possibilities for housing? (E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?)

 Housing is arranged via Kuopas housing. It was easy to sign up and I was assigned a room very quickly. The rooms for exchange students are furnished and you will live with other exchange students.

What is the culture of the country like? (E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?)

• Finnish people are more independent/don't like to talk a lot.

Could you give a general price indication of the place of residence compared to living in Wageningen?

• My rent was approximately €289,- / month for a 3-shared apartment. Compared to Wageningen it was cheaper.

Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure? (E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?)

• I travelled to the university by bike, when it was not too cold yet. I also had a bus card. It costs approximately €36,- for a 30-day ticket with which you can travel unlimited in the area.

6. Free time

What are must-sees in the area? (E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?)

- Lapland, Finland
- Koli National Park, Finland
- Lofoten, Norway
- St.Petersbrug, Russia
- Tallinn, Estonia
- Stockholm, Sweden

We travelled by bus and boat

Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time (E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?)

• Café: Kahvila Kaneli, Kuopio

• Restaurants: Ozaki sushi and Restaurant Taikuri, both in Kuopio

7. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes ⊠	no □	
Name/e-mail	Laura.bosman@wur.nl		