



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	International Development
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	30-08-2022 until 23-12-2022
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Finland
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Helsinki
<b>University (exchange)</b>	University of Helsinki
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	Faculty of Social Sciences

## 2. Motivation for exchange

### Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I think the Erasmus exchange is a really nice way to explore how college life is like in another country and I was really eager to experience this.

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

I chose the university of Helsinki, because I wanted to go to a country I have not been before, because Finnish people can speak English very well and mostly because of the nature surrounding Helsinki.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I went by plane, but if you don't want that because other ways are more sustainable and you have more time to spend during your journey it is very nice to go by train and stop in certain cities. If you go from Wageningen to Helsinki you could for example stop for a day in Berlin, Vilnius, Riga and Tallinn.

## 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	<i>Introduction Migration, Ethnicity and (Anti-)Racism</i>	5	This course was about how racism is linked to migration.	5	
2	<i>Migrations and Mobilities in a Global Era</i>	5	For this course we talked about international migration and also about migration specifically in Finland.	4	
3	<i>Gender, sexuality and society</i>	5	For this course you had to read a lot of articles about gender and sexuality and debate about them during the lectures.	3	
4	<i>Propaganda and Persuasion</i>	5	This was course about what propaganda is and how it can be dangerous.	5	
5	<i>Politics, Ideology and Society</i>	5	This course was about the imperialism done in the past and present by mostly Western countries.	4	
6	<i>History of Philosophy I</i>	5	In this course famous philosophers', like Plato, core theories were discussed	4	

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

I think the workload was more spread out than in Wageningen. These were all masters courses, so I didn't think the academic level was very high. A lot of courses didn't have an exam, but to finish the course you had to write an essay or give a presentation.

**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?)**

During the introduction week you get to know some local students and the lecturers are very approachable.

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

They have very nice sport facilities and they have unicafes where you can eat lunch for 3 euro every Monday till Friday.

## 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?)**

There are two student housing organisations that can offer you a room. I wasn't offered one, so I found a studio on facebook.

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

People are more distant, but overall I think they are very friendly. The local cuisine is a lot of fish and meat, like salmon soup and reindeer.

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

The price is definitely higher. For a student housing apartment it would probably be around 600. I unfortunately had to pay 900 euro per month.

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

As a student you get a discount for public transport. Getting to university is very easy and busses will continue to drive even when there is a lot of snow.

## 6. Free time

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

My favourite place was the island Suomenlinna which is reachable by boat and it only takes 15 minutes to get there.

**What does not appear in the travel guide, but is worth a visit?**

Go to the Helsinki city museum which is free.

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

Kaiku and Maxine are very nice clubs to go to.

## 7.Challenges & best moment abroad

**What was a challenge you have experienced?**

It was difficult finding an apartment for a normal price.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

Traveling with the friends I made there to Saariselka (Lapland) with ESN.

## 8. Contact details (optional)

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
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