



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Soil Water Atmosphere
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	26/01/2022 until 18/05/2022
Country (exchange)	Norway
City (exchange)	Ås
University (exchange)	Norwegian University of Life Sciences
Faculty (exchange)	Environmental Sciences and Natural Resource Management (MINA)

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

Because I really wanted to take a break from Wageningen University by exploring other ways of teaching and courses that I could not follow at the WUR

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

I always wanted to go studying in a Nordic country, I was also very attracted to Norway because of the landscapes and the quality of life

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Not really, everything is well explained by NMBU.

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	ECN101 Economics for Environment and Development	10	An introductory class to economics with two or three lectures linking it with the environment.	3	Content was very nice, studying with the book is more useful than going to the lectures
2	ECOL200 General Ecology	10	All basic concepts of ecology explained in videos by the lecturer, group work about the concepts with different weekly assignments	4	Flipped classroom concept (watching the videos about the theory alone, using the lecture hours for assignments in group) worked very well for me, I really liked it
3	NATF320 Ecology and Management of Natural Resources in the Tropics	10	Concepts of Ecology applied to the Tropics	2	Everything was given online even if it was possible to do it on-campus, no links between the different lectures, no organization
4					
5					
6					

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

The academic level is lower, and the workload is way less than at the WUR. Examination is more or less happening in the same way and the lesson material is also provided by books and Power Point slides.

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?)

The lecturers are as approachable as at the WUR, they are pretty reactive to emails. Engagement with local students is more difficult, the Norwegian people are a lot with each other and are pretty lonely (like to eat in their room and not in common areas for example)

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

Free membership to Samfunnet (main student association), ESN also organizes a lot of free events. All student flats are provided with laundry facilities. The university also provides an exemption from the subscription to the Eika sportscenter (gym)

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?)

Possibilities for housing are numerous and it is way easier than at the WUR because a lot of rooms are available.

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

The Norwegian people are used to eat in their rooms, except that, their culture is not that different

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

In Wageningen I paid around 400€ per month for 18m², here I paid 420€ per month for around 15m², so it is more expensive than living in Wageningen

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

There is no subscription for public transport, the country is divided into zones and the prices of the tickets depend on your trip (from one zone to another). It is pretty expensive, the train ticket prices are comparable to what it is in the Netherlands. For travelling to the university, the accommodations are really close to it, you walk or go by bike until there.

6. Free time

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

Drøbak (15 min with the bus), Oslo (30 min by train), Årungen (15 min walk), and Ski (shopping center, 15 min by bus). Sweden is also not too far away, around 45 min by car.

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

Nothing that I know

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

Oslo is really worth a visit, Oslo street food has a lot of different types of food and is delicious. For the nightclubs, Lawo, Nox, and Brød and Cirkus are good addresses.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Understanding the Norwegian language when going to the supermarket

What was your best memory abroad?

All my trips inside and outside Norway with the friends I met there. I really liked all the dinners and parties organized with my friends and the fact that everyone was living close to each other facilitated the social life. There was not a single day without seeing at least one of my friends.

8. Contact details (optional)

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