



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	International Developmentstudies
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	15/08/2021 until 24/12/2021
Country (exchange)	Norway
City (exchange)	Oslo
University (exchange)	OsloMet
Faculty (exchange)	Oslo Business school/ Journalism & media

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to live in a Nordic country for a while

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

The course sounded really interesting.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I went with flexbus as trains did not go due to do COVID. It is a long journey but a great opportunity to also see different cities if you split the journey in two.

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	Follow the Money	15	Through guest lectures and case studies I got to learn how financial journalism works.	5	Many different interesting approaches.
2	EU Law and Politics	10	Clear overview of the EU and EEA institutions.	5	It was very clear how the eu opporate, the different relations and it was interesting to follow this course in a country out side of the EU but part of the EEA. An aspect often forgotten in similar course within the EU
3	Norwegian begynnen level	7,5	Norwegian language course	3	Following the course while living there really helps, however the course started quite late in the semester
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How is the study formalized? (E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material)

It depended a bit per course, Follow the money was mainly guided towards case studies and guest lecture. Which meant the generally alternated weeks with classes and self-studie. EU law and politics and Norwegian were more classical, much similar to wur stijl of teaching. Small classes, and work groups. Exams were often take home exams. And for follow the money it was a 3 day exam/deadline.

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?)

It is a new quite small university. Which allows for grate contact with the lectures and as Norwegian are, there is little hiarchy. Between Erasmus students the connection was also very good. There was a bit of devide between Erasmus and Norwegian students but this was limited and in class everyone was welcoming.

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

SIO is the general student association for housing, they have a lot of living campus across Oslo. It is a bit the Idealis of Oslo but their responsibility goes further, as they also have lots of gyms (incl. pool and Saunas) across the city. At university site there are café bars and canteens however I found their opening hours restrictive (closed at 15:00).

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?)

Normally you can access housing through SIO, Due to covid it was more difficult in my year. I ended up renting a private room which I found through facebook.

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

Norwegians are very polite and do not want to be of disturbance. This means that some people found them distanced but I really enjoyed how friendly and caring they are. There is lots of nature in Norway and around Oslo which is very freeing.

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

For my room, which was small and just had one bed I paid 600€ a month.

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

50€ a month which gave access to all of Oslo public transport. I walked to university since it was quite close, in the summer cycling is a great opportunity and otherwise there are also rental scooters which are popular. Though public transport is still very good.

6. Free time

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

I really enjoyed Ekeberg park, It is also a sculpture park (just as Vigelandspark) but the views from there are amazing. Bygdøy is great in the summer for its beaches and so are all the small islands accessible with your public transport card

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

In the first week I really would recommend walking down the Akerselva river. It gives a great feeling of some of the different neighbourhoods Oslo has to offer.

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

Ulva and Grunolokka were my favourite neighbourhoods to walk or do some secondhand shopping (grunolokka).

Becoming member of the Norwegian tracking association, this will give you access to many different cabins in Norway for hiking or skiing trips.

Study in the national library on the top floor, and enjoy your coffee break with some of the most beautiful views over the OsloFjord

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Finding a room was a challenge as it was difficult to orient myself with in the city. For SIO Buildings I would either recommend Kringsja, or some of the city center campuses.

What was your best memory abroad?

Meeting all the different people, and some of trips I made. An hiking trip in Oda (by car) and a site seeing and northern light spotting trip to Tromsø (plane).

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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