



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student information

Thibaud Vermeiden

Study programme WU	BBC
Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)	08-01-2024 until 14-06-2024
Exchange destination: University	UiT Arctic University of Tromsø
Faculty	School of Business and Economics
Country	Norway
City	Tromsø

2. Motivation for exchange

a. Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

To experience different cultures and see the beauty of other countries.

b. What is the reason you chose for this country?

I chose the country of Norway because of its nature.

c. What is the reason you chose for this university?

I chose the university of Tromsø because of its unique location. It's very high up north and consequently nature creates almost alienating surroundings.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

a. Do you have any advice about reaching your exchange destination?

It is possible to go there by public transport. I do not recommend at all. All the people that did told me it was too much of a hassle. Flying is the best way; taking a car is the second best. But then you need spikes on your tires. So flying is by far the best option.

4. University and studying

a. 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	Dissertation in Business Administration	10	Second Thesis (A)	3	Thesis for two persons
2	Corporate Finance	10	Finance course (B)	2	
3	Competitive Intelligence	10	Analysing Course (C)	5	

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A.

In this course, a dissertation will be written on business related a chosen topic, guided by a supervisor. The course involves applying theoretical concepts to a research project, enhancing analytical and research skills. It offers a multidisciplinary exploration of business administration literature and research.

For future students, it is a very fun course, I would normally rate it a 5. But because you need to write it in pairs it is a struggle. You are paired up with other exchange students who do not at all have the same level as Dutch students. So when taken that into account it is 3.

B.

At WUR, this course focuses on external financial markets, stock and corporate valuation, and financial management. At UiT, it emphasizes internal financial management, integrating economic management tools for overall organizational sustainability. The course covers capital structure, debt optimization, and the integration of Accounting with Finance Management.

C.

This course covers the principles and application of competitive intelligence (CI) in business. It includes techniques for gathering, analyzing, and interpreting information on competitors and market trends, with a focus on sustainability. The course aims to deepen understanding of the external business environment and CI methods.

b. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses that were taught in English (Yes, No - Explain): There were three courses in total that I could choose as business student, one of which was a second thesis.

c. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses in my field of interest (Yes, No - Explain): There were three courses in total that I could choose as business student, on of which was a second thesis.

d. I am satisfied with the level of the courses that I followed (Yes, No - Explain):

e. I am satisfied, in the end, with the selection of courses I followed (Yes, No - Explain):

f. What is it like to study there?

E.g. Study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material?

Workload is a bit lower than at WUR, but because I had a second thesis it was semi-comparable.

The lesson material is exactly the same they just use canva instead of Brightspace. And at my faculty no lectures were recorded

g. What is the culture of the university?

Almost exactly like the WUR, lots of quizzes and student interaction with teachers.

h. What does the university offer students additionally?

Everything, free waffles on Friday. There is a sports school on campus, (you ofc need a subscription).

There are student associations for everything with regard to sport.

5. Housing-traveling-living

a. What are the possibilities for housing?

A lot of possibilities you just go to Samskipnaden, the housing partner of the state. Rent is comparable to Dutch standards.

b. What is the culture like?

There are flats, houses. But every accommodation has 5 or more people living in the housing. All cultures combined, male/female is normally equally divided at the house. You get checks if things are clean because you are renting from a state owned company. Which actually is quite nice, cause they also fix everything if something is broken.

c. Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?

Public transport is very cheap, buses go everywhere. Taxis are expensive though.

6. Expenses

a. Can you give an indication of your expenses for/during your exchange?

Category	Expenses
Travelling there	High(but I went by car)
Visa - if applicable	
Vaccinations - if applicable	
Insurances (extra) - if applicable	
Daytrips/sight-seeing	Cheap
Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation	Normal
Grocery costs per month	Normal
Public transport costs per month	Cheap
Restaurant/going out for dinner costs per month	High

b. The price levels were in general [higher; lower; equal] in comparison to in the Netherlands: Equal

c. Additional remarks regarding expenses?

The pricing is equal until you buy fresh produce and alcohol. A cucumber cost more than 3 euro's there.

7. Free time

a. What are must-sees in the area?

Very hard to say for me, I went there to go ski a lot. But very intense skiing like Nikolai Schirmer. So I almost never went to the must-sees because I was always busy skiing. I was not an average exchange student but I guess the two standard things are:

Sherpa Trappe
Tromsdalstinden

b. What does not appear in a travel guide, but is definitely worth seeing/doing?

Not applicable for the normal student – but the Malangen Couloirs was the most fun thing to ski!

https://www.instagram.com/p/C48yV_sCIuM/

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

a. Any challenges?

Learning about snow, avalanches, dangers at -25C. But I befriended a few locals which taught me a lot

b. Best memory?

Skiing in the dark on storesteiinstinden

<https://www.instagram.com/p/C2kxLrpiRIh/>

The malangen couloirs 😊

https://www.instagram.com/p/C48yV_sCIuM/

The dark side of the blue men

<https://www.instagram.com/p/C3qBtSZCqFK/>

9. Contact details

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