



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Environmental sciences (Landscape architecture)
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	15-08-2022 until 26-12-2022
Country (exchange)	Sweden
City (exchange)	Linköping
University (exchange)	Linköping University
Faculty (exchange)	Faculty arts and sciences

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

Mostly I went on exchange, because I wanted to study in another country and travel more, when I was there.

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

I wanted to go to Scandinavian and I searched for some universities with courses I liked. Then I chose the website which was the easiest to find the courses, the most exchange friendly, this way, I hoped they were also very open to exchange students and very good in arranging information for the exchange students, which definitely was the case.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

The fastest way to travel is by plane, however, this is quite expensive if you are flying to Linköping directly, so if you are going by plane, I advise to fly to Stockholm and then take the bus to Linköping, this is really easy and cheaper. By bus or train, from the Netherlands is doable, however, it does take quite a long time and is not cheaper than the plane.

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	Religion and Politics	7.5	Religion in the American presidency	2	It was interesting, however, the teacher did not teach anything, mostly the students searched and wrote something about the presidents and then presented it to the class, we teach ourselves, which I also could have done, without following the course
2	Ethical Theory and Moral Practice justice	7.5	Introduction about ethical theories and the basic philosophers	3	Interesting course, low workload
3	Social and Political theory	7.5	Ethical theories about politics, which theories are sufficient to work with in real politics.	3	Very chaotic course, guest lecturer, which were not aware of what they had to teach, or how they had to teach.
4	Globalisation and Global	7.5	Some more ethics, it is still not very clear what this exactly was.	3	Overall chaotic course. The teacher did not know very well how she had to teach us the course. The book was very interesting

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

Mostly, you had to read a lot of literature, for the next seminar or lecture. Every course had only an end essay, which you got a grade for. You had to attend the seminars, if you did this, you got a pass for this part. Overall, the workload was very low and mostly a lot of self-studying, which was not even necessary, because you did not get an exam, but only an essay, on one specific subject, one chapter of a book with 30 chapters.

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 courses I followed were very chaotic and not well structured. The teachers themselves did not know very well how or what they had to teach. The information was very interesting; however, it was not very hard. The contact hours were very little, around 4 hours in a week. The workload was also not very heavy. The standards are just a bit lower than in Wageningen/the Netherlands

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

There are many free facilities you can use as student, many sport facilities (tennis court, beach volleyball, table tennis, sauna etc.) There were also many laundry facilities, in

different houses, or underneath the student complex. You had to walk for maximal 2 minutes to do your laundry.

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?)

I got a room from the university, in a student village, there were only students in the complexes. However, when I came there, not everyone had a room via the university and had to search for themselves, even though they did say they wanted a room via the university. The prices are very nice, for what you get. The room I got was very clean and big, I got my own bathroom and only a shared, huge kitchen. Every student I met, had the same living circumstances.

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

The culture is quite similar as the Netherlands; however they are even more individualistic and well-reserved. You could become lonely quickly, if you don't make friends quickly.

The student culture is strange and very funny. They like to stand in rows to get tickets for a party, and then standing in the row for the party itself. You cannot drink in the row, and the alcohol is very expensive in the club, which makes students quite drunk in the row.

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

It is definitely more expensive, the rent was a bit higher, but you also got more in return. However, the groceries, especially fruit and vegetables were more expensive, even with the alcohol. Sporting was also very expensive, if you wanted an abonnement, but there were many free options for sports.

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

I bought a bike, which is definitely nice to have in Linköping, therefore, I did not take the bus many times. But the public transport was fine and easy accessible.

6. Free time

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

I travelled a lot by bus to places which were further away. You can also go with the trips of ISA or ESN, which are definitely amazing. Or otherwise, rent a car with friends and go on a road trip. Gotland is very nice to visit, so definitely go there, and especially go to Lapland, that was amazing.

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

I never really watched in travel guides, so to be honest, I have no clue.

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

Going out is very easy, because there are a couple of student clubs, where everyone will go to, but the advertisement is sufficient to know where it is. (you do have to get tickets for most parties.) I did not went to restaurants or many paid activities, because it was quite expensive and all the trips I made, drained my bank account.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

To be honest, I did not experience many challenges. Everything went very easy and nice. You can make friends very easy through ESN/ISA activities, and together you can get through difficulties, if it is necessary.

What was your best memory abroad?

Going to Lapland and seeing the Northern Lights, definitely go there, if you have a chance!

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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