

WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Biotechnology	
Study period exchange	22-01-2022 ι	ıntil 30-06-2022
(dd/mm/yyyy)		
Country (exchange)	Denmark	
City (exchange)	Lyngby	
University (exchange)	DTU	
Faculty (exchange)	-	

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to experience how it is to live and study abroad, to meet new people and discover new cultures

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

I wanted to go to a Scandinavian country, since these I think these countries are quite fascinating and the school system is of high quality. Furthermore DTU offered interesting courses and was close to Copenhagen.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination? (E.g. bus, train, etc.) I went by car, which was nice, since I could bring a lot of stuff with me, but otherwise you can take either the train and then the bus or go by plane and then you have to take a metro and a bus.

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	Positive microbiology	5	About different applications of microbiology in food products	3	Interesting lectures, but missed the red line throughout the course a bit
2	Producing new sustainable food ingredients	5	3 cases on making new ingredients from waste products	2	For me it was a lot of repetition and didn't feel like a learned much
3	Biosensors and bioanalysis	5	Different types of biosensors and there applications	3	Had to do a lot of assignments and learned a bit less then I hoped
4	Advanced medicinal chemistry	5	About small drugs, prodrugs and radiotherapy	4	Very interesting, sometimes a bit to much chemistry for my background
5	Polymer Chemistry	5	Different polymerization techniques and there advantages and drawbacks	4	Nice course, but I sometimes struggled since I found the chemistry I bit difficult
6	Practical NMR spectroscopy: Making reactions in (bio)chemistry visible	5	About the different applications (mainly biochemistry related) of NMR	5	Very nice and kind teachers that are really passionate about the subject

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

I followed 5 courses for 13 weeks and every course was given at one block of 4 hours in the week. The 4 hour lectures for some courses was something I had to get used to, but overall I feel like the workload was a bit less then in Wageningen. For example I was free on Fridays giving me time to explore the surround more. The study form is mostly lectures, group work and sometimes exercise sessions.

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 culture on the university is very relaxed, the lectures are very approachable and kind. I would say, kind of similar to Wageningen. In the courses the local students are kind when you are doing groupwork together. However, in general I engaged more with other exchange or international students

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

There are multiple canteens on campus where you can go to for lunch and there are 5 Friday bars, where you can go for a beer on Friday. There is a running track around campus and they have a gym (but I didn't used the 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?)

The university suggest to rent a room via BDTU, which is also what I did. The rooms are quite expensive, but are very nice and have almost everything you need. The kitchen are also nicely equipped with good stoves and ovens which is nice. I had a private room, but they also offer rooms with shared kitchens.

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

In general it does not differ a lot of the Dutch culture. The people are a bit on their own, but very relaxed and if you ask them something they are always very kind and helpful.

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

The room (including electricity, water etc) was about 700 euros.

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 a good train connection from Lyngby station (15 min biking) to Copenhagen and a train connection from campus to the city. They both go very frequently and the bus also goes during the night. A one way trip costs about 3 to 4 euro with a traveling card. I would really recommend to buy a traveling card, since this gives you about 40% discount on all public transport

6. Free time

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

Copenhagen is a really nice city and you should definitely visit Nyhavn, the botanical gardens, the food market, reffen and just walk around the nice areas. A bit more north of Lyngby is Frederiksberg slot, which is very pretty.

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

The book-cafe located close to norreport station is really cute and going for a swim in the sea (even when it is still cold) is must.

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

I haven't been bored for a moment there is a lot to do and a lot going on. I especially liked going to Copenhagen for walking around the city or getting a coffee. For going out, a lot of parties are happening on campus or in the student dorms which is fun, but there are of course also a lot of options in the city. For food, I really like reffen, with the food trucks and a really nice atmosphere.

7. Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Most of the plans are quite spontaneous, making it difficult to plan calls with people at home. Also having to say no sometimes can be difficult.

What was your best memory abroad?

The Lapland trip!

8. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes □	no ⊠
Name/e-mail		