



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	BSc Animal Sciences
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	17/01/2022 until 05/06/2022
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Sweden
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Uppsala
<b>University (exchange)</b>	Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet (SLU)
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science

## 2. Motivation for exchange

### Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I chose to go on exchange mainly because of the new experiences. I wanted to experience how it is to study at a university level somewhere outside of the Netherlands. I was also looking forward to in person education and meeting new people.

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

My main reason because to choose Sweden was that I always wanted to visit/live in a Scandinavian country for a long time already before my exchange. I wanted to for sure stay in Europe and I also really liked the course choices that SLU offered.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Overall SLU is located pretty close to the airport and is accessible with bus and train from Uppsala, although the bus is the cheapest option. SLU is located approximately 5 km from the Uppsala city centre. I personally really enjoyed biking to campus from my accommodation in Uppsala when the weather was good. Other incoming students considering this destination should know the roads in Uppsala (and Sweden overall) are covered in ice even after winter. Therefore, biking is not always ideal and so there is another possibility to take the bus. You can also get accommodation on campus, but I would not recommend that as the student life in Uppsala is very nice!

## 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	Animal Nutrition – health, behaviour and welfare	15	This course consists of lectures and a few group projects. It also contains under normal conditions excursions. A home examination is used in which I had four days to answer the asked questions.	4	The course was overall very nice, and the workload was ideal. The only thing I did not really enjoy about the course was that the examiners were very strict with the examination and after the course ended it took them more than two months to finalize the adjustments made and give us a grade of the exam. Meanwhile they also were not replying to any emails but thankfully everybody in the end passed and got their grades.
2	Animal Genetics – health, behaviour and welfare	15	This course consists of lectures, two computer exercises, case-studies and an individual project. The case-study is a big group work which contains three presentations and three reports. The individual project is a report where a research proposal should be written.	4	I really enjoyed the course as it was taught in a friendly atmosphere and the course leaders were very welcoming and helpful. The only disadvantage of this course in my opinion is that a lot more background knowledge is required than is stated in the course catalogue. The course coordinator knows about it and is planning to improve this and it is not that difficult to catch up in the beginning.

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

I really enjoyed the academic level as it is pretty high but still very doable as a bachelor student attending master courses. The examinations were in my opinion nicely organised (except of the Animal Nutrition one described above). I mostly enjoyed the workload as it was enough to be busy during the day, but I was mostly free in the evenings and weekends. The classes of the two courses that I had were very nice as we were not that many students per course and the courses were interesting.

**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 of the university is very nice and the student life in Uppsala is a LOT of fun! The lecturers are overall very approachable, and I did not meet that many Swedish people as a big part of my classmates were also exchange students.

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

The nations in Uppsala offer student jobs but without a Swedish personal number it is not worth it to work for money because you either receive nothing or a tiny amount. The housing provides you with the laundry facilities. I am not personally sure to what extent does SLU provide students with what because I was not looking for it.

## **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?)**

As exchange students at SLU the university provided us with housing, and we could even state our preferences in which housing building we would like to live. The different housing complexes had different shared facilities so you could state your preference if you want to live alone or with others and if you wanted to have private bathroom or not. The different housing complexes also have different locations mainly near the Uppsala city centre or near SLU campus. The rent was high but still fine. Overall, for a furnished corridor room with private sink and toilet you pay 460 euros.

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

Sweden is a nice country with friendly people, interesting culture, and very beautiful nature. I am used to living in another country to study therefore it was not that big of a difference to move to Sweden for half a year. Uppsala is a very fun city to stay in as a student. There are a lot of places to do fika and the student nations will keep you busy. Overall, it was a fun experience, and it exceeded my expectations so I would really recommend going!

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

In my opinion as the prices of living in the Netherlands are already high, I would say it is similar.

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

As mentioned above I mainly used my bike and sometimes the bus. The bus infrastructure is nice in Uppsala and the prices for one ticket are minimum 27 Swedish crowns which is around 2,5 euros. Otherwise, it is very easy to take the train when the destination is a bit further away.

## 6. Free time

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

The city of Uppsala is very nice and of course it is very nice to go to Stockholm. My favourite trip was to the Swedish Lapland where I went with other exchange students.

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

There are a lot of cafes to do fika in and the nations are worth it.

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

The student nations are the place to go when you want to go out and keep it budget friendly.

## 7. Challenges & best moment abroad

**What was a challenge you have experienced?**

In the beginning of my exchange period, I needed to do two universities (WUR and SLU) for two weeks at the same time. This was very intense and happened because the semesters overlapped but I managed to do it.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

I do not think I have one, because it would be really hard to choose only one, but I had a lot of nice memories with my new friends. We did a lot of trips, went to a lot of parties, had dinners together and just hanged out overall. So, the thing I will remember the most from this exchange are the people and the destination.

## 8. Contact details (optional)

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