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Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

## Study Abroad Experience – Monthly Activity Log

### August

August was all about settling down in Copenhagen. After checking in the dorm and purchasing daily necessities, I started exploring different tourist attractions in Copenhagen, such as the famous Nyhavn and the Carlsberg Museum. On top of sightseeing, I also got the chance to meet other fellow exchange students by participating in the Introduction Week Social Program, which I got the chance to learn about Danish culture and explore the campus of CBS.

### September

School starts in September. Classes in Copenhagen put heavy emphasis on group discussions and interactions between students and professors, so classes were quite chill. Students were given lots of opportunities to talk with others, making classes quite different from what we were used to in Hong Kong. Apart from attending classes, as the K7 week was held in September, which gave us free access to museums, I spent a lot of time outside of class to continue exploring Copenhagen, such as visiting the Round Tower, the Rosenborg Slot and the Amalienborg Palace. As a sports enthusiast, I also watched a football match of the Danish National Team. It was a unique experience, as the football culture in Europe is quite different from Hong Kong. After the K7 week has ended, I joined the Tour of Denmark organized by the student society in CBS, where I travelled around Denmark for 3 days. It was a really nice experience because some cities are quite difficult to be reached by myself, and I had an amazing time with other exchange students while exploring different cities in Denmark, such as Aarhus and Aalborg. After finishing the Tour of Denmark, I made 2 trips before September ended. I went to London and Hamburg.

### October

After coming back from Hamburg, I spent some more time exploring Copenhagen. A highlight would be Freetown Christiania. It is a part of the city that is not controlled by the Danish Government. While it is a unique area with lots of nice gravities and art shops, it could be dangerous visiting the area at night. I went with other friends during the daytime, and I believed it was quite

safe. As I do not have any exams in October unlike most of the other students, I went on a 16-day trip during the midterm break to Prague, Vienna, Budapest and Berlin. It was a very fruitful trip. My favorite would be Prague and Budapest, as these two cities have really beautiful and unique buildings, and food is really cheap.

#### November

As I had a home assignment to be submitted in early November, I spent most of my time working on the assignment for the first few days of November. After I submitted the assignment, I went on few day trips to neighboring cities, including Helsingor and Odense in Denmark, and Malmo and Lund in Sweden. It was at that time I caught the flu. As Tamiflu is only given to vulnerable persons in Denmark, I was not given any medicine. Therefore, I was taking my own medicine brought to Denmark, and I rested in my room for a week. After recovering from the flu, I had a 10-day trip to Norway, where my dream came true, witnessing the northern lights.

#### December

December was all about studying and farewells. Coming back from Norway early December, I immediately shifted my focus into studying. CBS was generous enough to release many past papers for each course, so I could prepare for the exams effectively. After finishing the exams and saying goodbye to my friends, I started my 26-day trip to France, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland and Italy before coming back to Hong Kong in early January.

## General Study Abroad Information

### 1. Visa Procedures:

A Danish residence permit is required. As Danish residence permit could only be applied in mainland China but not in Hong Kong, I chose to apply for the permit after arriving in Denmark as the Hong Kong passport gives me 90-day visa-free entry to the Schengen area, which Denmark is part of it. When applying for the permit, several documents have to be prepared, including documentation of paid fee, copy of all pages of passport (including the cover), documentation of enrolment in an educational institution in your home country, and the documentation that you can support yourself financially while in Denmark. Visa fee is 2562 DKK.

### 2. Orientation Activities:

The student society in CBS arranged two major orientation activities. The first activity is the Introduction Week Social Program, which includes a folk dancing session, a canal tour and a campus tour. The second activity is the Tour of Denmark, where we travelled across the whole Denmark and visited different cities in a 3-day trip.

### 3. International Services & Activities:

The exchange office arranged a buddy for each exchange-in student, and the buddy will offer pick-up service from the airport, and give me the key of the dorm. Regarding cultural activities, a buddy dinner was arranged, and we could have a dinner with other buddies and exchange students.

### 4. Accommodations:

I am living in the dorm that is provided by CBS. I was living in a small single room, and I had my own toilet and kitchen. No meal plans are available, and I mainly eat in the canteen or cook myself. There is a common area in the dorm, and there are 3 washing machines and 3 dryers.

### 5. Course Registration:

Course registration was done before the exchange begins. It was done in mycbs, and the guidelines are very clear.

### 6. Courses that I have taken:

- The Philosophy and Economics of Inequality in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
  - Transfer as SA CC in HKUST
  - Home Assignment
  - ECTS credits: 7.5
  - Difficulty: Easy
- Entrepreneurial Finance
  - Transfer as FINA-4000 in HKUST
  - Sit-in assessment
  - ECTS credits: 7.5
  - Difficulty: Hard
- Introduction to Sustainable Business
  - Transfer as MGMT2130 in HKUST
  - Home Assignment
  - ECTS credits: 7.5
  - Difficulty: Easy
- Quantitative Methods
  - Transfer as ECON3334 in HKUST
  - Sit-in assessment
  - ECTS credits: 7.5
  - Difficulty: Hard

Note that CBS offers plenty of past papers for each course, and the questions are quite repetitive, so it is easy to prepare for the exams.

#### 7. Finance & Banking:

Denmark uses Danish Kroners. Credit cards in Hong Kong mostly support Danish Kroners. Cash is not widely accepted in Denmark, I used credit card for all my expenses.

#### 8. Climate:

Copenhagen has nice warm weather in August and September before it gets colder in October. Copenhagen rarely snows, but it rains a lot starting from October.

#### 9. Health & Safety

Once registered the CPR number, you will be assigned a doctor, which you could seek help when you got sick. In case of emergency, emergency

hotline is available to seek immediate help.

#### 10. Food

Food is very expensive in Copenhagen. However, things in supermarkets are very cheap, so I cook most of the time.

#### 11. Transportation

Copenhagen has a good transportation system, with 24-hour metro and bus services. However, transport is very expensive in Copenhagen. While a monthly pass could be an option, I chose to rent a bike at Swapfiets and bike to most of the places in town. Cycling lanes are well-developed in Copenhagen.

#### 12. Communication

Lyca and Lebara are the 2 major SIM card provider in Denmark. Lyca is the cheaper option, but it could get unstable when travelling outside Denmark.

#### 13. Sports & Recreation Activities:

Sports facilities are not available in CBS campus. You could consider going to the sports centre in Copenhagen. I played badminton and pool there.

#### 14. Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities:

There are lots of clubs available in CBS, students could choose which club to join during the recruitment week.

#### 15. Cautionary Measures:

Prepare jackets and shoes that are waterproof, it rains quite frequently in Copenhagen.

#### Items to Bring:

1. Passport and ID card
2. Credit Card
3. Small amount of cash in Euros
4. Medication
5. Waterproof jackets & shoes
6. Hats, gloves and scarfs

7. Adapter
8. Spare phone (in case your phone gets stolen :(
9. Small bags (e.g., waist bag), useful when travelling in relatively dangerous cities, you could hide your bag inside your jacket
10. Financial Calculator (some courses only allow the financial calculator but not the scientific calculator)

#### Useful Links & Apps:

1. Mycbs (intranet for students)  
<http://my.cbs.dk/>
2. Transport apps in Denmark:
  - DSB
  - DOT Tickets
  - Rejsekort
3. Rejseplanen
4. Temu
5. Wolt