

MICHAEL GREEN, SPRING 2006:

As a biology it may be hard to study abroad- most people are busy preparing for the medical school exams. However, if you have even the slightest inkling that you might want to study abroad... DO IT! For easier reading, I'm going to break down reading my experience in Copenhagen, Denmark into sections:

CLASSES:

This is one of the reasons I choose Copenhagen. DIS is well known for their academics and makes sure their program is up to par. The classes were not as challenging as Wofford's but there seemed to be some busy work associate with them. You had to attend them all. Yes, you could miss one or two, but when you meet only twice in a week, its ill advised to skip. There is an obvious cultural divide between Americans and Danish professor but it pretty well overcome. Now a specific breakdown:

Bioinformatics- I loved this class, however, if you are pre-med don't bother. This class will only be helpful to those planning on doing research or graduate school in the future. A bonus though- more Danes than Americans, the only class I know of that had that ratio.

Bio. of Marine Mammals- More a survey of marine mammals. We covered everything from basic physiology to preservation. If you pay attention in class you'll do just fine.

Nordic Mythology- I would relate this to Dr. McCane's New Testament class. A fair amount of reading and one 10 page term paper. I enjoyed it because I was interested in the folklore of the region. Oh yeah, the professor looks like a Viking.

Intro. to Danish- I hated this class. To be fair, I'm not a language person, so it was troublesome from the beginning. However, for an intro class, it was too intense. Everyone in Denmark speaks English so unless you really want to learn Danish, I would discourage you from taking it. Its more grammar and very little culture. Just make sure you attend the soccer games!

LIVING:

I lived with a host family- best idea ever if you want to live in the culture. Most families understand we are college students and want to go out to clubs and bars on weekends. My friends in the dorms said they missed something because not many Danes actually live in the dorms (if you really want an explanation, e-mail me). Shared apartment was ok but you are with Americans and this limits your interaction with Danes.

I hope this has helped you with thinking about studying abroad. There is much, much more to talk about and consider when going abroad. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to stop me and ask or email me at greenemc@wofford.edu. Good luck and enjoy the adventure!

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