

Istruzioni

Indicare di seguito tutte le informazioni che possano essere utili ad altri studenti che parteciperanno ad uno scambio. Preferibilmente in lingua inglese, lunghezza min. 2500 parole + possibili immagini, file di max. dimensione 2MB in formato PDF. Questo documento sarà pubblicato nel sito web della Scuola.

/ Instructions

Please indicate below any information that may be useful to other students taking part in an exchange. Preferably in English, length min. 2500 words + possible images, files of max. Dimension 2 MB in PDF format. This document will be published on the School's website.

Informazioni generiche / General informations

Anno Accademico di Scambio: <i>Academic Year of Exchange</i>	2020/2021	Nome della Sede in scambio: <i>Name of the Exchange School</i>	Arkitektur- og designhøgskole
Cognome e Nome: <i>Surname and Name</i>	Iannella Elena	Stato: <i>Country</i>	Norway
Matricola: <i>Registration</i>	941940	Codice Sede: <i>Exchange code</i>	N OSLO02
Corso di studio: <i>Study course</i>	PSSD	Tipo di scambio: <i>Type of exchange</i>	Erasmus+
Anno di corso: <i>Year of course</i>	2° LM	Semestre di scambio: <i>Exchange semester</i>	Spring semester (second)
Email: <i>Email</i>	elena.iannella@mail.polimi.it	Docente promotore: <i>Promoter</i>	Manuela Celi

Racconta la tua esperienza di scambio / Tell us about your exchange experience:

The university AHO is a small school compared to Politecnico. It is an architecture school in the first

long, where different topics are explained and then put into practice. The modules topics were Information Architecture, UI/UX/IX, AI/ML and such... For the last 5 weeks module, the teachers usually involve several companies and the students have to work on a brief by these companies, merging the skills they acquired during the course. Tasks are mostly individual, with the possibility to work in pairs just when the teachers allow it. I found this aspect a bit stressful but I'm sure this condition was heavily affected by covid restrictions, which didn't allow us to go to school and use our studios and work side by side with out colleague students and teachers. I have to say that this way of working can also be an opportunity to grow as a professional, since in Polimi the huge groups we work with are a great "gym" to learn soft skills but sometimes don't make us realise fully what are our limits and strengths.

I also attended a Sustainability course, pretty interesting but fully theoretical. I didn't have high expectations in the beginning, and I wanted to give it up, but this course actually changed a lot my perspective on my role in society as a designer and as a consumer, so I highly recommend it.

·The city

It is cold, but dry cold. One main teaching I got from the Oslo life is that "there's no bad weather, just bad equipment". Living in Oslo is a unique experience: such a strong relationship with nature being in a capital is something I never experienced before. You can see people with skis taking the metro after a working day (even when it's already dark outside), and the outfits are very outdoorsy as well. Because you always have to be prepared to snow, rain or whatever. But Oslo is not only dark and bad weather, a lot of sunny days happen and the spring season (especially May-June) is lovely. I left at the end of June but Summer weather is perfect there. Needless to say, Norway is a beautiful country and if you want to travel there are many possibilities, even low cost. I recommend going to BUA, an association where you can rent sport equipment for free (they have EVERYTHING, <https://www.bua.io>). We went there to rent tents and camping equipment to visit Lofoten: camping is a way to travel saving a lot of money since wild camping is allowed everywhere in Norway. Not being a super sporty or outdoorsy person I never expected I would have enjoyed such activities but I completely changed my mind and Norway is so breathtaking - I definitely recommend trying! And you can do it for free, a relief since the cost of life is quite high.

The people

Norwegians are quite cold, their mantra is "I don't want to bother", so, if you want to socialise with them, you have to overcome this wall and bother them. They avoid conflicts so they'll never be straightforward with you but if you are straightforward (but of course polite) with them you will not have problems (according to my experience). Regarding the other Erasmus students I've had a great experience with them and it's thanks to AHO Buddies that we got to know each other in the first place. The school organises a Buddy weekend to make students know each other and that was a great opportunity in covid times, when it's more difficult to get to know people spontaneously. Also, Norway closed the borders while we were there and since no one could receive visits we got to spend a lot of time together, especially in the last month when the lessons were over.

I hope I mentioned the main aspects and feel free to contact me if you have any doubts.