**University of Oslo** [**http://www.uio.no/english/**](http://www.uio.no/english/)

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| How does the workload in your classes compare to Strathclyde.  |
| 2 x Easier2 x Harder 1 x the same  |

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| Is there anything that you wished that you knew about the classes before you went?  |
| That their were more options than what was on the website. |
| Although the classes are offered at a bachelors level, they are essentially masters classes, so you are expected to have previous knowledge. Make sure you choose your classes wisely. |
| I knew beforehand that my classes would be in English and had looked up the syllabus and schedule so was pretty much prepared for what I was going in to. |
| No, although one of my class here is not at all what I study at home although Strathclyde chose it for me.  |

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| What type of accommodation are you staying in whilst away?  |
| student housing (by host university) |

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| What is your monthly cost for accommodation?  |
| Between £290 - £374 |

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| Do you have any advice about how looking for accommodation? Is there anything you wished you knew before you left about accommodation?  |
| A private bathroom is better than a shared bathroom. I'm lucky enough to have a private bathroom but I do pay more for it |
| That arriving on a Saturday meant that you could not choose where you wanted to live. I live in a student village, and was assigned a flat, however other people got to choose their flat, so they're often nicer than mine.  |
| Accommodation was pretty easy as the university has a sister webpage that deals with all housing related matters. |
| I had to make 6 choices for accommodation and found out quite late on in the process what accommodation I had been allocated. |
| No, I would only go with student accommodation in Oslo, as it's just what you need at a fair price. Although, a furnished room in Oslo is not at all like a furnished room in Strathclyde halls. For example, no curtains, pillows, lamps etc. You have to by all this for yourself when you arrive.  |

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| What is the town/city like where you stay? |
| Oslo is an incredible city. Endless things to do and see |
| Efficient, clean, safe, friendly, cultured |
| Oslo is truly beautiful. Small for a big city, if that makes sense. there is lots to do, lots of beaches. If you like going out to drink, it is very expensive though and you have to be 20 to get into a lot of places. |
| Amazing. I'm staying in the Grunerlokka district of Oslo and there is everything here that I could need or want. Nightlife is great (but most bars have a 23 years or over age limit), shops are convenient, not too far from university campus and transport system is great. |
| Beautiful city, lots to do, great weather, I love it here.  |

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| Where is your favourite place to go?  |
| There is a huge lake just 10 minutes walk from my student halls with lots of hiking trails leading off of it. It's great for exploring. Bearing in mind this is coming from an overweight Glaswegian who is more used to a half pizza crunch than a hike. However, believe me, it's worth it |
| I really like the area of majorstuen, because it's close to the palace with lots of nice restaurants, parks, shops and cafes. |
| Maybe a bit boring, but there is a massive lake (Sognsvann) about 5 minutes away on the t-bane (the metro system). It takes about an hour to walk around it, and I like to take photos there. Also, you know, feeding the ducks is fun. I will never grow up. |
| It depends on the time of year. There is always something lovely to see here. |
| My favourite place in Oslo is the neighbourhood of Gronerlokka and I also love Sognsvann Lake near where I live, it reminds me of home. There are a lot of great places here,I discover new ones each week.  |

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| How do you find the university facilities (for example, library, labs, campus)?  |
| Yeah they're good, pretty much same set up as most uni's I suppose |
| Campus is really nice, each faculty had its own library, which means their isn't an overcrowding issue. I don't use the library much though because I haven't sussed out how to. The main library is modern, the seating areas are all near a the window and are in rows, where everyone has their own plug, Internet port and table lamp. |
| Library is AMAZING. You feel open. The walls are basically windows, so it's very bright. Connections to the internet are generally very good. A lack of scanners though. |
| Campus is well laid out and modern. The library is great and we get 250 free prints! |
| Campus is great, libraries and facilities are great. The people are extremely helpful. There's also a really good gym and a lot of great societies.  |

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| Do you spend more or less money than you expected?  |
| More |

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| Are you surprised by the high cost of anything in particular(for example, taxis, cheese, bread, wine)?  |
| Yes. everything. nothing. is. cheap. |
| Everything in Oslo is expensive, my Erasmus fund only covered my rent really and doesn't help with my food shopping, which can me £50-£70 a week on a basic shop, I try to plan my meals and budget so I don't spend too much. Transport is relatively cheap, you spend £38 at the beginning of the month and that enables you to travel on the bus, trains, metro, trams and boats, I use public transport every day. |
| Everything. Bread is about £4 for a loaf. Beer if you go out is about £8. A take-away is .. maybe £9-15 for one person. Transport for a month (t-bane, bus, and some boats to some islands) comes to about £50. |
| Anything that is considered unhealthy is expensive. Which is really quite a good thing. Alcohol is expensive. You do get a good student discounts on transport. If you get a job here, the wages are higher than in the UK so the amount you spend and the amount you earn actually balances out. |
| Yes, everything is expensive here! It's insane! Food and alcohol especially! Since coming here I'm a vegetarian that doesn't drink.  |

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| How much money do you estimate you spend per month (any currency is ok)? |
| Â£800 |
| I budget Â£200 for food, and Â£100 for anything else (washing, going out, transport) |
| Including rent, between Â£500-Â£600. |
| money excluding rent is about Â£200. or slightly more - depending on what you choose to eat and how much you go out. |
| I'm not a particularly well of student I manage on about Â£350 - Â£400 a month but to be comfortable you really need about Â£600.  |

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| Do you have a good social life? Does the host University offer any particular activities for international students?  |
| Yeah social life is brilliant. University sets up something kind of like freshers but it is a lot more intense and you meet a hell of a lot of people. Since then there has always been people to hang about with. Also Salsa class on a Monday doesn't go a miss |
| Lots to do for people on exchange!  |
| Oslo is a bit difficult in that not many of the sports type activities are really offered in English, which makes things problematic. However, there are a number of Erasmus groups that organise really cool events. Make sure when you come to UiO, you join the facebook page and make friends before you come over (with people on your course). Everyone does it, and so friends meet friends, and everyone becomes super friends. Also, people love you if you hold flat parties. |
| The host university offers many activities for international students including trips to various places of interest in Oslo, quiz nights, coffee hours, and student party nights at Chateau Neuf. I prefer to spend my time in Grunerlokka with other student friends. |
| When I arrived there was a great buddy week where I met nearly all my close friends. I've also met a lot of people through societies and in my flat and through other friends.  |

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| Would you recommend this University to future Strathclyde students who are considering studying abroad?  |
| Yes |

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| Are you glad you decided to participate in an Erasmus Exchange? Please explain your answer. |
| YES. Best decision of my life so far. when people ask why I done it the best answer is "Why not!?" It's the only time of your life you get to travel not worrying about work, accommodation and even money! |
| Absolutely, it's taught me so much about the world and different cultures, not just Norwegians but the cultures of everyone else I've met. I've had the opportunity to travel around norway and other Scandinavian countries, I otherwise wouldn't have gone to. |
| For sure. it was my first experience truly living on my own. Being put in a country where the culture isn't terribly different, but there are sometimes language boundaries is interesting. But I'd not change it for the world. I was a horribly awkward and shy person in social situations, but I now am able to just go up and talk to anyone if needed. I love that. If you are offered the chance to go on Erasmus, do WHATEVER you can to get into the programme. Work your butt off. Well worth it. |
| Yes I am definitely glad. This experience has allowed me to live on my own for the first time and I have enjoyed the independence along with experiencing a great new culture and meeting lovely people. |
| Yes, I've loved every moment. I've seen places and done things I've never done before, I've made friends for life and lived in a totally different culture for nearly six months. I've travelled all around Norway and other Scandinavian countries. It's been the opportunity of a life time and I'm so lucky to have had this opportunity. I would highly recommend it.  |

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| Is there any additional information/advice you would like to pass on to future students who are considering study abroad at the same institution as you? |
| Do it. Any doubt's you're having are not worth having. You will meet lots of amazing people. It doesn't cost as much as you think. Everything will be the exact same when you get home. |
| Save before you go as you will spend way more than you do at home. Go on organised group activities as it shows you the country and you meet great people, go and travel even if it's expensive just go and do it because it's worth it. |
| Take the Norwegian class (language), or if you, the class that tells you about the history of Norway, and the current Norway. Super interesting. |
| Students get free entry into various museums through UiO. It takes quite a while to set up bank accounts and register with the police and tax office so do this as soon as you arrive. Bring a winter coat and boots if you're here at winter! The people here are friendly but you have to speak to them first, very few will initiate a conversation with you..unless they're drunk. |
| Make sure you thoroughly read the information about classes. Even Strathclyde didn't realise the classes they chose weren't really suited to my degree. Also, you need a lot of money for being in Norway!  |