

Norway UCEAP Advising Notes



Berkeley Study Abroad Photo Contest Entries from Norway

Objective

This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad (BSA) Adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student's decision to apply for a UCEAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA website. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website or the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA Adviser for this program.

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Summary of Programs

	Summer	Fall	Year	Spring
University of Oslo		Х	Х	Х
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Why Norway may be your kind of study abroad

University of Oslo

Oslo is a welcoming and bike-friendly city just minutes from nature. Compared to Berkeley, days become much shorter (and colder) in the winter and much longer in the summer. Previous program participants encourage either arriving early before the start of fall semester or staying later after spring semester to take advantage of the beautiful summer season. In addition to city activities like restaurants and cafes, hiking and camping are common activities near Oslo.

Housing

Students live in dorms and they are relatively inexpensive compared to Berkeley housing. Expect to utilize communal kitchens. There are several options of buildings that will vary in geographic location (for instance, Grunnerlokka is in the city center whereas Kringsja is near the lake and forest) and there is a wide variance of the age of buildings. Buildings may not be within walking distance to campus, and most students will bicycle to and from classes.

Academics

A wide variety of coursework is available in English at the University of Oslo. Classes may meet less often than at UC Berkeley, but for a longer duration. In many cases, final exams determine the course grade.

Students with Disabilities

Refer to <u>University of Oslo's disability page</u> for services available. Some services are administered by agencies outside the University of Oslo and might require proof of permanent resident status in Norway. University of Oslo's <u>building maps</u> include accessibility information.

All students are welcome to take advantage of mental health resources at University of Oslo.

Review how to request disability related accommodations on the <u>I am a Student with a Disability</u> page.

Student Life

Program alumni encourage putting oneself out there in order to make Norwegian friends and taking advantage of the Erasmus activities for planned trips. Oslo offers convenient public transportation, and short distances make it easy to get around by walking or biking.

All new international students are automatically signed up for a <u>buddy group</u>. Most events and activities during the semester start will be organized by the buddy leader at your faculty. With your buddy group you will make friends, get the opportunity to take part in several enjoyable events, and get to know your faculty and the campus.

Working Abroad

Students with a residence permit are allowed to work up to 20 hours per week in Norway.

Oslo Summer

Enjoy the long days of Norwegian summer while taking courses at the University of Oslo's International Summer school. Note that you will be in classes and living with students from countries outside of Norway, so this is a great program to make friends from all over the world.

The housing option is a modern hostel that is reserved for only students for the duration of the program. This housing option is off campus, approximately 25-30 minutes from campus by public transportation.

LGBTQIA+ Identifying Students

Threat to safety towards the LGBTIQ community is minimal. Societal tolerance ranges from tolerant to accepting. Review <u>tips and resources for LGTBQIA+ Identifying Students</u>.