



In the summer of 2015 I was taking part in the international summer university program (ISUP) of the Copenhagen Business School (CBS). The program was held between June 26th and August 6th. The CBS is located in the city of Frederiksberg, which is bordered with Copenhagen in its west (10 minutes by bikes from one center city to another).

Around 70% of the ISUP students are undergraduate and the rest are graduate ones. The program admissions requirements consist of a GPA and an interview being held in Recanati. In addition, the CBS might ask for a Tofel grade (however, last year it was not part of the requirements).

The Student Aspect:

Each student is required to take 2 courses, each one of 2 credits. Since the semester is quite short, the courses are given in a bi-weekly format, with each lesson of 2.5 hours. During the semester there is a (usually optional) preliminary assignment and a (compulsory) mid-term assignment. When the semester ends, a three days exam period is then taking place. In some courses, the final is a writing home assignment instead of a formal exam. According to the Danish policy, all of the assignments are in individuals. The grades scale is different than the one used in Israel. The passing grade of the Danish method is lower than the one required in order for the credits to be accepted by Recanati.

I applied for the Consumer Behaviour and Social Entrepreneurship courses. Both ones were interesting. The first one was taught by an Australian professor, Dr. Max Winchester. He taught in a very interesting way and presented the issues from points of view I did not know before. Nevertheless, the final assignment instructions were vague and the evaluation was too strict. The second course was taught by a Brazilian professor, prof. Rodrigo Zeidan. He is a very talented lecturer, always using humor in his teaching methods. The main goal of this course is encouraging students' initiatives that can help improve the world. In this course as well the final writing

assignments instructions were vague, however the evaluation was fair. Since both of the courses are graduate ones, most students are local (80%), but they were still, of course, given in English.

My recommendation is to carefully read the syllabus of each course you are interested in, before officially applying. When the courses registration starts, try to apply as soon as you can, since spots run out fast. However, it is recommended to contact the secretary in case your preferably course is fully booked, as he might help you with opening an extra spot.

The Social Aspect:

One of the ISUP advantages is that it includes an organized social activity program, under the auspices of the social guides, those are some local volunteering students. ISUP suggests a social package of 13 different activities (such as a Danish folklore dancing evening, a bowling competition, sightseeing tour, etc.). This package is not expensive and highly recommended. All of the activities are carefully organized and the social guides help whenever a problem occurred. In addition, a Denmark weekend tour is offered for price, this as well is highly recommend since it gives the opportunity to see other sides of the country. Places in this trip are limited, so it is very important to apply ASAP when the registration is available. Note that the hotels are not high quality, however I think that it's still worth it. Lastly, each summer a Berlin weekend trip is also organized. I did not take part in it, since I have already been to Berlin before, however I heard some good impressions about that from others who did take part.

Accommodations:

CBS offers dormitory services for charge. There are seven dormitories, located in Frederiksberg and in Copenhagen, some are closer to CBS and some are less. Most of the dormitories are with individual rooms, however with shared bathrooms. The size of rooms vary, and the price is calculated according to that factor. While registering online to dormitories you are allowed to rank your preferences for location and room size. At the end of the registration process you will be assigned to a room. The

payment is being done two weeks after the registration day, so you can cancel your applying in case your assignment did not meet your preferences.

For those looking for quiet, want to avoid the students' noisy parties and asking for a higher quality accommodation, renting an apartment is an option. I have rented a place through Airbnb. Although the price of that option is more expensive than dormitories (in approx. 1,500 NIS), the conditions are much higher. In addition, if you want to decrease expenses, you can rent a place with roommates. I also recommend to follow the Facebook CBS students pages, where you can find many renting offers of local students who are leaving Copenhagen for the summer. The Campus is located nearby metro and bus stations, so if you rent a place near to a station place it might ease your daily access.

The City:

In order to enter the country the Danish authorities do not require a tourist visa, unless you arrive for more than 3 months. The center city, where most of the attractions are, is easy to navigate. At the day of the arrival, the social guides were following the students from the airport to their dormitories.

The city is beautiful, most residents are fluently English speakers, what makes everything so much easier for tourists. The summer days are long, the weather is comfortable (with around 20 Celsius degrees), only often does the rain begin to fall. The most recommended attractions of Copenhagen are Tivoli gardens, Amalienborg palace (at Wednesdays 12pm, a guard mounting is taking place), Christiania neighborhood and Carlsberg museum (which is located in Frederiksberg). Art fans will find a variety of museums throughout the city.

The metro is new but it contains only two lines, so does not reach to some of the main places (it does reach to the airport, though). On the other hand, the very comfort bus lines will take you to wherever you need. A single metro ticket is very expensive, so it is better to buy a periodic ticket (which is achievable in some of the 7/11 stores – bring a passport photo with you). This ticket is good for buses as well.

As you will find out the minute you will step in Copenhagen streets, bikes are the most common mean of transport. While arriving to the city, it is recommended to buy bikes, which you can sell when you leave.

Many ISUP Students are taking the opportunity to travel outside of Denmark during the summer, since flights prices are not that high. For example, I have paid 120 \$ for a flight ticket to and from Stockholm (which is an amazing city too).

Keep in mind that Copenhagen is very expensive, and it is mainly felt in restaurants. For those who want to save some money, buying food in supermarkets and cooking at home is a good solution.

To Sum Up...

The ISUP experience is highly recommended for those who want to meet new people from different cultures and strengthen their both English and networking skills. Copenhagen as a destination is an excellent choice, and the CBS teaching staff so as the social one are very friendly.

For those who look for an international experience and cannot leave Israel for that long, this program is the perfect opportunity.

For any further information, you can contact me in – nirg85@gmail.com