

Gender, journalism and social media

Oslo Metropolitan University

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I was really glad, and also a bit surprised, when I heard about the expressmobilitet. I am currently studying my first year of journalism and media MA studies in Finland and for some reason or another, heard about the expressmobilitet for the first time in the last Autumn. However, when I came across with the courses OsloMet (known as Høgskolen i Oslo og Akerhus before) and found the course "Gender, journalism and social media", I started immediately to find out how it could be possible to take part to the course.

First about the pre-arrangements. I contacted directly to the OsloMet's addressed contact person who answered for me very quickly. It was the same with the coordinator who I was contacted with the Nordplus organisation. It was also easy to arrive in Oslo and also to the university. There are good flight connections from Helsinki to Oslo and also the university is very good and centrally located in the city. When I arrived in the first morning to the university, all I needed to do was to collect my student card from the helpdesk, everything else I was able to do before arriving in Finland.

In my opinion, our class was very good size. It was compact, not a mass course which was my pre-thought. I was also delighted because our group had students from different countries and of course students from Norway. What was interesting and a good addition, was that students in our group had different fields of studies. It was for sure one reason, why the discussions within lectures were vibrant and looked topics from different point of views. What I want address about the course itself very clearly was the diversity of approaches and topics during those two weeks we had contact teaching in Oslo. For the second week, we were all addressed to study some part of the course curriculum and give a short presentation about it for others. Although for me it was a bit hard to get the book I was addressed to study, I found the presentation a good way to share the nuclear points of the curriculum articles to others. And beside of that, to improve own skills in terms of having presentation in foreign language.

Altogether I found the course a good addition to my studies; I had studied social and gender studies as a minor before the course in Oslo, too. To get some insights and views about in example happenings which are happening also in Finland gave broader understanding. In addition, I need to also mention the engagement of the professor and also visiting lecturers. We are about to write a

term paper for the main course work and through the course we have been provided as much help and advice regarding the term paper as we need.

Some words about Oslo itself then. It was for me the first time in Oslo and I think, it is not going to be the last time. Oslo is very sympathetic city — it is compact enough to walk around or catch a tram if you want. Weather was really nice in those two weeks I spent there, sunny and relatively warm, despite the foggy day I quickly visited Holmenkollen. Prices could be high but at least for me walking around and seeing the city was nice way to spend free time.

Thank you for this opportunity!

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