

## **My Nordplus exchange to Greenland**

**From -30 degrees to jumping in the water from an iceberg, to living in small cabins without electricity or water to feeling the intimacy when only being 6 students in one class. Greenland has given me much more than I came for. Here is why.**

Throughout my time as a student, I have acquired a great curiosity for project management among different cultures. In the globalized world we live in today, I feel that it is important to be able to work together and understand each other despite different cultures. In my exchange semester, I therefore choose to challenge myself and go to Greenland. Even though Greenland on paper is a part of Denmark, I knew that it was something completely different from the Denmark I knew. I sought to be able to understand, communicate, identify, discover, and work with people that are different to me personally and culturally, so that I could expand my knowledge. By taking courses that were completely out of my field my horizons were expanded from day one at the university. Learning about maritime security in the Arctic and learning about Inuit culture taught me things I would have never known.

On a personal level, there was no doubt that my inner social being would be challenged by the 'small island community' there is in Greenland, but I really wanted to get out of my comfort zone and place myself in a completely different social and cultural context, so that I could learn to navigate across cultures on my own – and boy, this is what I got. Besides learning a lot from the culture, I also found that being a part of the small community in Nuuk completely opened my eyes for how important it is to have the right people around me with the same intentions and good vibes. Going to a place so far north means that you meet people with more or less have the same intentions, intensity, dreams, and vibes. I was so lucky to find a really good group that made me feel home, loved and adventures.

During my time in Greenland, I felt weather that was down to -30 degrees, jumped in the water from a huge iceberg, lived in small cabins without electricity or water, went kayaking among the world famous INESCO icebergs, got frostbites, saw huskies, went on a 7-day hiking trip through glaciers, waterfalls, snow, mountains without seeing nobody else but us, went off pist skiing, drove of snowmobiles and much much more. My inner nature person still screams and cheers for the things I have witnessed in Greenland. I enjoyed seeing the locals going on excursions in their natural habitat in the wild nature a lot. Like for instance seeing Inuit people seal hunting and rype hunting. The joy, history and meaningfulness in these activities were amazing to watch.

Thank you to Nordplus for making my exchange possible. I will without a doubt return to my beloved Greenland.

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