

# SILJE'S EXPERIENCE

**“What I like most is the social atmosphere and just how easy it is to make friends!”**

## HOME INSTITUTION

Norwegian University of Science and Technology

## STUDY PERIOD AT UEA

Autumn Semester 2017



## What are your classes like at UEA?

My modules are: Introduction to the European Union; International Relations after 1945; and Popular Culture. It is more demanding here than in Norway but I think that's a very good thing. I've noticed I'm a much better student here. It's the learning environment – I'm expected to show up here, contribute in seminars and discussions. Back home it is much more independent, individual work, but here I am forced to be more present and alert.

## Do you do other activities/ extracurricular clubs?

I joined the judo and jujitsu team. I prefer jujitsu so I actually went to the local club in Norwich for additional classes. I've joined the Scandinavian society and the Latin American Society where I've been on several socials, going salsa dancing, watching movies... I get to speak a lot of Spanish, it's great. I love the international environment here.

## Are you living in university housing or private accommodation?

I live in Homestay. It's amazing! I am so glad I chose it. I'm with a family and my time here has been really good with them. Especially in the beginning when I didn't know anyone and I didn't have the social circle yet. So having the family, someone to go, someone to come home to, and someone to eat supper with was great. I lived about 15 minutes away by bike. I cycle, walk or sometimes take the bus.

## Have you found it easy to integrate and make friends?

I've found it really easy, I was surprised how easy it was. I was of course nervous before I left, but people are very open and social. In terms of locals, I've made a good mix of English and international friends. I've met so many different nationalities!

**You have everything you need here. The atmosphere, all the cafes, everything is just very convenient and close.**

## Do you have any advice for other students considering studying abroad?

Join a society or sports club, or both! I don't know if homestay is for everyone, some students probably prefer living with other students but I would definitely recommend it. Take breaks and enjoy Norwich too, sometimes I notice I've been to uni every day for a week and then remember I live in a city and I should go check it out.

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