

University of Copenhagen

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The University

With over 37,000 students and more than 7,000 employees, the University of Copenhagen is the largest institution of research and education in Denmark. The purpose of the University – to quote the University Statute – is to 'conduct research and provide further education to the highest academic level'.

Approximately one hundred different institutes, departments, laboratories, centres, museums, etc., form the nucleus of the University, where professors, lecturers and other academic staff, as well as most of the technical and administrative personnel, carry out their daily work, and where teaching takes place.

These activities take place in various environments ranging from the plant world of the Botanical Gardens, through high-technology laboratories and auditoriums, to the historic buildings and lecture rooms of Frue Plads and other locations.

Education at the University of Copenhagen

The University of Copenhagen is the largest educational institution in Denmark. Together, the six faculties offer over 200 programmes for study in health and medical sciences, humanities, law, science, social sciences, and theology.

The University aims to prepare students for a broad range of jobs in the private and public sectors. For this reason, education at the University covers specific skills and scientific methods as well as other more theoretical skills that will enable graduates to improve their qualifications. Teaching and research are closely integrated in order to achieve this, first and foremost by according them equal importance in the daily work of the academic and scientific staff and whenever possible basing the teaching on research.

The University of Copenhagen offers several degrees of education in a variety of subjects. The degree structure is divided into three levels. Three years of undergraduate studies lead to a bachelor's degree, and an additional two years lead to a master's degree. Only the structures of the theological, medical and dentistry degrees differ from this model. All masters degrees obtained from the University of Copenhagen can be extended with three more years of postgraduate work leading to a PhD degree.

The University of Copenhagen offers a significant number of courses in English each semester. This allows exchange students to put together a comprehensive study programme, which will meet the demands of their home institutions.

The International Office

At the International Office, all international exchange activities of the University of Copenhagen come together. It is their task to coordinate international relations and to develop and implement projects and programs with foreign partners. In addition, they provide advice and consultation for foreign students and prospective students, advices for students who wish to study abroad and implement the ERASMUS program. The International Office at the The University of Copenhagen is analogous to UCC's own International Office. If you have any concerns or troubles during your time abroad, please do not hesitate to contact the university's International Office.

The International Office

inter@adm.ku.dk

Tel.: +45 35 32 26 26

The International Office
University of Copenhagen
Fiolstræde 1
DK-1171 Copenhagen

Location



Copenhagen, the premier capital of Northern Europe, is Scandinavia's most fantastic city and the centre of the most dynamic region in Europe, the Øresund Region. The city is one of Europe's oldest capitals with a royal touch - the monarchy in Denmark is the oldest in the world!

The safe atmosphere, the well-developed infrastructure, the low level of pollution and the many cultural events all contribute to making Copenhagen one of the most liveable cities in the world.

The waterfront and the many parks offer opportunities to relax away from the noise of city life. On weekends and during semester breaks, it is easy to get away to explore the beautiful castles and countryside around the island of Zealand or cross Øresund to discover our neighbouring country, Sweden.

First documented in the 11th century, Copenhagen became the capital of Denmark in the beginning of the 15th century. During the 17th century, under the reign of Christian IV, it became a significant regional centre.

Copenhagen is a major regional centre of culture, business, media, and science. Life science, information technology and shipping are important sectors, and research & development plays a major role in the city's economy. Its strategic location and excellent infrastructure, with the largest airport in Scandinavia, Kastrup, located 14 minutes by train from the city centre, have made it a regional hub and a popular location for regional headquarters and conventions.

Copenhagen has repeatedly been recognized as one of the cities with the best quality of life. It is also considered one of the world's most environmentally friendly cities. The water in the inner harbour is clean and safe for swimming. 36% of all citizens commute to work by bicycle. Every day, they cycle a combined 1.2 million km.

Travel

By Plane

If you arrive by plane, you arrive in Copenhagen International Airport Kastrup, which is located 8 kilometres south of the city centre on the island of Amager. You can get from the airport to the city by train, metro, bus or taxi. It is easy to get from the airport to the city centre by train or metro. The ride from the airport to the city centre takes about 15 minutes. Before getting on the train or metro, you need to purchase a ticket at the ticket stand (DSB) located in the airport terminal. The ticket costs around DKK 30. When you arrive in the city centre you may decide to continue on the train or metro or get a bus or taxi depending on where you are going to stay.

If you are going to live in the southern part of Copenhagen, it may be more convenient to get a bus from the airport, as you do not need to get all the way to the city centre. Bus number 250S runs from the airport. A ticket costs around DKK 30 (for 3 zones) and can be purchased on the bus. Note that busses do not accept credit cards; you need cash.

A taxi fare from the airport to the city centre costs around DKK 250. Note that in taxis in Denmark, the metre will start at a certain fixed rate and run as you drive. It is not possible to negotiate with the driver regarding the price of the fare. Be aware that tipping is only customary in Denmark when service has been particularly good. Taxi fares include service charges and therefore you are not expected to tip.

By Train

Copenhagen has three large train stations and a number of smaller stations. Copenhagen Central Station (Hovedbanegården) is located in the western part of the city centre. Nørreport is located in the northern part of the city centre, while Østerport is located east of the city centre. From either of the stations it is easy to get to your destination by metro, s-train, bus or taxi. Tickets for the metro and S-trains are purchased on the platform or in the train terminal, while bus tickets can be purchased on the bus. You use the same ticket for both buses and trains. A two-zone ticket, which is probably what you will need, costs around DKK 20.

Accommodation

The housing department at the central International Office has limited resources. Therefore, students who can apply for housing through the central International Office are limited to non-Nordic international students on exchange through an exchange programme, governmental scholars, and students in the COME programmes (first year).

The housing section of the online application for admission will be closed for new applicants when we have received as many applications as we have available rooms in halls of residences and shared student apartments. We expect this to happen around early April for our autumn semester and mid November for our spring semester. These are not fixed dates. They vary depending on the number of applications we receive. You must therefore not regard the housing window stated in the online application form as a fixed deadline but only as a guideline. You must submit a **complete application** including all supporting material for admission within the housing window to be eligible for housing.

As there is no on-campus housing at the University of Copenhagen and as the university buildings are located across the city, it is quite normal with travelling times of 35 minutes whether the fastest means of transportation is biking or public transportation.

It is difficult to get housing in the city centre. If you are going to study in the city centre, it is more expensive and difficult to find housing very close to your department. Very few Danish students live in the most central, expensive and sought after areas of Copenhagen.

Types of Housing

Each place will differ in terms of location, cost, quality, facilities, etc. but generally the housing options fall into the following categories:

Rented Directly from a Private Person

- Room living with a private landlord/landlady/family
- Apartment shared with other students rented directly from private landlord/landlady

Rented through the International Office

- Single room in a hall of residence
- Single room in a shared student apartment
- Twin/en suite room in a shared student apartment

Insurance

It is important that you take out a House Contents Insurance. The insurance companies listed below will cover students on short term stays in Denmark. Please note that there may be a fee for policies under one year.

Alm. Brand
Midtermolen 7
2100 København Ø
Tel.: (+45) 33 30 60 10
www.almbrand.dk

Tryg Forsikring
Klausdalsbrovej 601
2750 Ballerup
Tel.: (+45) 70 11 20 20
www.tryg.dk

Admissions

Admission Process for Exchange Students

Before you Apply

For you to get the most out of your studies at the University of Copenhagen, we recommend that you have completed at least two years of full-time studies at your home university. Contact the International Office at your home institution about going on exchange.

The Application

If you are selected and nominated by your home university to study at the University of Copenhagen, you will receive an invitation from us by e-mail with access to filling in our online application form. The invitation has detailed information on how to do so. Remember to check your spam folder, as the invitation e-mails sometimes get caught there.

As part of the application you are required to describe your proposed study programme at the University of Copenhagen, and your studies at your home university. You will also be asked to upload an official transcript of your studies at your home university.

If you are a non-native speaker of English you must upload proof of English proficiency if you wish to apply for English Studies, Education, Film & Media, Philosophy, Rhetoric, Geography/Geoinformatics and Geology/Geoscience.

This is essential in order to decide whether you are qualified for admission, and whether the University can offer you the appropriate courses.

If you wish our assistance in finding a place to stay in Copenhagen, to participate in a pre-semester Danish language course, or would like to have the help of a mentor, you must indicate this when you apply on-line.

Please make yourself familiar with our housing service.

Application Deadlines

1 May for a complete application September entry (autumn semester)

1 October for a complete application February entry (spring semester)

Admission

The processing of your application takes about two months. Applications are processed after the application deadline, and you may expect to hear about the outcome of your application in late June (Spring) and November (Autumn). You are able to check the status of your application online. Your application will be assessed by the different departments, in regards to your qualifications, the terms of the agreement, as well as the balance between incoming and outgoing students.

If your application is successful, you will receive the following from the International Office at the University of Copenhagen:

- Email with official letter of admission including information regarding University of Copenhagen student ID-card and assignment of e-mail account
- If you require a visa, we will send you a visa application form and a hard copy of your letter of admission for your visa application by ordinary mail to your home universities.

Extension of Admission

If you are admitted to the University of Copenhagen and decide that you would like to extend your stay, you may apply for an extension of your admission period.

Academics

Libraries

Copenhagen University and Library Service (CULIS) has been established by an agreement between the university and the Royal Library. It is made up of Copenhagen University Library, which is a division of the Royal Library, and of the faculty and departmental libraries run by the university itself.

The libraries are:

- Copenhagen University Library
- Health Sciences
- Humanities
- Law
- Life Sciences
- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Science
- Social Sciences
- Theology

More information about the libraries and their opening hours can be found at:

<http://culis.ku.dk/libraries/>

Computer Rooms

All Faculties at the University provide access to computers, printers and scanners. It is usually free of charge to use these facilities, although you may be required to pay a deposit for a key or an admission card. Also some computers centres may charge for prints. Specific information about the facilities at each Faculty is given at:

http://studies.ku.dk/University_of_Copenhagen/computers/

Practical Matters

Residence Permit

Some students will need to obtain a residence permit before entering Denmark, some can obtain it upon arrival, and others will not need one. **Please read the information carefully** to find out what you need and how to apply.

Important information about residence permit:

http://studies.ku.dk/visa_residence_permit_insurance/visa_residence_permit/

Cpr-number

When you have arrived in Copenhagen, you are required to register with the local civil registration office (Folkeregistret). To do so you must have your residence permit and a permanent address in Denmark. The civil registration office will provide you with a personal identity number, called a cpr-number, as well as a Health Insurance Card.

Important information about cpr-number:

http://studies.ku.dk/visa_residence_permit_insurance/cpr/

Insurance

The University of Copenhagen does not have a mandatory insurance policy which students are required to take out, and students are not covered by any insurance policies taken out by the University of Copenhagen. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to purchase general insurance (personal possessions, accident and liability) as well as a health insurance prior to your departure for Denmark.

The Danish Health Security Act covers students staying for more than three months. Note, however, that this does not cover the costs of medical evacuation back to your home country, emergency repatriation and personal liability. For this reason we encourage students to purchase general insurance as well. To be covered by the Danish Health Security Act, you must apply for the Health Insurance Card with the local civil registration office upon arrival. **Please read the information carefully** to find out how you are covered.

Important information about insurance:

http://studies.ku.dk/visa_residence_permit_insurance/insurance/

Acclimation and Immersion

We recommend that you arrive in Copenhagen a few days prior to commencing your studies. This will give you time to settle in, and to get acquainted with the city before starting classes.

If you feel lost, or just want to inquire about the easiest way to get to where you are going, please do not hesitate to ask for assistance and directions: Practically everyone speaks English!

The University of Copenhagen welcomes more than 2,000 international students each year, and there is a range of social events taking place during the semesters. It will be easy for you to meet and socialise with other international students.

However, while you are living in Copenhagen, we also encourage you to make an effort to meet the Danes. You will undoubtedly form your own opinion about the Danes, and so you should. It is, after all, one of the reasons why you are here.

Student Associations and Clubs

ESN-Copenhagen

During the semester ESN-Copenhagen arranges events for international students as well as local students at The University of Copenhagen. The aim is to create a forum where international students can get to know Danish culture and meet local as well as other international students.

The International Student Society of Copenhagen (ISSC)

ISSC is a non-profit organization of students whose overall aim is to promote cultural exchange among university students in Copenhagen. The association was created to respond to the need of students who are going to spend a considerable time in Copenhagen to meet each other tearing down the “barriers” of faculties and universities. Activities: experiments of theatre lab, movie nights, opera club, jam sessions, amateur sport championships, trips, cooking challenges, cultural events-debate-meetings, journals and obviously parties. Contact: isscopenhagen@gmail.com

The University Sports Association (Universitetets Studenter-Gymnastik)

Nørre Allé 53
DK-2200 Copenhagen N
Tel: +45 35 37 61 98
E-mail: kontor@usg.dk
www.usg.dk
Opening hours: Monday-Friday 12-18

If you are interested in doing sports while you are studying at the University of Copenhagen, we encourage you to make use of the University's Sports Association (Universitetets Studenter-Gymnastik/USG). It is cheap compared to joining other clubs and it is a good way to socialise with Danish and other international students in an informal way.

Discount on Fitness

Students at the University of Copenhagen can obtain a discount on gym-membership. Further information is available online. You will be asked to log on to KUnet to access the information.

The Student House (Studenterhuset)

Købmagergade 52
DK-1150 Copenhagen K
Tel: +45 35 32 38 60 (Café)

The Student House (Studenterhuset) is located in the centre of Copenhagen, and functions as a natural place for students from different faculties to meet, study and have a good time.

Activities and Membership

During the week the Student House puts on a range of activities such as debates, quiz-night, gay-day, live music and an International Café (see below). Furthermore, the house is home to a number of activity groups with interests such as poetry reading, music, environmental issues, photography and dancing. As a student enrolled in the University of Copenhagen, you are automatically a member of the Student House, allowing you among other things to join the activity groups and obtain various discounts on drinks, photocopies, etc.

International Café

Every Wednesday night during the semester is International Café night in the Student House (Studenterhuset). 300-400 Danish and international students meet to have a drink and debate and joke in numerous languages. The atmosphere is friendly and open which has made the International Café an important meeting place for all international students.

Become Part of the Crew

If you are keen to help behind the bar, the Student House is often looking for volunteers. The work is unpaid, but it is a great way to meet new people and become part of the active crew that makes the house a lively and popular place for all students.

Friday-bars

If you want to experience Danish student-life, the "Fredags-bar" is a must. They take place at departments or faculties at the university on Friday afternoons. Be aware that some have "Torsdags-bar" (Thursday afternoon) instead.

SymfUni

SymfUni is a student orchestra at the University of Copenhagen. It was established by a group of students gathering around a shared interest: music!

The orchestra is open for everyone looking for a way to play classical music together with fellow students and at the same time create friendships across the faculties of the university. SymfUni also provides a good opportunity for all international students to bring along their classical instrument and meet students from various faculties.

Contact us at symfuni@symfuni.dk. Website: www.symfuni.dk

United Student Council (Forenede Studenterråd/FSR)

Fiolstræde 10, 1st floor
DK-1171 Copenhagen K
Tel: +45 35 32 38 38
E-mail: FSR@fsr.ku.dk
Opening hours:
Monday-Thursday 10-16
Friday 10-14

The Association of Disabled Students & Graduates (Handicappede studerende og kandidater)

University of Copenhagen, Amager
Njalsgade 84, room 7.3.10
DK-2300 Copenhagen S
Tel: +45 35 32 91 01
E-mail: hsk@hum.ku.dk
Opening hours:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10-12

Tips from UCC Students

Academic Matters

- The university system at Copenhagen is quite different from that of UCC, and can be difficult to understand. Make yourself known to your departmental coordinator as early as you can so that you have a resource available to you should you require aid.

Accommodation

- Student accommodation is difficult to find if one begins one's search too late.
- The option to request accommodation is provided to incoming students during the pre-departure registration process.
- Bring personal items that will help you feel at home
- Bring sheets and a blanket or duvet as well as towels

Travel

- Finally, be sure to check your baggage allowance with the airline or train company with which you are travelling. Paying for excess baggage can be very expensive!
- We recommend that you arrive in Copenhagen a few days prior to commencing your studies. This will give you time to settle in, and to get acquainted with the city before starting classes.
- If you feel lost, or just want to inquire about the easiest way to get to where you are going, please do not hesitate to ask for assistance and directions: Practically everyone speaks English!

Social

- There are more than enough things in Copenhagen to make sure that you are always occupied.
- The student accommodation is a great place to make friends. If you don't live there, find someone who does!
- If you show an interest in getting to know the Danes, their culture and their language you will get a positive response. Try to speak a bit of Danish to them even if you only know a few phrases. It pays off.

General

- The climate in Denmark varies but spring and summer are generally temperate, windy and occasionally wet. Autumn and winter are windy, dark seasons, but the temperature during the day is rarely excessively cold although it does get below freezing. You will need warm clothing – a warm coat and waterproof shoes are

advisable. It is also a good idea to bring a sleeping bag, if you intend to travel during your stay.

- Keep your passport with you at all times. It can be difficult doing things in Denmark if you do not have it with you.
- Don't give up and go home early in the semester. It may feel difficult, but you'll pull through fantastically. You will love your Erasmus study at Copenhagen!
- Look into phone cards – they are one of the cheapest ways to phone home.
- If you have a laptop and internet access in your accommodation, look into getting Skype or other internet phone packages.