



With one of the most beautiful campuses in the world, BI provides such an exciting and inspiring learning environment. It offers a wide variety of courses which you can choose the ones that match your interest. In terms of education, BI is ranked as the top business schools in Europe. Moreover, with a lot of international students, it is really comfortable for you to learn the cultural differences from all over the world. This seems to be interesting, doesn't it? Let me share my experience and some tips for you preparation!

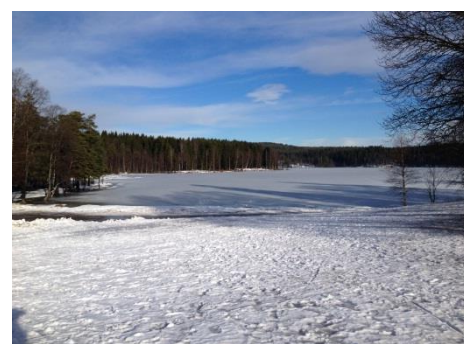
### **Before Departure**

1. Check out the available courses here <http://www.bi.edu/students/exchange/incoming-bachelor-master-exchange/courses/>
2. For accommodation, there are two main providers; SiO (housing for Oslo students) and BSN (for BI students only). BSN is located right across the campus. It's only 5-minute walk. SiO operates dormitories in many locations. The most popular one is Kringsja Student Village. It's about 15 minutes away by metro. But you can enjoy many types of activities there such as strolling around the lake, going cross country skiing and playing football. I would really like to recommend this place. Follow the link below for more information. <http://www.bi.edu/students/exchange/incoming-bachelor-master-exchange/housing/>
3. When it comes to applying for visa, you have to submit your documents through VFS global ([www.vsfglobal.com](http://www.vsfglobal.com)). Then you'll get a temporary visa. When you arrive in Norway, you'll need to report at the UDI to get a permanent student residence permit. See more information at [www.udi.no](http://www.udi.no).



### **First Week**

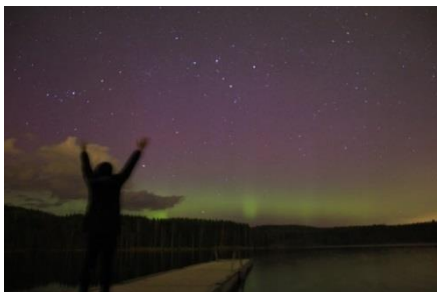
Don't stay in the room, let's exploring! There will be various kinds of events going on during the first week such as a sightseeing tour, a coffee break, a walk rally, and a ballgame day. Only preparation you need is to be open-minded. This is a great opportunity to make friends. Don't be shy to start a conversation. Your life for the rest of the semester will be more enjoyable with friends.





## Studying at BI

I would say studying at BI was not as tough as studying at TBS. It sounds encouraging, right? I can guarantee that there won't be as many workloads as we have here. However, you have to make sure that you understand the main concept of each lessons. After each classes, mostly, you'll be given a case to prepare for discussion in the next class. The professors always love to see your participation. There is also an online learning resource called "@BI" which allows you to access each of your registered courses. On that site, you can keep up with all the latest information from your classes. Don't be too hard on yourself. It's not beyond your potential.



## Life Style and Activities

Norwegians love outdoor activities. Therefore, when you're there, you should try to live like a Norwegian. Spring semester is highly recommended because that would let you experience both the coldest and hottest weather of Norway.

During the winter time, you can go skiing, cross country skiing, snowboarding, or even sledging. The city will be covered by the pure white color of snow. Don't be surprised if it gets really quiet in the city. Most of people are up in the winter park or some hilly areas to enjoy outdoor winter sports.

I would definitely suggest you to go up to the north to see the northern light. If you don't know what it is, google it now! It was the most amazing experience I've ever had. The best time to see it would be between January and March. Don't let this opportunity slip away without going.

In the Spring and Summer, somewhat from May to August, ferry service will be available to travel around little islands in Oslo. You can go there for some barbeque picnics with your friends. It's nice to get some sunlight after a long gloomy sky of the winter.

Another popular activity is hiking to the top of the pulpit rock or "Preikestolen" in Norwegian. It's 604 meters above the sea level. Generally, it takes around 2 hours to get up there. When you reach to the top, you'll see one of the most beautiful fjords of Norway.

Norwegians do have their own language called "Norwegian" or "Norsk." However, they're very good in English as well. I would love to encourage you to find some time travelling around this country. The most breathtaking sceneries in the world are there. You're not only there to study, you're also there to discover the world as well. ENJOY!

**Khongphat Prasarnthong (IBMP 6)**