Bilateral Exchange: University of Iceland

Reykjavik, Iceland

Specifics of the North Park Exchange

Dates

Fall semester, spring semester, or full year

Eligibility

- 45+ credit hours by start of program
- Cumulative GPA of 2.75
- GPA of 2.5 in semester preceding program
- Attendance at NPU for at least two semesters by start of program
- 18 years of age



Chance of Placement

Chance of placement is excellent for qualified candidates.

Courses Offered

Course offerings in English vary by year. See the University website for more information: https://english.hi.is/university/courses english. In the past, North Park students have taken the following types of courses:

Film and Fiction	Environmental	Ecology	British Literature I
	Geochemistry		and II
Human Resource	International Business	Ethics of Nature	Nordic Mythologies
Management			

Costs

Student pays North Park the current rate for full-time tuition. All financial aid applies. Student pays room and board in host country. For more information on the cost of living in Iceland, check: https://english.hi.is/files/files/guide_booklet_2012.pdf

Additional Fees

Airfare	Passport Fees	Residence Permit/	International Student
		Visa Fees	ID Card
Textbooks	Health Insurance	Discretionary	
		Spending	

About the University of Iceland

- The principal language of instruction at the University is Icelandic, but most faculties give courses in English as well.
- "Introduction to Iceland" is a recreational program organized by the Office of International Education (OIE) for international students and visiting teachers at Icelandic institutions of higher education. The aim of the program is to give visitors a taste of Icelandic history, culture and daily life through excursions to interesting locations.
- To help exchange students get a good start, the University of Iceland has a well-organized buddy system. The main task of the buddy is to provide the new student with practical information about the University of Iceland and Icelandic society, as well as to introduce him/her to the students and student life in general.
- The University Choir is an important component of the social life at the University of Iceland.

A survival guide for International Students, available online, provides helpful information on courses, housing, cost of living, and social activities: https://english.hi.is/files/files/guide_booklet_2012.pdf

About Iceland and Reykjavik

- Iceland is well-placed as part of the "Aurora Ovals," where the geomagnetic poles of the Northern lights are formed. The lights can be seen September through March as long as the skies are clear.
- Iceland is an island of almost 40,000 square miles, the same size as Ohio.
- The Icelanders still speak the language of the Vikings (Old Norse, now called Icelandic). Many people, from teenagers up to people in their fifties, also speak fluent English.
- The chilliest thing about Iceland is its name! Average January temperatures in many parts of Iceland are actually higher than those in New York and much of Iceland's cultural life bursts into bloom from autumn to spring, before the long bright nights and the main travel season begin.
- It is the same distance from New York to Iceland as from New York to Los Angeles. From London, Reykjavík is the same distance as Athens.
- Summer brings with it 24-hour daylight; mid-winter is mostly dark, save a few hours of light each day; autumn and spring follow a more regular pattern.
- Always bring a bathing suit, whatever time of the year you visit. A favorite pastime is year-round outdoor swimming in countless geothermally heated pools and lagoons.
- People in the Reykjavík telephone directory are listed by their first name, instead of their last.
- The Imagine Peace Tower is a memorial to John Lennon from his widow, Yoko Ono, located on Viõey Island, off the coast of Reykjavík, Iceland. It consists of a tall "tower of light", projected from a white stone well which has the words "Imagine Peace" carved into it in 24 languages. These words, and the name of the tower, are a reference to Lennon's peace anthem, Imagine.

http://www.reykjavik.is