

RETURNEE OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER 2018



ABOUT MICHAEL LIN

Program: DIS: Copenhagen: Child
Diversity & Development

Duration: Spring 2018

Major: Youth & Social Innovation

MOST INTERESTING CLASS & WHY?

Through taking "Learning in Scandinavian Classrooms," I could see how different countries deal with universal issues like teacher attrition and prestige, bullying, etc. This class connected with my YSI major in the Curry School, but I was also able to take a Migrants & Refugees course as well as a Danish language course.

HOW WAS EDUCATION ABROAD DIFFERENT THAN ANTICIPATED?

Having a host family turned out to be more rewarding and meaningful than I could have ever imagined. I didn't think these strangers would become people I can genuinely call "family." They became my support system when I was time zones away from friends and family in the States. I didn't think I'd come to miss my host family the most, even over things like having the opportunity to travel and to be in a completely new environment.

FAVORITE LOCAL HANGOUT & WHY?

Studenterhuset was a place I could grab coffee before class, and there would be special events almost every night of the week (e.g. concerts and language learning groups during the weekends). Students from DIS, Københavns Universitet, and Copenhagen Business School would congregate there daily.

MICHAEL LIN

DIS COPENHAGEN: CHILD DIVERSITY & DEVELOPMENT SPRING 2018



NUMBER ONE WAY THE EXPERIENCE CONTRIBUTED TO YOUR GROWTH

I think I'm more reflective of my experiences and interactions that I have with people --especially those from another culture. I'm more conscious about how group dynamics can make or break one's experience in a group project, a classroom, and everyday social situations.

MOST INTERESTING/DELICIOUS CUISINE TRIED

The most delicious food I ate was probably leverpostej med ristede løg, which translates to liver pâté with roasted onions on Danish rye bread. Danish people don't usually add the roasted onions on top, but my host brother insisted on me trying it. After trying it, it became my go-to snack for the semester.



MOST MEANINGFUL INTERACTION WITH A LOCAL

Hearing my host brother speak English to me for the first time was heartwarming. Trying to speak to another person in their native language can be intimidating, and I think this was a defining moment in regards to how rewarding it was to build a relationship with a host family over a semester.

COPENHAGEN IN 3 WORDS:

Cloudy

Chilly

Hyggelit