As part of my master’s program, I went to Stavanger in the south of Norway. I arrived in January, just a few days before the classes started. I traveled with my 27 classmates which was a great experience since we supported each other during the whole process. Most of us lived in the dormitories assigned by the University, so at least 2-4 people lived in the same building. We used to host dinners and baking dates at our dorms since going out to eat was a little bit pricey.

The weather was better than expected, it was cold but not as it would be in other cities in Norway, it snowed a few times however it was mostly cloudy.

In terms of classes, one of the main classes was focused on learning more about Norwegian perspectives, therefore, we visited museums and went to the cinema with Norwegian students, so we had the opportunity to interact and work with them as well, we also had guest lectures from professors from other Norwegian universities, which was very enriching. Besides we had the option to work on different activities for example doing podcasts or digital stories. I did like the University a lot, they host different activities during the week, for example, waffle Monday, active brain which is an activity divided into two parts; exercise, stretch, and then a lunch with all the participants, this was host every Wednesday and lastly, coffee around the world which every Thursday students could present some information about their countries while we shared coffee and chocolates. Besides the University has great spaces to study and work such as the library and data lab, and offers a gym with great facilities and classes every day, many of my classmates joined and we used to go together before or after classes.

Stavanger is a great place for hikes, there are amazing places such as Dalsnuten and the Pulpit Rock. Also, very nice parks, and islands, and the beach is close to the airport. As for transportation, there is a monthly ticket that allows you to take all the buses in the region and use the bikes for 15 minutes which was very convenient, especially during the weekends since the buses were less often. I will highly recommend studying at this University, it is a wonderful place, and the professors are great.