My stay in Norway, Stavanger was very exciting. I lived there from mid-January until the end of April. The University of Stavanger is very well organized. Already beforehand, Mona who is responsible for administration in Norway from my Study program was very helpful. We could always e-mail her at any time and ask her all the questions we had. 

When arriving in Norway, we got invited the first day for a breakfast meeting where they explained in detail how the semester is working. Our first week existed of getting to know the Norwegian culture, in taking part to a cooking course and also in taking part in Meeting where the international groups from the university presented themselves. They organized a lot of events. So it was very easy to get to know the other international students. In general, the University seems very experienced in accommodating international students.

Accommodation:
My accommodation was in the center of Stavanger City. I had to take a bus to university, which was okay as the bus only took 15 minutes and you had the choice between two busses. The bus station as also only a 5-minute walk. 

I had my own room and shared the bathroom and kitchen with another student. Which was exceptional, as the house has a capacity to accommodate 17 students. But when I was living there we were only 12 students. So the general number of sharing this common spaces was 3 people. The house had also a nice garden and a big common space in the basement. Unfortunately, I wasn’t living with Norwegians. In my student dorm there were only international students, whereas 5 girls from Belgium, which made already almost half of the people living with me…
Country and expenses:
Norway is a very expensive country and you have limited access in buying alcohol. Also alcohol is one of the most expensive things you can buy in the super market. But there are enough special offers for students. In general Norway is very price friendly to students and their budgets. The country itself is qua nature very beautiful. The only negative thing is, you cannot access the nice places if you don’t have a car. Also with public transport its very limited. Its only meant to go to places where people live and not to the quiet nature places. So either you rent a car with some friends or you take part in study trips that the different international students organizations organize. I took part in a ski trip which was fun.
Program of learning:
The program was better than the one in Oldenburg. Better organized and much more interesting. We had a lot of international lecturers and we knew always beforehand who would come. It was also sometimes challenging because of the language. In the beginning, you have to get used to what the different words mean, but when you know a little bit of German, Norwegian is easy to understand. The program was also intense, as I was only for 3 and a half months there and we had to hand in a lot of papers in a short amount of time. So in the beginning you try to socialize, but after a while, there was no time for that, because our program had another study rhythm than the Norwegians had.

In general Norway is a very pretty country but expensive to live in. Nevertheless, the experience was worth it and I made some memories and friends for life.