

# University of Iceland/Háskóli Íslands

Exchange semester	Autumn semester 2025
Study level	Undergraduate (Bachelor)
Home faculty at GU	IT-Faculty
Studies at GU	Systemvetenskap (kandidat)

## Courses during exchange

- Quantum Computing and Quantum Cryptography
- Introduction to Information Security
- Programming Projects on Internet of Things
- International Business
- Human Resource Management

## Studies

The teaching style at the University of Iceland was quite different from GU. Many things were the same or similar, for example the "high ceiling" study environment. But I would say the teaching style was even more relaxed by the icelandic teachers, and teachers were close to the students. Non of my courses had a final exam in the end, and a lot more focus was put on assignments during the whole term. In general there were many more assignments than in my GU studies, and that was somewhat stressful because you constantly had assignments. I also felt like many decisions about the courses were made during the term and changes were more common, about things like grading, assignments etc.

## Arrival, orientation and housing

I arrived a few days before the term started. I settled in quite quickly. Mostly because the Erasmus community hosted things early on, and then the school hosted a orientation week during first week of class. But I would say the student organized activities were more valuable. I also lived together with another exchange student so that helped settle me in the first days. I did have some trouble with my courses upon arrival that had to be fixed and I think this wasn't handled so well by the university of iceland because I felt quite overwhelmed by having to solve it by myself and didn't feel like I got the right resources. Otherwise the process of starting at the university was pretty easy and organized.

## Finances

Housing and cost of living is exceptionally high in Reykjavik. I rented a room in a house from a private landlord with shared kitchen and bathroom, and my rent was almost 10 000 kr per month. And housing from the university was about the same. The erasmus grant helped of course, but you need pretty good economy to study in Iceland.

## Life in a new country/culture

The community among the exchange students and international students were really good, and because most people lived in the same area around the university the social life outside of school was very good. It was not a hard environment to find friends in. A main selling point for many of us to go to Iceland was for the nature and landscape, so many trips around the country were organized by students all the time. Which was very fun.

## Overall exchange experience

I had a wonderful exchange experience overall. I learnt many new things and got to experience things and places I otherwise would never see probably. Both academically and personally I feel like I've grown. Some negatives was that there wasn't a big course selection for me in my study field, but if you study other fields (primarily natural sciences) I think its better. But overall it was a very positive experience.