Danish Technical University Study Abroad Program

Program Description & Application Requirements

Applications Due: January 25

Introduction and General Information

Danish Technical University Scholars Program is a study abroad program in which Caltech students study in Copenhagen, Denmark at **Technical University of Denmark (DTU).**

The fall term at DTU begins August 30th, it is preceded by a week- long orientation. DTU finishes with exams on December 22.

At DTU, students can study computer science, engineering, applied sciences or the natural. Students taking classes at DTU are required to attend the DTU Orientation, which is usually the last week in August.

OCTOBER SEMESTER BREAK

In mid-October, DTU has a vacation week. This is a great time to travel in Europe. Check the academic calendar for specific dates each year.

Location, History, & Student Body

The **Danish Technical University (DTU)** is located about 6 miles (10 km) north of Copenhagen in the town of Lyngby, an affluent town with cafes, restaurants, good shopping and a lovely park. DTU was founded in 1829. DTU has 15 academic departments in the applied and physical sciences and 6000 students. In the 1960's DTU moved to its new Lyngby campus, which is in a lovely, wooded setting and built in a Danish modern style.

Room and Board

DTU students will be housed in single rooms in university housing. Students housing could be located on campus or apartment style housing off campus that you would need to take a bus to. In all dorms, students cook for themselves in the well-equipped hall kitchens, plus there are cafeterias on the DTU campus for lunch or breakfast. Cooking is one of the favored ways of socializing in Copenhagen dorms and students enjoy a strong camaraderie with their hallmates through cooking together. Since students are in Copenhagen for about fifteen weeks versus about ten at Caltech, the cost of food will be more due to the longer length of the term, and you should budget appropriately for these costs. Financial Aid recipients may request additional funds for the room supplement and to cover the additional weeks of board in their financial aid application.

Academic Program Overview

Language of Instruction: Courses are taught in either Danish or English depending on the year in which they are taught. First and second year courses are taught in Danish. For third- and fourth-year courses, professors are required to teach in English if someone is present that does not speak Danish. **Students must take courses taught in English unless they already speak Danish fluently.** On the web page describing each course, under language, it will indicate if the course is always or can be taught in English. If a course only has a Danish description, it is probably not taught in English. Students can email the instructor if the teaching language is unclear.

For the Danish Technical University (DTU) go to **http://www.dtu.dk/English** . Go to the drop-down menu at the top of the page. Under **Education**, choose **Course Base** (http://www.dtu.dk/english/Education/Course-base). Be sure to read the information regarding the DTU block system.

Students must take at least two courses in their option or, with approval, in a related field that counts toward their option requirements. Because next fall's courses are not yet posted, proposals should use the current year's fall schedule. Using the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), students must select two to three courses (minimum 15 ECTS) in science or engineering within their major or in an area for which you can get option elective credit.

Danish universities follow a 3+2 degree structure: three years for a bachelor's and two additional years for a master's. Third- and fourth-year courses correspond roughly to Caltech's 100- and 200-level classes. Students may take bachelor's or master's level courses (taught in English) and may mix levels. Master's-level courses are comparable to Caltech senior-year classes, with the final year focused on thesis work.

You are required to take a minimum of 36 units but often will receive more units depending on the specific course load. You can get option, general credit or course equivalent credit for your coursework at DTU. You can get humanities credit for the Danish Language Course and the Danish Culture courses.

Note that your grades on the 7-point grading scale of Denmark will not transfer. Your classes are taken for credit only and will show up as pass or fail and will not affect your grade point average. However, Caltech does not give credit for failed courses.

DTU Block System: The block schedule at DTU is a week-long schedule composed of 10 blocks broken into 4-hour increments, e.g., 8am-noon and 1-5pm. A 5 ECTS class will be taught in a 4-hour block of time and a 10 ECTS class in two 4-hour blocks of time. When reading the course catalog for DTU you should keep the timetable of DTU in mind, so you do not choose courses that are being taught at the same time. Each block is given a number and letter. You can only take **one** course in timetable group 1, **one** course in timetable group 2 and so on, e.g., class schedule E3 = E3A+E3B. Remember to check if the courses are taught in the right semester: E = autumn semester and F = spring semester. While this may sound complicated, the DTU course

catalog site (link above) has an easy course selection tool that indicates if you have chosen classes whose schedules conflict.

CHOOSING CLASSES AT DTU

Students can take courses in any faculty at DTU if they meet the prerequisites and exchange students are allowed to take the class. Students should choose classes for the Study Abroad Application based on the current year's fall course offerings at DTU. Students will be allowed to change classes when the next fall's classes are listed in the late spring or early summer.

Applied Sciences, Engineering and Sciences at DTU: DTU teaches a full range of classes in the applied sciences, sciences, engineering and applied mathematics. As mentioned, students in fields that are not typically thought of as applied (e.g., chemistry and physics) may find good class offerings at DTU. DTU has excellent offerings in the environmental sciences and interesting options for engineers such as Ship Design.

Classes in engineering that you would never find at Caltech (as well as ones that you can take at CIT) can be found at DTU: https://kurser.dtu.dk/.

Danish Technical University

Students at DTU are limited to 30 ECTS. The DTU semester runs from the beginning of September to mid-December each year and the start of the term is preceded by a required week of orientation the last week of August. The end of lectures is followed by a weeklong final examination period. Caltech students take all required final exams during the exam period. Go to https://www.dtu.dk/english/education/student-guide/studying- at-dtu/academic-calendar to access the academic calendar.

DTU Courses and Timetable:

DTU courses are taught on a semester system, but the academic week is organized by teaching block times. A 10 ECTS point course is equal to 9-12 Caltech units and a 5 ECTS point course is equal to 9 Caltech units. A 5 ECTS point course is equivalent to about 60% of the workload of a 10 ECTS point course. Therefore, you are advised to take at least one 10 ECTS point course.

DTU Timetable –Block System

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8-12	1A	3A	5A	2B	4B
12-13	Pause	Pause	Pause	Pause	Pause
13-17	2A	4A	5B	1B	3B

The timetable is the same for both autumn and spring. Under the schedule in the course description there might be written E or F. E means autumn (efterår) and F means spring (forår).

If in the course catalogue a course is said to take place in E3, then this means that the course is being taught during autumn in BOTH module 3A AND 3B. That would be Tuesday from 8-12 and Friday 13-17. F3 means that the course is being taught in spring. If in the course catalogue a course is said to take place in E3A, then this means that the course is being taught during autumn, ONLY in module 3A and NOT 3B. This would be Tuesday from 8-12.

ECTS POINT SYSTEM OVERVIEW DTU:

5 ECTS courses are awarded 9 units of Caltech credit
10 ECTS courses are awarded 9-12 to units of Caltech credit