



International Practicum in Norway

Spring semester 9 March - 3 April 2020

Two available spots

Stipend: CAD \$500 per student **Application deadline: 20 November 2019, 9:00 AM**

PROGRAM AND PLACEMENT

Bankgata Middle School



Two students from Queen's University will be placed with an English class at Bankgata Middle School, located in the Bodø City Centre. Bankgata educates over 300 pupils in grades 8-10; they have four groups in 8th grade, four groups in 9th grade, and five groups in 10th grade. The middle school is also an esteemed reception school, which welcomes newly arrived students from all over the world, including asylum seekers, refugees, and immigrants. It therefore provides introductory classes for new arrivals in addition to the standard educational offerings. The school philosophy emphasizes: inclusion, tolerance, care, cooperation, responsibility, wellbeing, expertise, and mastery.

Bodø, Norway

Home to the Northern Lights in winter and the Midnight Sun in summer, Bodø is a vibrant city north of the arctic circle. Recently named the European Capital of Culture for 2024, this city of 50,000 boasts a rich tapestry of history, art, music and culture – from stone age carvings and Viking graves to music festivals and state-of-the-art concert halls. Beyond the appeal of its urban centre, Bodø is especially famous for its outdoor offerings and adventure sports, including:

- Caving in the Northern Hemisphere's largest cathedral cave, Svarthammarhola.
- Ocean rafting and scuba diving in the world's largest tidal current, Saltstraumen.
- Free skiing on one of many 1,000m peaks.
- Hiking up Keiservarden, Bodø's most famous viewpoint.
- Glacier wandering on Svartisen.
- Snorkeling with Orcas in Vesterålen.
- Surfing at Unstad in Lofoten.
- Climbing the peaks of Børvasstindan.



Accommodations

Representatives from CANOPY and Nord University will help organize accommodations in Bodø; students will be expected, however, to make the reservations themselves. Possibilities for lodging include: student dormitories (approx. NOK 4700-5500 for 4 weeks, depending on room type and location) or AirBnB units (prices vary). Most available accommodations will be located within a close walk or short bus ride of the practicum school.

Support and Funding

Each participating student will receive a stipend in the amount of CAD \$500 from the CANOPY project to assist with travel and accommodation costs for this placement.

Assessment

- Teacher candidates must ensure that their IAP Supervisor at Bankgata Middle School is in contact with the Practicum Office at Queen's University.
- While this is a flexible practicum opportunity, IAP Supervisors will still verify hours, attendance, activities,

and other pertinent information about the candidate and their performance to verify a satisfactory completion of the IAP.

Additional Opportunities

Beyond the practicum placement at Bankgata Middle School, students from Queen's may optionally choose to join the Faculty of Education and Arts at Nord University for certain events, classes, or tours during their time in Bodø. There is no credit associated with these additional activities. Students can request a list of available opportunities before their visit.

Eligibility and Requirements

- Students must either be in the Consecutive Education Program or be enrolled in their fifth year of the Concurrent Education Program at Queen's University and be eligible for an International Alternative Practicum (IAP) placement.



THE CANOPY PROJECT

The Canada-Norway Partnership

This international alternative practicum opportunity is made possible by the DIKU-funded partnership between Queen's University and Nord University, entitled CANOPY (The Canada-Norway Pedagogy Partnership for Innovation and Inclusion in Education). This partnership aims to address, from a holistic and international perspective, the most pressing issues currently facing the education sector to better prepare the next generation of teachers. Connecting educational research, classroom experience, student mobility, and institutional management, CANOPY will develop global competencies in pedagogy, research, and training through international collaboration. Innovation and Inclusion are the guiding principles of CANOPY, and the initiatives of each year of the project will focus on a different priority area comprehended by these principles:

2020: Educational Leadership

2021: Digital Innovation and Educational Technology

2022: Indigenous Studies, Diversity, and Inclusion

2023: Exceptional Learners

Through the IAP component of CANOPY, the project endeavours to offer teacher-candidates the opportunity to immerse themselves in the educational environment of the partner region and to acquire an international perspective on teaching and learning that extends beyond their typical experience within local provincial guidelines and curricula. Practicum placements, in particular, will help teacher-candidates cultivate intercultural awareness, craft self-reflexive pedagogy, and assemble a broader network of colleagues and mentors. At the institutional level, such arrangements will ultimately improve Interna-

- Selected students must each complete 90 hours of practicum over the course of three weeks.

Application Process

To apply, write a letter of motivation (a maximum of one A4-page, Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double-spaced) explaining why you would like to participate in an IAP placement in Norway. You are free to formulate the letter as you wish but you must address the following two questions:

- What do you expect to gain and/or learn by participating?
- Why do you think the 2020 CANOPY theme – Educational Leadership – is important to teacher education?

Please submit your completed application by email to Erin York erin.york@queensu.ca no later than 9:00 AM on 20 November 2019.

tional Practicum programs, which are an increasingly influential aspect of teacher training worldwide. Retrospective reflection with practicum exchange students, along with ongoing logistical planning between international practicum coordinators, will assist Faculties with refining programme parameters, establishing evaluation equivalences, and identifying innovative pathways.

Nord University and the Faculty of Education and Arts

Global challenges demand new insight, innovative solutions and local legitimacy. Nord University is a young university with strong regional ties and a global perspective. We are committed to delivering relevant educational programmes and research, with a focus on blue & green growth, innovation & entrepreneurship, as well as welfare, health & education. Nord University has 11,000 students and 1,300 employees at nine study locations in central and northern Norway. It receives 200 students annually on exchange, with its biggest international student body based in Bodø campus.

The Faculty of Education and Arts (FLU) educates tomorrow's teachers from preschool to upper secondary school, and with specializations ranging from sports to the fine arts. Our candidates play a vital role in the knowledge-based development of society. Our research emphasizes the teaching profession and professional teaching practices. The Faculty offers a doctoral program (PhD) in the study of professional praxis. FLU has 3500 students as well as 350 academic and administrative staff.

More Information

- Nord University: <https://www.nord.no/en>
- Bodø, Norway: <https://visitbodo.com/en/bodocity>

