



VIA University
College



IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL NURSING EXCHANGE DENMARK (VIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE)¹

SEPTEMBER 2023 – APRIL 2024

Compare and contrast healthcare and nursing education in Canada and Denmark. And learn with and from Danish students – virtually, by hosting Danish students in Cranbrook, BC or Yellowknife, NWT, and through a one-week visit to Denmark.

Through a partnership between VIA University in Denmark, Aurora College and College of the Rockies, 2nd year Bachelor of Science in Nursing students will have the opportunity during the Fall Semester to work with VIA University College nursing students on a project related to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. During the third week of October 2023, Danish students participating in this exchange will visit Cranbrook or Yellowknife to learn about access to healthcare in two distinct regions of Canada. Participants in this exchange from College of the Rockies and Aurora College will then visit Denmark during the last week of April 2024 to learn firsthand about healthcare in Denmark.

This learning abroad opportunity is supported by Global Skills Opportunity (GSO), which is an integral component of the Government of Canada’s International Education Strategy. The program aims to increase the participation of Canadians—especially underrepresented students—in international learning opportunities. Global Skills Opportunity is funded by Employment and Social Development Canada, and administered jointly by Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) and Universities Canada.

What, when and where?

- Fall Semester 2023: Eight (8) College of the Rockies students and four (4) Aurora College students will collaborate virtually with VIA University College students. Working in small groups, you will create a video or other product that draws upon your group’s strengths which focuses on the Sustainable Development Goals.
- October 2023: Participating College of the Rockies students will host their Danish counterparts in Cranbrook, BC from October 14-21, and participating Aurora College students will host their Danish counterparts in Yellowknife from October 7-14. College of the Rockies and Aurora College will arrange a program in each location involving student-to-student interactions and field trips.
- April 26 – May 5, 2024: Participating College of the Rockies and Aurora College students will travel to the Central Denmark Region (Holstebro) to engage Danish nursing students and learn about access to healthcare and social determinants of health in Denmark.

¹ Information as of August 17, 2023.

Note: If VIA University College students are unable to obtain funding to proceed with a visit in October 2023, online collaboration with VIA students will commence in January / February 2024 with the visit to Denmark by Canadian students proceeding as planned in April 2024.

Who is eligible?

- College of the Rockies and Aurora College students enrolled in the 2nd year of the BSN program during the 2023-2024 academic year who:
 - a. Are good standing in their program with no issues related to program progression;
 - b. Have no issues related to student conduct that would give College of the Rockies or Aurora College concern about possible disruptions to the learning environment during the field trip,
 - c. Are able to demonstrate that they:
 - have what it takes to succeed in a group environment,
 - are both curious and sensitive to cultural differences, and
 - are committed to representing the participating colleges and their partners in a responsible manner and acting in a professional and respectful manner during the exchange.
 - d. Are Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents
 - e. Are 19 years of age or older as of the date of travel
 - f. Have no impediments with legal or regulatory requirements related to travel to and entry into Denmark

What will it cost?

The cost to participate in this exchange has been dramatically reduced thanks to support provided by Global Skills Opportunity.

Global Skills Opportunity seeks to increase the number of Canadian students studying and working internationally, including by widening access and equity in participation by low-income students, students with disabilities, and Indigenous students. Given this, **the maximum co-payment required from participating students is \$1,600**, which amounts to less than 1/3rd of the total average cost of the experience. In addition, **low-income students, students with disabilities, and Indigenous students can request an additional subsidy, reducing their co-payment to \$900.**

What does this cost include?

The cost includes airfare from Cranbrook or Yellowknife to Denmark return, ground transportation, eight nights shared accommodation, travel medical insurance, farewell dinner and operational costs.

What does this cost exclude?

Participating students are responsible for meals, souvenirs, extracurricular outings, other personal expenses and getting to / from the airport in Cranbrook or Yellowknife. Budget approximately \$500 to \$650 for these costs.

Beyond the subsidy provided by Global Skills Opportunity, what other financial support is available?

- College of the Rockies students who are BC residents may wish to apply for an [Irving K. Barber International Travel Award](#). Contact [Lois Murray](#), the College's Financial Assistance and Awards Advisor, for more information.
- Participating students who will incur childcare / caregiver costs in order to travel to Denmark may apply to College of the Rockies receive up to \$250 towards their costs.

Deadline to apply:

- September 22, 2023

Application procedure:

College of the Rockies	Aurora College
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit an application form to the International Office or by email to studyabroad@cotr.bc.ca.• Arrange with Kerry Brinkert or Tracey Brenton at the International Office to submit a \$500 deposit²• Have an instructor who is familiar with you / your abilities submit a reference form to Kerry Brinkert or Tracey Brenton.• Applicants may be interviewed by the field trip instructor and the Manager, International Projects and Partnerships.	

Selection process:

College of the Rockies	Aurora College
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your application form, instructor reference and a possible interview will be considered by the College in confirming your eligibility with a view to selecting eight (8) students who will be in the 2nd year of the BSN	

² Applicants who are not selected will have their deposits refunded. **Deposits for applicants who are selected are non-refundable.** College of the Rockies reserves the right to cancel the program due to insufficient enrollment or other factors beyond its control. In case of program cancellation, College of the Rockies will refund deposits.

<p>program during the 2023-2024 academic year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The College will select the first four eligible Global Skills Opportunity “target group” students who complete application procedures and are determined eligible by the College. • The College will provide the remaining four spots on a first-come, first-served basis to any other eligible students (i.e., “target group” students or other students) who similarly complete application procedures and are determined eligible by the College. 	
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

- Applicants who are not selected will have their deposits refunded. **Deposits for applicants who are selected are non-refundable.** College of the Rockies and Aurora College reserve the right to cancel the program due to insufficient enrollment or other factors beyond its control. In case of program cancellation, College of the Rockies will refund deposits.
- It is the responsibility of participating students to continuously comply with their college’s criteria for eligibility until the date of departure to one’s international destination. Those who fail to do so will have their participation terminated and will not have payments made to the College refunded.

What happens after I’m selected?

- In September, shortly after the selection process, you will be asked to sign a letter of agreement in which you will commit to all aspects of the exchange program, conduct yourself in a responsible and professional manner, and comply with the College of the Rockies’ risk management plan and emergency protocols for travel abroad. Aurora College participants will also be asked to commit to compliance with Aurora College’s risk management plan and emergency protocols.
- You will be expected to create a Global Skills Opportunity program profile and complete pre-departure and post-visit surveys. **Failure to comply may result in the College requesting that you repay Global Skills Opportunity funds that have been attributed to your experience.**
- At the end of September, you will be enrolled in the College of the Rockies’ Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course, which will provide College of the Rockies recognition of enhanced global awareness and intercultural competencies that should result from participation in this exchange.
- You will be expected to participate in activities and complete assignments related to the Global Engagement course, including four 1.5 hour sessions that will be scheduled between September 2023 and April 2024. Assignments focus on researching practical considerations and cultural aspects related to travel, identifying, assessing and developing strategies to manage risk, and developing strategies to communicate in culturally diverse contexts and manage culture shock.

- During the last week of September (probably scheduled early one day before classes), you will participate in a video meeting with Danish colleagues during which the exchange program will be explained to you in more detail. You will be assigned to be part of a small group and expectations related to your collaborative project will be explained to you.
- During the first week of October, it is expected that your group will meet to introduce yourselves to one another and begin discussing your assignment. It will be up to you to determine a work schedule, including when and how frequently you will wish to meet.
- During a week in October, activities will be planned in Cranbrook and Yellowknife for in-person engagement with your Danish colleagues. This will include time for your group to meet and to provide updates to participating instructors on your work. Also during this week, you may have the opportunity to accompany Danish students on field trips in your region.
- The due date for the completion of your project will be sometime in November.
- By November 30, 2023, you will provide a copy of your passport (valid until at least October 31, 2024) to the International Office at College of the Rockies.
- Final payment is due by December 10, 2023.
- You will also be asked to sign a waiver, initial and sign the College of the Rockies risk management plan and emergency protocols for travel abroad, and sign the College's protocols for responsible communications while traveling abroad. In addition, as part of College of the Rockies' risk management plan, you will be asked to register with the federal government's registry of Canadians abroad and provide confirmation that you have reviewed the federal government's advice for travel to Denmark. (Note: Aurora College participants may be asked to complete additional requirements that Aurora College may have related risk management.)
- On April 26, 2024, all participating students along with the instructors leading this activity will depart Cranbrook or Yellowknife for Denmark. (College of the Rockies will make travel arrangements for all participants.) You will return on May 5, 2023. In addition to participating in various learning activities in Denmark, you will be asked to complete one reflective essay during your time abroad as part of the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course.
- Sometime during May or June, you will be asked to complete the final assignment related to the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course. This assignment is to engage in communications activity (e.g., deliver a 10-minute presentation to peers or another college or public audience, create a video or podcast, provide a blog post & photo for your college's website, etc.) that describes how your international experience impacted learning in your field of study and / or your career goals and / or your personal growth.

Will I get credit for participating in this exchange?

College of the Rockies	Aurora College
Your collaboration with Danish colleagues can be used to augment your learning in NURS 215. For example, when you complete your NURS 215 concept assignment and your Practice Appraisals, you could reference and use your experience.	

Need more information?

College of the Rockies	Aurora College
Meet with BSN Program Coordinator, Shawna Ryan (sryan@cotr.bc.ca), or the Manager, International Projects and Partnerships, Kerry Brinkert (studyabroad@cotr.bc.ca)	Meet with BSN Instructor Heather LaFoy (hlafoy@auroracollege.nt.ca)

- Check out the VIA University College website: [Study at VIA University College | VIA](#)
- Get to know Denmark: [The best places to go in to Denmark - VisitDenmark](#)