Evan’s Major: Biochemistry

Program: Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences Exchange, Fall

Academic Life: The classroom experience was actually quite a bit different than what I’m used to at UW-Madison. The classes I took (Protein Engineering and Genetic Engineering) focused much more on group work (research projects or lab experiments) than on lectures or independent study. Contrary to the lecture-centered courses I’ve taken at the UW, the vast majority of what I learned was through lab-work or research. Because of this, it felt like a much more hands-on learning experience.

Most Memorable Moments: Attending Gasks thrown by a student organization I was part of were definitely some of the most memorable and enjoyable experiences. A Gask is a type of traditional Swedish student party that gets thrown by the student unions periodically during the school year. They revolve around a three-course dinner where everyone dresses based on the theme (be it formal wear or specific theme costumes). These parties are incredibly fun, and something uniquely Swedish that I could have only done while studying abroad in Uppsala.

Advice for Someone Considering Sweden: If you can, spend the whole year in Sweden! That way you’ll get to enjoy all the Swedish holidays as well as the long days (and when I say long I mean 18 hours of sunlight) in the summer.

“The long winding cobblestone roads and the countless cafes give Uppsala a relaxed and cozy atmosphere that almost demands that you grab a coffee and a pastry, find a nice seat along the Fyris River, and just take it all in.”