

I see an exchange abroad as a chance to learn new things, not only professionally but, perhaps more importantly, on a personal level. I expect to improve my skills in the English language, learn new things related to my current education and in subjects of interest to me and make me more independent in addition to being a great time in which I will make many new memories, friends and experiences.

I study chemical engineering at Uppsala, a quite theoretical programme with less contact with the industry and how factories are designed and work in comparison with many equivalent programmes at other universities around the world. I have chosen courses in chemistry that I find interesting and that are not available to me in Sweden and that are more aligned toward the industry of chemistry, for example *Bioenergy and Biorefining in Canada* at Queen's University and *Chemical Reactor Analysis and Design* at University of Texas.

I believe in the forest as a great resource for future applications in chemistry, both in Sweden and in the World. It can be used to produce biofuel, an alternative to the fossil fuels of today, lubricants and oils, paper and cardboard among many other things. I have chosen to study courses that reflect this, courses in which I will learn more about the conservation and environmental friendly use of the forests as well as how to use the resources of wood as a green, efficient substitute for today's materials and chemicals, for example *Forests as a Global Resource* and *Bioenergy and Biorefining in Canada* at Queen's and *Green Process Chemistry* at Toronto. These are courses that has no equivalent courses at Uppsala University and I am certain that studying forests in Canada, a country with a climate and environmental thought similar to that in Sweden, will be very interesting as well as useful for me and teach me things I can not learn through my regular studies.

I am ambitious and have high goals for my future career, aiming for a position of leadership in the future, as an employee or in my own company. I have chosen courses that represent this where possible, courses that would improve my skills in leadership, communication and teamwork as well as teaching me how organizations are built and maintained with regards to work delegation, motivation and mental health of employees, effectiveness and expansion of businesses.

In addition to the courses that I will use directly in my future career I have also selected courses in topics of interest for me personally, mainly history and astronomy but also in languages and criminology. I do not normally have the time or opportunity to study these subjects at Uppsala but I would love to be able to use this opportunity to learn more, especially history from a north American point of view.

My first university of choice is Queen's University in Kingston, Canada. This is a high-class university in a city of about the same size of Uppsala that offers great opportunities to travel and experience north America because of its great location. The university offers the environmentally focused courses I am looking for as well as being highly ranked in the field of history in which I want to take courses in addition to those in forestry, environment and chemistry.

My second choice is Toronto and its motivation follows the same lines; they offer relevant and interesting courses that I can not take in Sweden while being in a perfect location in Canada. The city is very big and would offer an entirely different experience from Queen's which is similar to Uppsala in size.