

KTH Royal Institute of Technology is one of the most prestigious and well-known technical universities in Europe, located in Stockholm, Sweden. The university is renowned for its strong emphasis on research, innovation, and sustainability, attracting students from around the world. The campus provides a stimulating academic environment with state-of-the-art facilities and a focus on interdisciplinary learning.

During my exchange at KTH as an Electrical Engineering student, I took several courses that enriched both my theoretical and practical understanding of the field. One course that stood out the most was "Image and Video Processing." This course combined in-depth theoretical knowledge with hands-on MATLAB projects, where we implemented algorithms such as edge detection, image enhancement, and compression. Through these practical tasks, I learned how to process real-world images and videos, which significantly improved my coding skills and understanding of signal processing techniques.

Outside the classroom, life in Stockholm was equally rewarding. The city's culture emphasizes balance and sustainability, and I enjoyed exploring local traditions, seasonal events, and nature. I joined activities organized by the THS student organization and international student groups, which helped me build friendships with peers from different cultural backgrounds.

This exchange program brought me several key benefits. It significantly improved my technical and programming skills, especially through the hands-on projects and coursework. In addition, working closely with students from different cultural backgrounds strengthened my ability to collaborate in multicultural teams. The experience also enhanced my independence and adaptability, as I had to navigate life and studies in a new environment. Furthermore, it allowed me to expand my international network.

One challenge I faced was adjusting to the self-directed learning style at KTH, which places more responsibility on students compared to my home university. I overcame this by actively participating in group discussions and seeking guidance from professors and classmates. Additionally, I experienced some cultural shock, such as adapting to the Swedish communication style, which is more reserved but highly respectful. I addressed this by keeping an open mind and gradually finding common ground through daily interactions.

Overall, this exchange has made me more confident, independent, and open-minded. It has broadened my worldview and encouraged me to consider further international opportunities in the future. I highly recommend this program to students who are looking for a valuable academic and personal growth experience.