

New Programme in Global Nutrition and Health

VIA University College's new international programme in nutrition and health has generated a great deal of interest both in Denmark and the rest of the world.

VIA University College is offering a new international health education programme. It's called *Global Bachelor Programme in Nutrition and Health* and, as the name indicates, it provides a global perspective on nutrition and health. The programme is for both international and Danish students who wish to get out into the world.

"We focus on international affairs. With the Global Bachelor Programme in Nutrition and Health, our students will be ready for an international career. On completion of the programme, they will typically be employed as NGO workers or for Danish companies abroad", tells Karen Søndergaard, Head of Studies at the Global Bachelor Programme in Nutrition and Health.

The international programme is housed with the Danish nutrition and health programme in Aarhus. The instruction is conducted in English and all assignments and examinations must be completed in English. In addition to the language aspect, there are also cultural benefits from the international programme.

"It can be highly positive for Danish students to study with young people from other countries. Your perspective on life expands," the Head of Studies says.

Applicants from China and the USA

Being a professional education programme, the study programme also includes several placement periods of which a number will take place abroad. A lot of effort is put into finding suitable placement facilities e.g. with some of the large Danish companies that operate on an international level with foodstuffs.

The interest in the new programme has been great with more than 40 applicants from e.g. India, China and Bulgaria.

"In many of these countries there are no programmes like the one we offer. They are only now starting to take an interest in subjects like nutrition, health and psychology – subjects where you focus on yourself and the body. It requires economic surplus," Karen Søndergaard explains.

One of the students who have applied to the programme is 32-year-old American Adam Cole.

He lives in an Aarhus suburb with his wife and is in no position to travel the distance of 300 km to Copenhagen, which so far has been the only possible place to attend the programme in Denmark.

"I have always been interested in nutrition and health, because many in my family have health-related jobs or work as doctors. It is extremely interesting that the programme has an international environment. The cultural differences are exciting and I think that the students can learn many things from each other", Adam Cole says. He explains that he would like to work as a child nutrition and health advisor on diabetes, overweight, etc.

Facts on the Global Bachelor Programme in Nutrition and Health

- The Global Bachelor Programme in Nutrition and Health is a professional bachelor degree
- Focus is on nutrition and health in an international perspective
- The programme admits both Danish and international students
- The Global Bachelor Programme in Nutrition and Health is of 3½ years' duration, corresponding to 210 ECTS credit points
- The language of instruction is English