My memorable experience reports at Lapland University

My name is Atchara Lertthamrongsak. My friends call me Tai. I originally come from Thailand, where the name “Land of Smiles” has awarded the global tourisms. I have been in Germany one year before I joined the Master degree at EULISP (European Legal Informatics Study Program) at Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany in 2014. One of the main reasons why I joined this program was ERASMUS+.

ERASMUS+ is a program, which stands for exchanging students within the European Union. ERASMUS+ provides students an opportunity to learn and develop their skills about other countries during their stay abroad as an exchange student. I have been granted by ERASMUS+ to study Legal Informatics at Lapland University, Finland where I faced -40 degrees Celsius in “Spring Semester”. I spent my second semester there during January until May 2015. I would like to thank DAS, the organization about accommodation for students at this University, which organized a wonderful and large accommodation with an affordable price compared to accommodation’s rate in Scandinavian countries, even though it took me 45 minutes to walk 4 kilometers from my dorm to University. While I was studying in Finland, I stayed at DAS XI Kuntotie 3 where there was no internet connection. Thus, I had to pay 17 Euros for unlimited mobile internet (DNA Network) and shared the internet to my laptop. I stayed in a shared apartment thus, I also had a roommate. I had many friends in my dorm. No matter how old you are, which country you come from, you can go from door to door and see faces, have fun and exchange your knowledge with each other’s. This place is rather like home than simply the place to stay during your study aboard. I barely stayed outside during January until March due to weather and temperature, however, only this time of the year would give me a chance to know more about Lapland aside from the University. Therefore, I and my friends organized a trip to one place called “Santa Clause Village”. At this town, you can also get a postcard stamped from Santa Clause.
The Finish say that when the darkness comes, you can see the northern light. I had the possibility to see the northern light from my dorm. I was amazed by one of the most fantastic scenes of my entire life.

Talking about studying at Lapland University, I would say that it was a cultural shock. I had many classes to choose, to attend and to register, but the actual number of study classes was less than I expected in the end. Most of the time, I spent time in library to research on topics I had chosen for my term papers. For one subject, for instance, I only had 6 hours of lecture and then I had to write a term paper with round about 30 pages. This type of study made me very thoughtful academic person. The focus at my guest university lay upon independent study.
Spring Semester at Lapland University 2014/2015
Master Degree in Legal Informatics