



# Øresund Summer University in Copenhagen, Denmark

## By Ashley Borell '06

### Never Again? Genocide in Bosnia, Rwanda and Darfur



Clark students and our genocide course professors before having lunch



Our classroom at the University of Copenhagen Center for African Studies

#### HIGHLIGHTS of the genocide course

- The definition of Genocide
- The concept of genocidal mentality
- The media and bystanders during genocide
- Talk with a Rwanda survivor
- The international community's response to genocide
- Truth, justice and reconciliation?
- Human Rights Law
- Prevention



One of the many beautiful squares in Copenhagen



Ashley and The Mermaid

#### HIGHLIGHTS of my experience in Copenhagen

- Day trip to Lund, Sweden for a lecture by Professor Gregor Noll
- Diversity of nationalities in the classroom
- Class discussion
- Nightlife/shopping
- University social program

Eric Markusen, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology and Social Work, Southwest Minnesota State University, USA; affiliates with Department for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Danish Institute for International Studies.



Martin Mennecke, L.L.M., Ph.D, Student (International Law), Department for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Danish Institute for International Studies.



#### Course Description from the 2006 Syllabus by Martin Mennecke and Eric Markusen

After the horrors of the Holocaust, the international community drafted the U.N. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and pledged "never again" should such evil strike humanity. The pledge proved empty; numerous genocides followed.

The cases of Bosnia (1992-1995) and Rwanda (1994) are particularly relevant: they happened in our lifetimes, just over a decade ago. The genocidal violence in Bosnia took place only a few hours flight from Copenhagen-in Europe. The genocide in Rwanda occurred after many international warnings had been issued and with U.N. Peacekeepers present. This time we knew.

In 2004, when the world commemorated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda, we learnt of a new deadly conflict taking place in Darfur, a province of Sudan. Since then, much has happened: Kofi Annan and Colin Powell visited refugee camps in Darfur; the U.N. Security Council has issued a number of resolutions concerning Darfur; the African Union has sent soldiers to Darfur; the International Criminal Court has started investigations concerning crimes committed in Darfur. But one thing has not changed-the crimes still continue.

How could and can all this happen? What makes people participate in mass killing? Is there no obligation to intervene to stop the slaughtering of civilians? In our class, we will examine and analyze the events of Bosnia, Rwanda and Darfur in order to learn how such processes start, how they develop, and how they might be prevented.



The Copenhagen Canal Tour - part of the University Social Program



### Join Them Next Year!!!!

For more information about next summer, please visit:

<http://www.uni.oresund.org/sw1221.asp>



Ashley Borell, Jody Manning and Julie Mercier-Point attending the Copenhagen Social Program



Having lunch with classmates on the Canal