



## **Weather observations and forecasts included in geoscience fieldtrips: Preparations for a theoretical study.**

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In Norway Geosciences (2006) is a subject in Programmes for Specialization in General Studies – Natural Science and Mathematical Studies in upper secondary education. A main subject area is Geosciences Research. It focuses on investigation of conditions like bedrock, land forms, water, loose masses and local climates in a delimited geographic area. The main subject area also is concerned with how weather reports are prepared. We try to include weather observations and assessment of the forecasts in geoscience fieldtrips as preparations for a theoretical study. One week before the fieldtrip the students download the long term forecasts for the area from the website yr.no (n.d.) from The Norwegian Meteorological Institute (n.d.) The following days they download weather maps, satellite images and radar plottings to make a slide show of the development of weather systems like for instance extra-tropical cyclones which frequently visit Norway. The day before the fieldtrip the students download the short term forecasts for the next day, and the climate statistics for the area. During the field trip they make own observations of the meteorological parameters like precipitation, temperature, pressure, humidity, wind and clouds, to make an informed assessment of the long term and short term forecasts for the day, and to compare with the climate statistics. Back at school, they present and discuss the development of weather systems, their assessments of the forecasts and the climate statistics. This practical field project makes the basis for more theoretical studies of weather and weather systems; how the process from observations, models and weather maps to the final weather reports is conducted; and discussions about climate systems and climate change. Climate Change is another main subject area in Geosciences (2006).

References retrieved 25.04.2012:

Geosciences (2006). Download the curriculum from: <http://www.udir.no/Stottemeny/English/Curriculum-in-English/Upper-secondary-education/>

yr.no (n.d.). <http://www.yr.no/>

The Norwegian Meteorological Institute (n.d.) <http://met.no/>