

## Murhaf Khateeb

Contact:

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Home University: German Jordanian University

Host University: DHBW-Stuttgart

Major of study: Mechanical Engineering

Degree: Bachelor Student

Semesters in host university: One semester

Duration: 01.10.2018 – 01.01.2019

Before starting our journey in Germany, we as German Jordanian university students have taken 6 courses in German until we reach B1 level for me I did additional courses in LGC institute until I reached the B2 level. It was not that easy but at that moment I knew that being better in language will end up having a better experience and knowledge and that what I got.

Even though we had many classes about the German culture, still it was a new and rich experience to integrate with German culture, we had to read and do presentations about many German cultural perspectives. Food, football, hardworking, respect time, and following the system were the important points at my impression about Germany before coming. It was a true impression, since here in Germany there are different kind of food, almost everyone I met was a football fan, people here do work really hard. Most of the time people in Germany are on time but that is not a rule as I thought because some did break it. As for the German system, I noticed that people do a lot to stay under the system which is a very respected feature you can touch here in Germany.

Politically speaking, as a foreign I thought things will be a little bit easier because if the DHBW-staff was not there for me, I could have been lost now. Since I don't know what papers and other staff I need, still they informed me and gave helped me in almost every paper and detail that I need for my stay here in Germany, actually the main problem in this matter was the language because I couldn't find an English paper to fill or something like that.

DHBW-Stuttgart a university of opportunities, as for my studies as mechanical engineering they offered me everything that I wanted, many programs included, related to cars or engineering or even research and development, but the most important thing that they offered me a friendly environment from the first moment so I could focus on my study and the programs that I'm included in.

For me I got a big interest in cars and DHBW-Stuttgart offers a module that include subjects as cars powertrains, car gearboxes and transmissions, also I took another subject from another module which was really interesting (construction management and construction engineering). These 3 subjects had fulfilled my interest in cars and also in development. Not to forget that these subjects were not only theoretical, so with a very good equipment I had the chance to discover every technology related to the mentioned subjects by hand. And also exploring the concepts and see its application. On the other hand, the teachers were very helpful and cooperative. And when they knew that I am an outlander student they tried to explain some points as much simple as they could so I can understand.

Even though I have 4 subjects, I was ambitious to experience more and more programs in DHBW-Stuttgart so I was a participant at Asian Management course which is a very interesting subject that tackled the economical, industrial, cultural, political, etc staff of many Asian countries. Also, I participated in the formula student team of DHBW-Stuttgart which is a very new experience for me. So, I learned another practical staff related to my studies and the most important that I was involved in doing a task as a team member, which is a full new experience for me. And the last thing that I'm trying to complete a student project which is compulsory for regular students, I really want to take the challenge and have my project as well, specially that the idea is already there, so now I'm working on Gear remanufacturing project with a great help and support from the DHBW-Stuttgart staff. I don't know how I managed to do all that, but as I said DHBW-Stuttgart is a university of opportunities and you can choose if you are going to hold this opportunity.

In comparison with my Home University German Jordanian University, I can say that there is a big difference in the system and the way of offering the programs even in the way of teaching, both are amazing, so it's a pleasure for me to say that I had the chance to experience two high qualified systems and university.

I had a great experience in Germany, different culture with different system and way of thinking was a hard thing to face at the beginning. Fortunately, I managed to integrate with the culture and system and also the way of thinking. Communication skills are very important they said, but German people are very friendly I say.

I tried to visit as much cities as I could so at the first month I went for a fair in Frankfurt (Automechanika) and the feeling of update my knowledge about the field that I am going to work in was very interesting. On the other hand, I managed to go to most of the organized event by our beloved study buddies, climbing trees, exploring the city, exploring the night life of Stuttgart, going to Europa Park, enjoying a special time with all of them and the Erasmus student was amazing. Personally, I went also to visit Dresden with a great friend that I knew through DHBW-Stuttgart events, also I went to Dusseldorf, München Reutlingen and Mainz. I noticed that every city got its own feature. Even though they all follow the same system and way of living but I noticed the difference in many things such as dialects, places to go, and the history of each city.

I had an impression before I came to Germany but now I have the best experience about it, I did not have the time to experience everything yet, because I am staying in Germany for one year not only for one semester, so I still have some time, noticing that I need to do an internship next semester, I had to go also in the working field so I am applying to many companies. And this is a great experience that Germany is giving to me as well, not only because they have a lot of companies and departments, but also because they have a different qualification and needs that I need to go through.

Being in Germany and DHBW-Stuttgart was one of my best experiences, since I learned a lot, I enjoyed a lot and I had the chance to involved in a special program in a special country with special people under a special staff. Germany is great land to live in and to be in as well. Also, DHBW-Stuttgart is a special university to be in as well, since they have a great international office staff, as well as teaching staff and great students.

As a Foreign student I have some tips for anyone who's coming to Germany, starting from having a good knowledge in the German language, communicating with other people, try to gain the experience and hold the opportunities, and enjoy the experience. Because at the end your achievements and experience are all what you will have.

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