

Are you just observing or are you already integrating?

HISTORY FROM EVERYDAY LIFE

Who hasn't experienced it? A simple application to the authorities and you are already faced with several pages of pure bureaucracy in order to be allowed to submit an application in the first place. Even we, who grew up in Germany and were raised with the German language, find it difficult to keep track of everything and may be dependent on help. When we asked three international students of the OTH Amberg-Weiden about their experiences here, we were therefore very surprised how they manage despite additional language hurdles. We would like to share these and other exciting impressions from a different perspective later on by means of some excerpts from our interviews.

OWN EXPERIENCE

At the beginning of our studies here at the OTH Amberg-Weiden, it was also difficult for us to get off to a good start. Due to restrictions caused by the Corona pandemic, it was sometimes impossible to make social contacts and get to know fellow students. So we were also very happy about everyone with whom we could simply exchange ideas and get the feeling that we are not quite as alone as



we sometimes think.

We therefore know very well the desire to get to know fellow students and to build friendships in order to lead a lively student life in Weiden. All the more we now long to let these contacts blossom and to see the OTH Amberg-Weiden with many international faces.

We know the worry and need of not wanting to be alone!

A little tip on the side: You set your own limits and many people out there are happy to help you, maybe even more than you think.

INTERVIEW

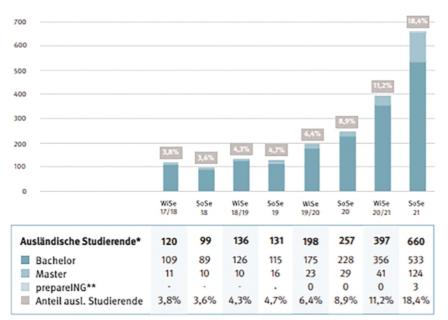
Our motive is to create togetherness, to get to know international students better, to see how they integrate and deal with difficulties. Therefore, we interviewed three people, from New Zealand, Egypt

Internationalisierung



Entwicklung der ausländischen Studierenden

nach Abschluss



^{*} Studierende mit ausländischer Staatsangehörigkeit

Quelle: Studierendenstatistik - Primuss, Stand: 07.06.2021

and Russia. Despite the fact that the countries are geographically very far apart, the prevailing German stereotypes such as punctuality, that family comes first and that Germans are hard-working people were basically confirmed.

The following is an excerpt from our interview.

INTERVIEW

- **1. What is typically German for you** To be on time means 5 min early.
- 2. What is typically german for you?
 Wanted to validate everything eg. how fast, how much benefit does it have
- 3. With which cultural realities can you identify?

Put your family first.

- 4. inhich situation did you feel confronted with German culture for the first time?

 To be late for a train.
- 5. When did you feel misunderstood or insecure?

I called Caritas and they hung up 3 times when I tried to speak German.

6. What points of contact did you have? And how did they help you?

At the beginning Tandem language exchange - Helped me understand that it's okay if you suck at German the main thing

is just to keep trying.

TO THE END

We would also like to mention the recently founded International Students Club (ISC). This club wants to take off in the coming summer semester of 2022 and organise regular meetings and events for international students, primarily to build a community and also to offer a contact point for those who have recently arrived in Germany.



The club would also be happy to have some new dedicated helpers.

CONCLUSION

are you at the conclusion?what is the number of the orga guy of the study club what was written on the notice board?

This report is meant to encourage you, dear readers. We are in the same boat together. There are options to support and affirm each other.

For the International Study Club, contact the e-mail addresses: j.gross@oth-aw.de undi.alvarez@oth-aw.de.

International students also are welcome to contact the International Study club to have contact persons on your side.

Finally, we would like to appeal to all students to find an time for a little talk, because this already helps some people a lot, in their everyday life and to treat other people with care.



Ostbayerische Technische Hochschule Amberg-Weiden

READ THE FULL INTERVIEW



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^{**} Orientierungsstudium prepareING (Modulstudium) - seit WiSe 2019/20