



## Erfahrungsbericht – Sprachkurse und Sommerschulen in Bayern

Sprachkurs/Sommerschule:

**Bayreuth International Summer School; Science & Engineering of Polymers & Colloids**

Einrichtung: **Universität Bayreuth**

Zeitraum und Ort: **04.07. – 15.07.2022, Bayreuth**

I was attending the Science & Engineering of Polymers & Colloids at the International Summer School at Bayreuth University at the beginning of July 2022. The summer course was two weeks long and I enjoyed every second of it. It was a great opportunity for me to meet my fellow peers/young scientists interested in the same field as me and learn from the lecturers who all were experts in their field. It covered the basics and the newest developments of many interesting topics, including colloid science, electrospinning, composite materials, and challenges in the sustainable production of plastics just to name a few.

The University of Bayreuth has one of the best polymer science and engineering departments in Germany, cooperating with many big companies in the industry. I knew that by attending the summer course I will gain valuable knowledge and it will give me some new ideas for my doctoral thesis research. The lecturers were amazing, very knowledgeable, and respected in their research field. Some of them flew in from as far as Australia to give their lectures in person.

My classmates were from all over the world (Thailand, China, India, Latvia, and Germany), and I appreciated that I had the chance to get to know them and their research. And the fact that even after 6 hours of lectures they were willing to hang out together in the evening exploring Bayreuth was just a plus.





I liked how the course was organised. Except one small detail. The six hours of lectures per day were demanding and mentally very challenging. I would have appreciated having fewer lectures in one day, even if that meant prolonging the summer school by one week.

To prepare for the summer course I tried to refresh my German language skills by looking up some of the often-used phrases. I also looked up the places to visit in Bavaria. The webpage of the summer school was very helpful in this, containing all the information needed.

Bayreuth is a beautiful smaller town with a significant number of students studying at the University of Bayreuth. In my free time, I enjoyed exploring the town very much. The Margravia Opera House which is part of the UNESCO Heritage List is worth a visit. Weekdays after the lectures I explored the local cuisine and the town of Bayreuth. The organizers of the summer also prepared various activities for us, we could attend a guided tour of Bayreuth, sports activities, and a language café. There was a weekend trip to Berlin, which I of course attended and adored very much. Also, we had an opening dinner and farewell dinner to enjoy. Every morning before the lectures I was attending a German language class taught by one of the organizers. This made me realize that my German skills are not hopelessly lost and now I am motivated to better them even after the end of summer school. One of them was a weekend trip to Berlin, which I of course attended. Also, we had an opening dinner and farewell dinner to enjoy.

I enjoyed learning about the newest developments in colloid science and polymer engineering. After this experience, I am left with a lot of new ideas for my research. I met some amazing people from all over the world and made friends with them. I am sure this is not my last time visiting Bayreuth and Bavaria as there is so much more left to explore.

Krisztina Lelkes

