



Erfahrungsbericht – Sprachkurse und Sommerschulen in Bayern

Sprachkurs/Sommerschule: KU Summer School

Einrichtung: **Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt**

Zeitraum und Ort: **17.07. – 06.08.2022, Eichstätt**

I am going to write this report in English as I feel I would not yet be able to express all my thoughts and ideas adequately in German.

I attended Summer School in the German city of Eichstätt. My main motivation for applying for this programme was definitely the desire to get better at the German language. In my opinion, the best way how to improve in a certain language is to travel to a country where this language is spoken. That way one can be in really close contact with the language and is “forced” to use it much more than when self-studying or at school. Another great source of motivation for me was the passion to meet new people and make new friends. I have attended summer school in Edinburgh before and I have made some incredible memories there and made loads of new friendships. My stay in Eichstätt was no different.

In my eyes, it is really important that one attends a course like this alone. If attended with a friend, you don't get to interact with new people as much. Furthermore, you would speak your native language more and that is not really productive. My other advice before travelling would be to take part in any (probably online) activities before the course. Make the most out of any opportunity to get to know the people before you actually meet in person. It significantly reduces the fear of travelling to a foreign country all alone.

When it comes to the learning itself, I think I gained a lot from it. I claim that it is important not to be the smartest in the room (class). For me, it was definitely like that. Some of the





things we would learn would be easier, some harder and other things I have never learned before and were really tough for me. Another thing is to practice the language also outside of the lectures. From my own experience, I know that it can be sometimes really frustrating not being able to express your thoughts in the language you are trying to learn. But I think these are the things that help the person to move further. Over time, you will slowly gain confidence in speaking the language and you will really improve. However, it's important to bear in mind that gaining this confidence takes time.

In general, for me, the moments I got to experience during my stay in Eichstätt (and in Edinburgh about which I talked earlier) are the best moments ever experienced in my life. Every time I created a very strong relationship with the people I have met there and got to live the best life with them. Meeting those people also developed my personality a lot. You get to know their views of the world and their life experiences and talk about things they are passionate about etc. I met many interesting people who I want to stay in contact with even after the study programme and hopefully meet soon.

I encourage anyone who has the opportunity to experience something like this to GO, you will not regret your decision!

