
ERFAHRUNGSBERICHT SOMMERSPRACHKURSE IN BAYERN 2020

Heimatland:	Bosnien und Herzegowina
Studiengang:	Politikwissenschaft
Sprachkurs in Bayern:	von 03.08. bis 28.08.2020
Kursort in Bayern:	München
Sprachkursniveau des besuchten Kurses:	B2.1

Reflection on the summer course on LMU and the experience with BAYHOST

For the past few years, attending a BAYHOST-funded German language summer course was one of the top priorities on my to-do list. I have heard about BAYHOST from my German language high school teacher, but I was not able to apply, because I was too young or because I had some important plans for that summer. This year in March, I finally applied for this summer course, and while I was not expecting to attend the course online, I was certainly not disappointed by the content and knowledge that I got while attending the online summer course at LMU Munich. For the application, I needed to send a few documents like my transcript of records, as well as a letter of motivation. It is also important to remember that it is necessary to fill in the online application, and afterwards send it all by post.

In July, I got to know that I will be attending the online course by the Munich-based university LMU. The staff (teacher, organizers, etc.) was always very helpful, and sent every information and document on time. I am sad that I could not visit Munich during my summer course but the teacher and staff did everything they could to offer us the possibility to hear about Germany, Bavaria, and Munich, and we had the opportunity to virtually visit different parts of Munich.

Our teacher, combined many different methods of teaching, and we focused on different types of exercises for listening, writing, and speaking. In the morning, we usually worked while using our online book and in the afternoon, we mainly focused on speaking. It is also important to mention that we had many group works, homework, work with the teacher, but also individual work where we also managed to assess our own capabilities and needs. During the course, we also had a 1:1 online meeting with our teacher, where we talked about our personal opinions about our course, our insecurities, as well as about everyday topics, so that we can practice our German speaking.

I particularly like it that our teacher was sending us music in German language, and also recommending us websites and movies so that we can practice our language in fun and easy ways.

I feel that there are many disadvantages to online summer courses, since we were not able to communicate with people in German, both from our class, as well as in Bavaria. Furthermore, very often

it is not possible to share knowledge the same way as when the course is in classroom. However, I believe that this online course also offered us to possibility to experience new types of learning, and to focus on the things that we want to learn, and not the whole group.

This course has helped me make my German skills better, especially my talking and writing skills, since I have been watching German movies and listening to German music for a long time now and it has helped me to reach a high level in my listening skills. Most importantly, it helped me to focus on reading more content in German, and I have to say, that now, from time to time, I even start thinking in German 😊

I believe that this course, but also my advanced German skill will help me in my future work and career. I am an international relations student, and before this course, I was already collaborating with many organizations from Germany and Austria, and I hope that now we will not have a language barrier at all, and that we will be able to work together in a more productive manner.

I would asses my experience with the LMU online summer course and BAYHOST as very positive, the organization and administration were very helpful, and fast when responding. Furthermore, the teacher(s) at LMU offered us a lot of knowledge, and they invested a lot of time in preparing the classes, and maximizing our learning process. While I learnt a lot even via the Zoom platform, I am still very sure that the experience would be much better if it was an in-class course in Bavaria.

I will definitely recommend this course and scholarship to other students in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Western Balkans region. I hope that next year already, student and scholarship recipients will be able to attend some of the BAYHOST- funded German language courses all around Bavaria, and in that way, besides learning German, also manage to travel through Bavaria, learn some Bavarian/German customs/traditions, and also meet other students from Europe and around the world.