

ERFAHRUNGSBERICHT SOMMERSPRACHKURSE IN BAYERN 2018

Heimatland:	Bosnien und Herzegowina
Studiengang:	Pharmazie
Sprachkurs in Bayern:	von 06.08. bis 01.09.2018
Bezeichnung des Sprachkurses:	Sprach- und Kommunikationskurs
Kursort in Bayern:	Bayreuth
Sprachkursniveau des besuchten Kurses:	A2.2

First of all, I want to thank to BAYHOST for receiving a scholarship. For me, visiting Germany and having an opportunity to learn German for a month was a dream. At the beginning of the year I heard about BAYHOST and was really happy and excited. I fulfilled the application form and I hoped that I would receive good news in May. Few months after, I got an email where I was informed that I was selected for a scholarship for the German summer language course in Bayreuth. At first I was so happy, but then I started to worry about how I would arrange everything and whether I could handle this.

The cheapest and safest way to travel from Sarajevo to Bayreuth is definitely by bus (Centrotrans and Flixbus). I had to change buses two times, firstly in Zagreb, then in Munich and finally I arrived in Bayreuth. I bought my ticket one month before the course started. When I came to Bayreuth after 24h of travelling, I met other participants at the bus station and we went together to the campus. There, employees of the summer university were waiting for us. They gave us materials with all information about the city and campus, course, public transport in Bayreuth and everything what we were interested about and the keys to our rooms.

After that, our tutors escorted us to our rooms. My room was on campus (Kreuzstein). It was a really big, clean room on the first floor. I had my own bathroom and a little kitchen. It took me only 5 minutes to get from my room to our classroom.

From Monday to Friday the course started at 9.00 am and lasted until 12.30 am (we had 30 minutes break). After the course, there was a lunch break until 1.30 pm and after that we had a communication course until 3.00 pm. It was pretty intensive at the beginning, but after a few days I got used to the timetable. Every day we had little optional excursions (visiting Opernhaus, Eremitage, Neues Schloss) and the tickets cost approximately 6 euros. The cultural programme in the evening was also really extensive and interesting. If you were interested, you could take part in a choir, go to a theatre workshop, participate in different sport activities, watch movies every Thursday evening etc. and that was all for free.

The course was really great and our teacher was really devoted. We covered different topics to practice speaking and listening and we have done a little bit of grammatics every day, but also we

became acquainted with culture in Germany, Taiwan, China, Japan, Russia, BiH. Personally I didn't like the fact that we didn't have a book, but each day the teacher gave us a papers with materials for that day. Our teacher adjusted the course to our level of knowledge. If she noticed that we did not know something, she always took some time to explain that to us.

Every Saturday we had an excursion to different cities in Bavaria. I have visited Bamberg, Dresden and Regensburg and the city I liked the most was Bamberg. It is a little town, but each corner represents history and it has a special spirit. These excursions were a great opportunity to learn and practice German and also to become familiar with the German culture.

For me personally, studying German is really important because when I get my master's degree in BiH, I want to apply for a PhD in Germany. Therefore, I need a very high level of language, so I applied to the summer course because I thought that a better understanding of German and improving my speaking skills would help me to integrate better into the environment and also enable me to read difficult academic articles and other literature, which are all written in German. At this time, my knowledge of German is not good enough to read academic articles (and I also did not expect to be a 'native speaker' after one month), but after this course I can easily communicate about different daily topics. That is a lot for me, because before the course I used to speak only in English, despite being able to perfectly understand the conversation. Therefore, I'm really satisfied due to the fact that I overcame the problem when it comes to speaking German and now I feel more relaxed about participating in conversations.

At the end, a few things about Bayreuth in general: The city is small, but beautiful. I was enchanted immediately. The Campus is 10 minutes by foot from the city center. It has a shopping mall, as well as cafes and restaurants. Prices in Bayreuth were not so high as in other German cities (for example Munich, Dresden), for example: a scoop of ice cream cost 1,20 €, a cup of tea in bars 2,00 €, a glass of beer 3,5 €, pizza 10,00 € etc. I ate lunches in the Mensa. One lunch cost approximately 4,50 €. I downloaded the app "Uni Bayreuth", where I could see a menu for each day and all prices of the food. I could also buy reasonably priced food and cosmetics in different supermarkets (Lidl, Norma, Rewe, dm). If you buy things judiciously, pocket money should be enough for the whole month.

I'm really honored to be a BAYHOST scholarship recipient. It was really valuable to take part in this summer school and I'm so grateful for the opportunity to improve my knowledge about German culture and language. This month was a wonderful experience with amazing people and I strongly support young people to apply next year for a scholarship because this is priceless!