

Studies in University of Mannheim

On August 30, 2010, I started my new life in Germany.

To begin with, my target school was University of Mannheim, a most distinguished school renowned for management researches and applications in Germany. Internationalization has been given great priority in this school by offering various English courses both for its undergraduates and graduates. I was deeply impressed by the university's teaching style which is completely different from what we are accustomed to in China. To name just a few, almost every course in the University of Mannheim is followed by an exercise or a tutorial whose aims are to help the students better understand what they have been taught in relative courses. Exercises are often illustrated by some case studies, and tutorials are mostly given by senior students. This pattern contributes a lot to the consolidation of knowledge and helps reduce the students' burden at the end of the semester.

In addition to the above-mentioned teaching style, I found the German students very active in class, pondering and distinguishing instead of laboriously recording what they have heard from their teachers, which is also quite different from the performances of Chinese students. They are much more flexible in thoughts than us, while we may probably do better in Mathematics than them.

With regards to practice, University of Mannheim enjoys a high reputation for its cooperation with enterprises. Guests from enterprises are often invited to give lectures on a fairly wide range of subjects. Giants like Boston Consulting Company, Deutsche Bank, and McKinsey are easy to access here!

It's really nice to be in a Schengen State, because you can shuttle between countries without extra procedures. I, taking this opportunity, have paid visits to a great many European countries such as France, Italy, Spain and Austria, through which my vision has been broadened and my life enriched.

Also, the open environment in the University of Mannheim has bestowed on me many a friends from all over the world. Life here is sometimes lonely though; friends

can keep us warm and teach us a lot.

In general, Germany is an ideal place for living and studying. It costs you little, and gives you much; besides, it enjoys good social security as well as hospitality.

(Chen Lu)

