



Hacettepe Üniversitesi Edebiyat Fakültesi İngiliz Dili ve Edebiyatı Bölümü Erasmus+ Öğrenci Değişim Programı Gözlem Raporu

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Öğrencinin gözlemleri:

- a. Kültürel Gözlemler**
- b. Akademik Gözlemler**

a. What astounded me the most is the culture of Germany and how warm the German people are unlike how they are portrayed as being cold and prejudicial against Turkish people in the media. Whenever one gets lost in a city or needs help somehow, one can get that help with a smile in a warm and gentle way. And as a positive quality, most of the Germans are fluent and capable of communicating in English, that's why nobody can be without help in a literal way. Most of the Germans are very open minded and radical in many issues for example if a homosexual couple is seen while holding hands in the street, it is not frowned upon and criticized but on the contrary it is seen as normal and natural; however, if this case was to happen in a country like Turkey, they would be beaten to death or put behind bars, surely. Germans are very civil and respectful towards others' rights as well; for example, if there is a queue before register in a supermarket, everybody waits their own turn and nobody tries to steal other people's place or tries to sneak into the line. It is a very democratic country filled with unusually rule abiding citizens. The transportation system is another positive side because there are lots of trains, metros, trams and buses to reach the destinations and there are night expresses for people who stay till late or go to a pub or have some fun at midnight which is impossible for someone in Turkey where transportation is limited and getting more and more restricted every passing day... Many traditional foods and drinks which may seem unorthodox for someone coming from an Islamic country can look awry at first as the time passes they are missed and sought after. Lastly, having the opportunity to

witness the magical Christmas time and New Year in Germany was priceless. The fairs, Christmas markets and many other activities in this breath-taking time of the year was a horizon broadenig experience. Getting to know other cultures and religions can be very helpful in the path of self-development one has to go through in his/her life. When I look back in time, I see myself as a more self-confident, mature and experienced in a sense. But maybe the reason why these incidents and events are gladdening and joy bringing, is stemming from the fact that I made a long lasting German friend who was there for me in my endeavours and supported me in my every little problem.

b. The education system in Germany is much more different, superior but sometimes lacking when compared to Turkey. The education in a German university is mostly based on interactive and self-developing oral methods. Every student has to submit an oral report during the course, every student has to talk and participate in during the lesson instead of sulking and staying silent at the back of the classroom which is the case in a Turkish university. German students are more active, self-assertive and have a firm grasp on speaking English than Turkish students. However the education is also lacking in terms of the content and the knowledge conveyed. When compared to what I learned in my classes in Turkey, I see that the academic life for me was somehow lighter and not so full of knowledge. But maybe this stems from the fact that Germany's education is more improved and well ahead of the standards in areas like engineering and architecture rather than English language and literature. But anyway the academic experiences were nurturing and helpful in the career plans I am making and my intellectual level.