

Experience Report

I arrived at Hannover in May and had the pleasure of performing research abroad with the Institute for Thermodynamics. This is where I have spent the last three months while learning about the work, and social, culture in Germany.

Hannover / Germany

Public Transportation:

The first thing I did was ride a train and a tram as soon as I got off the plane from the United States, and I haven't stopped yet. This is very convenient for travel in, and around, Hannover.

Feeling Safe:

Hannover, and the people, have been very inviting to me. I have felt safe in the city the entire time I have been here and the people are very friendly. If you show respect to people, they respect you back.

Everyday Life:

The hardest part about Germany is getting used to the fact that nothing is open on Sunday or past ten on most days. You have to plan in advance for food and supplies which was a hard adjustment in the beginning.

Experience at Work

The work experience I encountered abroad was very overwhelming at first because I went into the program knowing nothing about my topic of heat transfer. This mentality quickly changed as I worked in a room of all students who have individual projects under their own professor in the institute. It is a good environment to ask questions and stay productive. The institute also has all of the resources necessary to complete any task. This includes computers, a library, and many programs to help accomplish the goal. Not to mention, all of the faculty are friendly and able to help!

Food and Sport in Hannover

I didn't know what to expect when I first got to Germany in terms of food and sports around the university. I quickly learned Hannover is known to have döner and kebab everywhere. This is a quick and tasty food to eat on occasion. I also enjoyed many good beers including the two brewed in Hannover, Gilde and Herrenhäuser. Only being in Germany for three months made it hard to get invested in a sport, but I run in Herrenhäuser Gärten almost every night and it is the perfect way to get fresh air in a beautiful area.

Leisure Time Activities

After the work day, leisure time is a big concept in Germany. I enjoyed walking around Hannover in the Old Town and near the Central Station because there is lots of good food. On the weekend, when I am not traveling, I enjoy attending festivals and laying in the park on nice days.