

Could you please introduce yourself and what are your specific characteristics?

My name is Jennifer Deborah and I am from India. I am currently doing my master's in data analytics as an international student at university. I am a very happy person. I love to have people around me. I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. I like to listen to music, dance and cook delicious food with friends.

Why did you decide to live in Germany and especially in Hildesheim?

I was working with IBM and wanted to do my master's. I chose Germany because I have already been in Germany three years ago. We liked Germany very much. My parents said it would be a safe and good place for me to study. We liked the city and the university curriculum was good too.

I started studying in 2019. Currently, many universities offer the chance to study data analytics. However, at that time (2019), there were very few universities which had a good curriculum for data analytics. Also, our University had a good set of subjects which were useful in the market, so basically that was the reason I chose Hildesheim. Besides, after applying and being accepted, I found some international groups on Facebook. Some people from India in the groups gave good reviews about the university as well as Hildesheim. I do not regret my decision at all.

Do you like Hildesheim as a city?

Yes, I love Hildesheim. I feel very comfortable here. It has been almost two and a half years. I do not think I would like to move out of Hildesheim. I just love this place. Because the place where I am from in India is a city. Compared to such a city, life in Hildesheim is calmer. I feel very safe and I can go out at any time at night. It is really nice and comfortable living here.

How is your studying going?

The first two semesters I tried to finish most of the important classes that I had to take and from the third semester I started a student job at "keramischer ofenbau". I have been working there for the past two semesters. However, due to the Corona situation, I could not carry on working there. Therefore, I am planning to start writing my master's thesis in the coming semester, which will be starting next month. Besides, from the next month onwards, I am going to work as a Linux administrator at the university.

How do you feel about studying online?

My first two semesters, during which I have finished most of my main subjects, were offline. In the third semester, I had to take a few classes as well as seminars, which took place online. It was a bit difficult for me to get used to it in the beginning because I was used to a certain way of learning. However, the professors and the staff found interactive ways to keep us engaged. They checked on us, making sure we were keeping on our camera feed or by having small quizzes from time to time to keep us active, which was quite useful for us. It was not much of an issue for me and even now when I am planning on starting my thesis, I have Zoom meeting calls with the professors. The platform is very convenient since 3-4 people can attend a meeting at the same time. It would probably be quite difficult for all of them to be accommodated at the same time at university. Therefore, it was easy for us to connect this way. This should be one of the positive aspects of online classes.

What are you interested in?

I love to sing, write poems and write motivational blogs. Whenever I get bored, I try to sing songs or write something or try to learn playing some instruments. Back in India, I had a keyboard. When I went back home for my vacation I was playing on my keyboard, but here I cannot do that. I do not play any instrument in Germany.

Have you ever done any voluntary work?

Back in India, we used to visit orphanages and help the people there. Also, there was a village behind the college where I was studying for my bachelor's. We used to go there and help the people over there with education or some necessities. Over here in Germany, I am helping new students to get by in Hildesheim since by now I am familiar with things around here.

Have you ever participated in any extracurricular activities at the university?

I have been part of the advertisement video for the university, which is on YouTube. I am on the cover page of this semester's university magazine and I have written a few articles for this magazine in the previous semester.

What plans do you have for the future?

I am planning to write my thesis next semester. I just came back from India. I spent time with my parents for about 3 months because I had not seen them since the start of the Corona situation. After my thesis, I am planning to work here for a few years because I really love how it is over here. I enjoy the work culture in Germany, which I could already experience at "Kermischer Ofenbau" or in small jobs with various professors here at the university. Also, I think this would add value to my resume for the future if I work over here and gain a lot of experience. I will one day probably go back to India.