

My name is Karla Guadalupe Reyes González, a master's student at the Autonomous University of the State of Mexico and an exchange student at the University of Hildesheim in Germany.

My stay was for 4 months from April to July 2023, I was awarded a scholarship by the TRANSLANG project. This scholarship was enough to be able to pay the rent of the apartment where I lived.

I prepared my stay from the moment I received the acceptance letter from renewing my passport to the purchase of the plane I always had an accompaniment by the academics of both universities as well as some acquaintances who had had the opportunity to have already been to Hildesheim. To be honest, I never had any expectations regarding Germany, but I knew that it was a country full of history since its foundation, being an economic, social and political power.

My expectations have changed since I arrived in the country, full of natural wealth for the most part, the organization they have is to be applauded, and the means of transport, the food, the company of some Mexican acquaintances made my stay something pleasant.

As for the courses I took at the faculty, I found them very interesting, from the German course to psycholinguistics and creative writing were always my ideals to complement my master's studies. Without a doubt, everything acquired during my stagnation will be useful to me in my teaching practice.

On a social and cultural level, many of the activities organized by ERASMUS complemented my stay in order to get to know what social life was like in Germany, from attending parties to excursions that they organized outside Hildesheim were relevant and enriched me a lot. What I enjoyed the most were the so-called KAB's where different countries made known in a session of approximately 3 hours cultural references of the country through food, dance, among others.

Being a student at the University allows you to meet many people from different countries, customs and traditions it is not so easy to make friends when the circles are very closed but it doesn't matter in the end the whole community embraces you in some way.

The accommodation was perfect very close to the city center, in the Hansering residence, without a doubt the best moments I spent were there, meeting friends, barbecuing, even just enjoying an afternoon of talking. Very close to airports, train stations where I had the opportunity to travel to different European countries such as Italy, France, England, Holland, Czech Republic,

Austria, Ireland, and Hungary. And some cities in Germany like: Goslar, Hamelin, Dresden, Bremen, Schwerin, Berlin, Brunswick, Wolfsburg, Hanover, and Celle and of course Hildesheim.

Although I did not receive many German courses, English was enough to be able to communicate, although I have to say that it would be important to at least have some elementary knowledge of the language.

One of the recommendations that I would give to future exchange students would be that: First do not panic adapting to the City is very feasible, buy a bike if you want to move easily around the city, take advantage of all the benefits that the university offers to be able to travel around Germany, always approach your managers for any questions, do not despair as soon as some legal or banking procedures that need to be done will be solved, save a lot if you want to travel, have fun and make a lot of friends.

Undoubtedly the experience I had in Hildesheim left me marked in such a significant way that it will undoubtedly be one of the things that I will treasure the most and that will always be in my memory. SOON I WILL RETURN TO GERMANY TO CONTINUE EXPLORING ITS BEAUTIFUL CORNERS AND MANY OTHER COUNTRIES IN EUROPE THAT I MISSED VISITING.





