

I've spent the Wintersemester 2014/2015 in Köln. It wasn't very easy at the beginning, because we (me and two of my classmates from Slovakia) didn't get any student accommodation. It was only up to us to find some private accommodation. So I posted some advertisement on internet sites, which are dealing with short-time rents. Fortunately, I got some one week before I came to Germany. Monthly I had to pay 350 Euros.

There's a lot of interesting classes at UNI, I attended lectures with Prof. Bubenzer – “Physische Geographie Afrikas” and “Changing African Environments”, Prof. Mansfeldt – “Stoffliche Bodenbelastung und Bodenschutz” and with Prof. Kraas “Regional Geography of China”. Everyone of them was interesting and I've learned lots of new things. I also attended the GIS Seminar with Dipl.- Geogr. Tilly/Hutt, whose lectures were very useful. The rules were the same for me as for the regular students.

In our freetime we used to go for a hike in the Sieg-region or in the parks around the city. Because we didn't have to pay extra for a ticket train, we visited lots of cities in NRW - Aachen, Münster, Bonn, Wuppertal, Dortmund etc. And also the bus connections are very cheap. For example, we travelled to Brussels for one euro 😊. So there is lots of things to do and many places to explore.

For me the most beautiful experience were the Christmas markets in the city. They have a special atmosphere.