

Our reflection of the „International University Week “

· Jena · Germany ·

This year the IUW was from the 04/16/2018 to the 04/20/2018. Louisa Gehl, Naomi Buschmann and Cherrin Fusshöller visited the university in Jena.

Our journey began one day before the IUW started officially. We travelled from beautiful Eastfrisia to the unknown Jena. We went on a bumpy train ride. We didn't know that from our flat landscape. We felt like we were sitting in a roller coaster!

We drew a poster with the inscription: "Sozis aus Emden". When we arrived, we were welcomed heartedly. Everyone did spend their evening with their host.

On Monday morning we ate breakfast at the university together. After that every university did a little presentation about their institution. The other students really enjoyed our interpretation of "An der Nordseeküste".

After that everyone went to the city centre to the St. Michaels church. That was the starting point of an exciting city tour.

At the evening we met again at the welcome party. We danced a lot especially to the song "Cotton Eye Joe". Everyone went to bed much too late – we recognized that at the next morning.

We joined the first workshops on Tuesday. Louisa discussed a lot about the subject "Does social work have to be political active?" and learned about new evaluation methods thanks to the Finnish class. Naomi took part at the lecture "Promoting Youth Participation" by Juha Niiranen and "Intercultural Sensivitys" by Elisa Scholte. Cherrin had a lot of fun at the workshop "Humour and the Inner Clown in Social Work."

At the evening the most students met each other at the "Paradies" park. We drank and ate together and talked about our studies, countries and other stuff.



On Wednesday morning we drove by train to Weimar. We visited the concentration camp "Buchenwald". Most of the students were highly interested in the history of this place and asked the guide a lot of questions. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough time planned for the trip, so we had to leave without getting enough information.

At the afternoon we took part at different guided tours in Weimar. It was a very hot and sunny day and a lot of people got sunburned. Cherrin and Naomi learned about the city history and the special

places in Weimar. Louisa visited the important points for social workers. After that we got some time for ourselves and bought ice cream. Of course, we had to do some shopping after that snack too!



On Thursday we met each other at the university again and went to our workshops. Louisa took part at the lecture “Children of Parten’s with Mental Health Problems” with contains a fieldtrip in the afternoon to two different institutions. Naomi had singed up for “Endangered Diversity? Social work and group focused enmities by Eva Grigori and “Europe goes local: youthwork does youth policy” by Prof. Dr. Werner Lindner. Cherrin joined the workshop “Music was my first love – The power of music in Social Work”.

Finally, it was time for the farewell party. Or should we say sing-well? The whole evening was spent by playing the game “Singstar”. After a lot of brilliant appearances everyone hugged each other at the end of the party.



On Friday morning we met for the last time at the university. We ate breakfast and get our certificates. After that everyone had to say goodbye and started their journey home. Our group had a little bit of time left so we went to a delicious traditional restaurant for students. After a last goodbye to our host a long and hot journey back to the north began and a wonderful time at the IUW ended.