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Study Semester at the School of Management and Logistic Sciences  
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Internship at the Office for Industrial Links at GJU (First Semester 2014/2015)

#### My Experiences in Jordan

Looking back, I find it quite hard to believe that it has already been one year since I first got to Jordan. At that point, I had only left my comfort zone to a very limited extent, all I had seen so far was the Western World, Europe and North America, and I never would have thought I would spend more than a vacation in the Middle East.

#### “A Rush of Events”

My degree program requires two semesters abroad; people who asked me a few months before my departure got to hear about my perfect plan for those two semesters. But everybody knows life does not always go as planned, so through a bunch of coincidences I ended up at the German-Jordanian University. My first few weeks here I only remember as a rush of events. One thing I was extremely grateful for during this time was my study buddy, Abdallah. Not only did he pick me up

from the airport in the middle of the night, but he also helped me get settled in a country I was utterly unfamiliar with. Thanks again for everything, Abdallah

#### “A Plethora of Rules and Regulations”

University here is a very different experience compared to Germany. The whole atmosphere exudes much more of a high school flair than the university life I am used to in my home university, thanks to a plethora of rules and regulations as well as proofs of academic achievements such as quizzes, exams and presentations. This to some extent makes life easier for the students but also leaves them with much less independence that I sometimes missed during my studies here. The upside to the high school feel is small class sizes and much more personal relationships with some of the lecturers, which I have come to appreciate very much.

#### Welcome to the Office for Industrial Links

My time in university virtually flew by, after the first half of the semester it seemed impossible for me to believe that my time here would be over so soon. At that point I started considering staying for a second semester, for an internship this time. Jumping to the end of



my personal decision-making process, after a brief intermezzo of working back in Germany over the summer, I returned to Jordan at the end of September with a contract with the Office for Industrial Links at the GJU. From my first week on I felt at home at the office, surrounded by warm-hearted and welcoming coworkers and the greatest boss I could have asked for. I can say with all honesty that my first full-on work experience really has not disappointed me. Ever since I got back, I pretty much been reliving my experience from my first semester, with the singular difference of having a 40-hour work week. Time has been flying by again and I could not be any happier with my decision of having come back here.

I love Jordan most for its people and I got to make some more amazing friends during my second semester here, at work as well as in my private life. I am incredibly grateful for my Jordanian adventure; every experience I have made, all the places I have seen, every friend I have made and all I have learned has left a lasting impression and I will always remember Jordan as the place where I spent some of the happiest moments of my life.