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Experiencing GJU and Jordan's Great Outdoors

My stay in Jordan began as I crossed the border from Palestine into Jordan on the 28th of September. I had already organized an apartment and my future roommate, Eric, was supposed to be there when I arrived in Amman, but sadly he wasn't home. This meant I couldn't enter the apartment, because I had no key and I couldn't call him because I did not have a Jordanian SIM card yet. Luckily I met other exchange students who also lived in the building, and I stayed in their apartment until Eric came back. The next day we all went to the GJU campus for the first time to register for our courses. It worked out very well.

Sports, Sports, Sports!

In the beginning of our stay here we played soccer a few times, until the weather got too cold. I realized that there isn't much else to do in terms of exercising, except to join a sports studio, which I really don't like. My roommate advised us not to ride a bicycle

in Jordan, so soccer was the only option to do some sports. In the beginning our group of exchange students organized some trips around Jordan, to Ajloun, Wadi Rum and Madaba, and a hiking tour through "Wadi Hemara", by the Dead Sea. Hiking is a great way to get to know the countryside of Jordan, and to meet Jordanians and tourists from all over the world. On these hikes I saw some of the amazing nature Jordan has to offer, which is not just desert! These outdoor adventures were a very nice contrast to the life in Amman.

Learning – Here and There

It felt strange in the beginning that the work week here begins on a Sunday, since in Germany this is a holiday. In total I had 4 Lectures and 3 Labs. In the beginning I thought it wasn't much, but during the semester I realized that it actually was quite a lot. The learning system here in Jordan was different from what I was used to in Germany. Here it was mostly memorizing. I visited the subjects "Anatomy and Physiology" and "Biomaterial", which I will get complete credit for in Germany. "Biomaterial" is not offered at Beuth, which was the main reason I was really interested in this subject; it is very valuable for my further studies. Furthermore I attended "Signal and Systems" and "Medical Signal

Processing” to improve my knowledge in math and physics. The learning system in these subjects was also memorization. During my years in school I had always been told to never ever try to memorize an equation: it is too risky because making a small mistake could have very serious consequences. I think that this semester here will help my further studies in Germany a lot.

See you Again in Germany!

At the university I met someone who was playing in the “National Jordanian Orchestra” and I had the opportunity to visit one of the concerts, sadly just once, I really enjoyed it. I met some really interesting people at GJU and I hope I will see them again in Germany. There also were some differences in behavior, probably because of the different cultures we grew up in, for example especially female students were distant and rarely initiated a conversation.

In the end I can say it was worth coming to Jordan. It was a great experience. I met some really nice and interesting people who have very different roots. I saw some great nature, much different from Germany's. I really enjoyed my stay here in Jordan a lot.

