

A How-to-Guide to Going on Exchange to the Technical University of Braunschweig

Prepared for: Prof. Peter Roe

Prepared by:
Jerome Lecourt
4B Mechanical Engineering

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Introduction

So you're interested in going to Germany eh? Well let me just say that going to Germany was the best decision I ever made. By going to Germany, I gained many valuable lessons and experiences about life that made me develop into a more mature and open-minded individual. You will also acquire many skills that will give you advantages in the workforce and in life. First, there's the advantage of learning a new language. In today's global market, language is power and as an engineer, the better you are able to communicate your ideas and thoughts, the greater chance you have at being successful. By knowing someone else's language, it gives you a reason and an opportunity to speak with that person and learn from them. This advantage was very clear to me at the 2008 Formula SAE competition in Detroit, Michigan. I attended the competition after my exchange in Germany as a member of the University of Waterloo Formula Motorsports team. At the competition I was able to discuss and learn from many of the teams from Germany and Austria. This was very useful for our team as we learned how their teams operate and how they go about designing their Formula race cars. I had an advantage over other English speaking students because I was able to make a connection with the German students through language.

The German culture is another extremely interesting experience. Students who want to go on exchange may ask, why should I go to Germany? Well, what do people think of when they think of Germans? People generally think of engineering precision, efficiency, structure, but also of fun things like beer, Oktoberfest, lederhosen, hiking, chocolate, and the autobahn. Germany is Europe's leading economy and is a leader in renewable energy technologies. During my time in Germany I was amazed by the way everything is so well organized and structured. Germany's transportation system is second to none and is very useful for students such as your selves. Also, contrary to what you may think, Germany is a very multicultural country and you will meet students from many countries. I met friends from Brazil, Argentina, France, England, Czech Republic, Poland, Russia, Spain, China, Cameroon, and of course Germany. It really widens your view and perspective of the world when you talk with people from so many different places. I realized how similar we all are, despite our backgrounds.

The greatest benefit I feel that I gained from going to study in Germany was the personal development that I underwent. Living and studying in Germany presented many challenges that forced me to grow and mature as a person. I was forced to adjust to and learn the customs of day to day life such as how to do grocery shopping, getting around the city, and finding other important locations. Learning these things is not as trivial as it may seem and it really forced me to become more independent. One of the hardest challenges is adjusting to the German school system. Semesters are longer and there are no assignments; only 100% final exams. Learning all the technical engineering terms in German also presented a new Students in Europe have a much different perspective of school than North challenge. Americans. Students seemed to be much more relaxed and laid back in Europe. For most, post-secondary school is a right, not a privilege, and this is reflected in the tuition. All these things changed the way I think about life and the world, and this is why I believe that going to Germany was the best decision I ever made. So ask yourself what you want from life and what you want to look back at one day. I this 'how-to' guide, I will try to give you as much help and information as possible about the Braunschweig exchange program by giving you my perspectives and experiences.

Preparing for Braunschweig

Learning the Language

So now that you've decided you want to go and study at the Technical University of Braunschweig (TUBS), what's next? The most important thing to do is to learn German to the best of your abilities before you leave for Germany. A good understanding and ability to communicate in German will ease your transition when you arrive in Germany. The sooner you start to learn the language, the better. I started learning German about 1.5 years before I arrived in Braunschweig. Don't feel bad if you don't have that much time to learn it because I have friends who started learning it about 5 months before going to Germany; then again, that is a more stressful and crammed option. To start, I simply acquired some self-teaching books and proceeded to learn the language on my own. Once I was sure I wanted to go to Germany, I took German 101 during my 2A semester and then took German 102 during my following co-op term. Although these courses are relatively easy and you could probably just buy the book and teach yourself, sometimes it can be hard to find that same motivation if you're not getting graded on it or paying \$750 for a distance education course. I found that as long as you have a desire for and enjoy learning the language, it will come relatively easy to you. If possible, try to get a co-op term with a company in Germany before you go on exchange. Finding a coop abroad is not as hard as you may think and employers are often impressed by a student's desire to work abroad and face new challenges. If you're previous employer is an international company, they may have an office in Germany that may have a position for you. That was the case for me, and it was extremely useful for improving my German and getting used to German customs. Take note that German companies pay students the bare minimum. Students make about 400 Euros per month in the north and 600 to 800 Euros in the south (relative to living expenses). Don't let this deter you though, because the experience you get with the German language will definitely be worth it.

Choosing a Plan of Action

There are many ways you can incorporate the exchange program into your academic schedule at the University of Waterloo. Waterloo does require you to complete your 2B term before studying abroad. You can study at the TUBS for 1 or 2 semesters, but you must complete your last two terms at the University of Waterloo. Professor Schuster prefers that students do 2 semesters abroad to truly experience the culture, however students can still do 1 semester abroad if they like. This is partially because of the 4th year design project that engineers have to complete; which are only offered in the Summer and Fall terms. However you can arrange your courses however you would like, as long as you finish with the right type and number of credits. Table 1 shows examples of how you can arrange your schedule. These are the paths that my fellow exchange students and I each took.

Table 1: Examples of Exchange Program Options

Fall 2005	Winter 06	Summer 06	Fall 06	Winter 07	Summer 07	Fall 07	Winter 08	Summer 08	Fall 08
4 Stream Students									
2B Waterloo	Coop #4	Coop #5	3A TUBS	3A/3B TUBS	3B TUBS	4A Waterloo	4B Waterloo	optional 2nd 4B term	
2B Waterloo	Coop #4	3A Waterloo	3B TUBS	3B/4A TUBS	4A TUBS	Coop #5	4B Waterloo	remaining 4B Waterloo	
2B Waterloo	Coop #4	3A Waterloo	3B TUBS	3B/4A TUBS	4A TUBS	Coop #5	4B Waterloo	Coop #6	remaining 4B Waterloo
8 Stream Students									
Coop #3	3A Waterloo	Coop #4	3B TUBS	3B TUBS	Coop #5	4A Waterloo	4B Waterloo		_
Coop #3	Coop #4	3A Waterloo	3B TUBS	3B/4A TUBS	4A TUBS	Coop #5	4B Waterloo	remaining 4B Waterloo	_

The first option is the path that I chose to incorporate the exchange program. The optional second 4B term is there in case you didn't pass enough courses in Germany or you need a few more courses to graduate with an option in Management Sciences or other. Also, if you decide to do two co-op terms back to back you will have to do a

stream switch. Speak to your undergraduate advisor/coordinator about what doing this. Generally it just requires filling out a request form and the reason why you want to switch streams and getting it signed by the appropriate people. Note that the 3A and 3B terms in Braunschweig are not the same as the 3A and 3B terms at Waterloo. Not all third year Waterloo courses have equivalent courses at the TUBS; so instead, you can take fourth year technical electives at the TUBS. Those fourth year technical electives that you choose at the TUBS may or may not have equivalent courses, however just because they don't have equivalents doesn't mean you can't take them. Fourth year courses taken in Germany that don't have equivalent Waterloo courses can count as GENE 303 courses, but you must have them approved by the Undergraduate Associate Chair of your department before leaving for Germany. Your 4A and 4B terms in Waterloo will involve making up any missed third year courses and remaining fourth year technical electives and complementary studies electives. Table XXX does not show all the possible alternative options for your schedule, so just be aware that you have many opportunities to rearrange a schedule as you see fit; as long as you can justify it to your Associate Chair by having a plan of action for how you will get all the courses you need to graduate. Remaining 4B terms generally involve very few courses and are there because of the need to complete the fourth year design projects; offered only in the summer or fall.

There are many interesting fourth year technical electives that you can take at the TUBS that are not offered at Waterloo, so I strongly recommend taking lots of time to review available courses and check to see if they are fourth year technical elective level. Below are a list of important website for choosing your courses.

Waterloo Engineering Opportunities Exchange website that has a list of courses that students have taken on exchange and their equivalent Waterloo courses:

http://www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~exchange/Exchange%20From/Countries/germany/germany_u2_courses.html

TUBS Mechanical Engineering Website for Course Descriptions:

< http://www.fmb.tu-bs.de/ects.php?nav=93&CCHK=2082865437&Ing=>

TUBS Departments Website for choosing your appropriate Engineering Department:

< http://www.tu-braunschweig.de/struktur/fakultaeten>

The Main TUBS website:

< http://www.tu-braunschweig.de>

The Main U of W Exchange Opportunities Website:

http://www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/"exchange/index.htm">http://www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/"exchange/index.htm

As I've mentioned before, you must approach your associate chair to discuss the idea of

going on exchange. Within this discussion, they will ask you to prepare a plan of action

including what courses you are planning to take, the courses you will take when you

return to Waterloo, and certain requirements such as a 70% GPA and a good

understanding of German. So within this whole preparation there are several important

people you should get to know:

Associate Chair of your Department

Undergraduate Advisor/Coordinator of your Department

Coordinator for Exchange Programs: Cindy Howe, cindy@engmail.uwaterloo.ca, ext.

33084

Director of Engineering Exchange Programs: Prof.Peter Roe,

phoroe@engmail.uwaterloo.ca, ext.35175

U of W Coordinator for TUBS exchange: Prof.Reinhold Schuster,

rschuste@civmail.uwaterloo.ca, ext.33713

Cindy Howe and your undergraduate advisor are the two people you will go to for any

questions or concerns regarding the exchange program. Prof. Schuster is also another

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person who must approve of the exchange program and will help to arrange the German proficiency exams that you must pass before you leave. The German proficiency exam consists of speaking, listening, reading, and writing tests. It is important to arrange a date with one of the German language professors to perform this test to get their approval for your exchange, so don't leave it to the last minute like me.

Setting up a Place of Residence

Another important part of the exchange program that you do not want to leave to the last minute is finding a place to live. There are several options available to students. To give you a better idea of where the residences are located, figure 1 shows the layout of the city of Braunschweig and where the residences are located.



Figure 1: Residence Locations [1]

Wohnheim an der Schunter
is located 10 minutes (by bus) from the University

Wohneim an der Schunter is nice because it is located by a nature reserve and is quiet at night (except for the occasional 'coocoo' birds waking you up in the morning). To show you what I mean by nature, figure 2 shows a picture from my bedroom window.



Figure 2: View from my bedroom on the 7th floor

It has two common bathrooms per floor and each has one toilet, one urinal, two showers, and sink. The single rooms also have their own sinks and mirrors. There is a common kitchen with 8 hot plates and two sinks located on a long stainless steel countertop in the center of the kitchen. There are generally always enough free hot plates and clean up is a breeze because of the stainless steel countertops; except when you're cooking thanksgiving dinner as shown in figure 3.



Figure 3: Thanksgiving cooking

There are two tall fridges and a huge freezer that are shared by the 20 or so people living on the floor. The Wohnheim an der Schunter consists of two tall buildings, each

with 9 levels. There is a bar and a leisure area in the Schuntille. The Schuntille is located between the two buildings and is also where organized parties are held. The rent is only 170 Euros per month plus 10 Euros per month for Internet; TV is included. This is where I stayed because I applied for residence at the last minute and it was the only place available. It was still a pretty good residence, but it was a little bit far to come back to when my friends and I wanted to come back from the bars or anywhere in the city and the buses weren't running (after 12:30am or so). Even if you still haven't passed the German proficiency exam or completed other tasks necessary to leave for Germany, make sure you apply to the residences as early as possible so that you get to choose your residence of choice. Talk to Cindy Howe about what you need to do and who you need to contact in Germany to arrange this. The website for Wohnheim and der Schunter is http://www.schunternet.de/.

Langer Kamp Wohnheim is located right beside the University which makes it very convenient. Its website is http://www.lk.etc.tu-bs.de/. APM Wohnheim is also located right beside the University and consists of single person suites that include your own kitchen and bathroom. The downside to such a place is that you don't socialize as much with people from your floor since there are no common areas. The website for APM Wohnheim is http://www.affenfelsen.de/extern/. Michaelishof Wohnheim is the most desired of all the residences because of its central location in the city, old architecture, and traditions. They also have a great pub there and often have parties on weekends. Figure 4 shows a picture of the Americans introducing the game of beer pong to the other students.



Figure 4: Beer pong

As a result it is very difficult to get a place at Michaelishof, but if you apply early enough you might get lucky. Its website is http://www.michaelishof.de/. The Weststadt **Wohnheim**★ is the other student residence option. Many American and Spanish students live there, and there are 3 person suites that have a common kitchen and bathroom. One advantage of living in Weststadt is that it is located relatively close to the train station and many good bars and clubs such as the Jolly Joker. There's no official website for this residence but you can easily find information about it by searching on the internet. It is also possible to rent out apartments or homes with other students as you do in Waterloo, but that may require a bit more searching and there's no guarantee that you will find what you want, but I do know of many students who have done this. Often students may stay in a residence for their first semester, then once they make some friends, they move into their own apartment for the second semester. Changing residences between semesters is not a problem and you will find the German student residence network to be very helpful and understanding. They don't force you to move out the day after your last exam like in Waterloo. You will find that there are many options and resources for students in Germany.

The Paperwork

This is by far the most tedious part of the exchange, but is fairly straight forward if you know what you are doing and are well informed. First let me say that YOU DO NOT NEED A VISA TO STUDY IN GERMANY if you are a Canadian citizen. This is because there is an agreement between Canada and Germany to encourage student exchange programs and to facilitate such exchanges. You do need to get health insurance that covers you while you are in Germany because your regular OHIP coverage is no good after 3 months abroad. You will also need to tell OHIP that you will be leaving the country for more than 3 months. Make sure that your passport is renewed before you leave, so that it does not expire while you are in Germany. The sooner you take care of these things, the less stressful it will be for you as you prepare to leave for Deutschland.

Arrival and First Steps

Since you are moving to Germany for the next year, you will probably have lots of stuff with you to bring. Carrying all your luggage from the airport and onto the trains can be really tiring and stressful, especially when you don't want to miss you train; make sure you always arrive a little bit early for you trains. Luckily when you buy a train ticket, you can board any of the trains that go from your location to your destination; double check this with the ticket person. Once you arrive it may also be a good idea to get yourself a Deutsche Bahn card. You can get the card that saves you 50% off ticket prices or 25% off. It is very useful to have if you plan on doing some travelling during your time in Germany. The Deutsche Bahn website is www.diebahn.de, which is also available in English. As you arrive in Germany you will probably have a Patenstudent pick you up and drive you to your residence and give you your key. The Patenstudent is simply a student who is assigned the task of helping you get set up in Braunschweig and answer any questions you may have. Many students often become friends with their Patenstudents. You will first get to know your Patenstudent through email before you leave for Germany. Cindy Howe will give you the appropriate contacts at the TUBS who will assist you and assign you a Patenstudent. Then you must simply email your Patenstudent and tell them when you are arriving in Braunschweig and get their cell phone number in case anything changes.

Most students who go on exchange to Braunschweig take a one month intensive German language program before the semester begins to improve their German skills. This is also a great way to make friends. I still keep in touch with some of the friends I made at that program. The program also involves several excursion days that are interesting and fun, plus it counts as a list D elective if you don't already have one. During the first two weeks in Braunschweig, you will have to register in the city. Anytime you move into a city in Germany, you have to register as a person living in Braunschweig. Your Patenstudent and the language program will probably help you arrange this. Generally, this is taken care of at the International Office and involves long line-ups of international students, so have fun. During the first month you will also get your student I.D. card which will give you free access to public transportation

within Niedersachsen (Lower Saxony). This also includes the Regional Express trains, which can take you all the way to the borders of Niedersachsen for free. Since Hamburg is a city state located within Niedersachsen, you can travel to Hamburg for free. However, the ICE trains (the faster ones) are not free and require a train ticket. Your Patenstudent and the people at the International Office can assist you with any questions that you have with regards to such things. During your first month in Braunschweig it is also a good idea to take time to get to know the city.

Getting to Know Braunschweig

Braunschweig is a very historic city that offers a lot to do and see. Much of which you may have heard of in one of the presentations performed by returning Waterloo and German exchange students from Braunschweig and Hamburg. During that first month before the semester begins, I strongly recommend that you get a map of the city, buy a bicycle, and get to know each part of the city. The better you know the city, the more you will get out of your stay in Braunschweig and it will be much easier to find places later in the semester when you need to go shopping or go out on weekends. You can get a used bicycle for about 30 Euros and then fix it yourself at their student bike shop. They provide you with all the tools and parts necessary to fix your bike. A bike is very useful because there are no large distances to travel since everything is so close together. Once you get your student I.D. card you will be able to use the public transport system for free. Getting to know the various tram and bus lines as well as the operating times will be very useful since you don't always want to have to ride your bike everywhere, especially if you have things to carry.

Braunschweig has a great inner city and I often enjoyed just walking around in the pedestrian area (Fussgaengerzone), which is highlighted in light pink in Figure 5 and shown in Figure 6. There are no cars allowed in the pedestrian area. It's just like an outdoor mall but with beautiful old buildings and cobblestone roads. You can go shopping for clothes or just have some delicious European ice cream. There are also many large indoor malls if the weather gets too wet or cold. Figure 5 shows a basic layout of the inner city; it is surrounded by the Oker river.

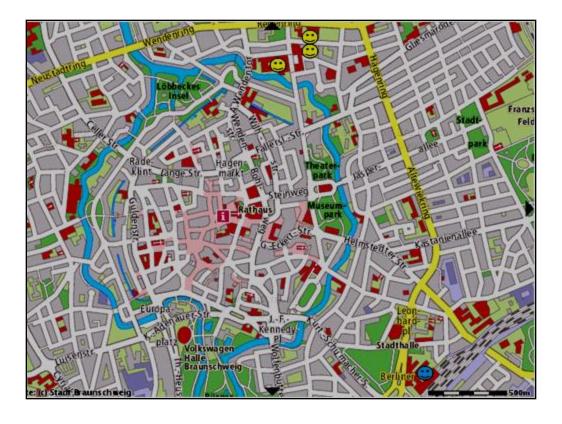


Figure 5: Layout of Braunschweig's inner city [2]

At the centre of the inner city is the city hall (Rathaus). The main train station (Hauptbahnhof) is located by the . The University buildings are again indicated by the .



Figure 6: The pedestrian area with an odd statue

Another famous area you will get to know very well is Burgplatz, which is the area dedicated to Duke Henry the Lion of the 12th century; shown in figure 7.



Figure 7: Burgplatz

During the month of December there are Christmas markets (Weihnachtsmarkt) in most German cities that have lots of special delicacies such as drinks and pastries. Figure 8 shows a picture of the Weihnachtsmarkt in Braunschweig.



Figure 8: Braunschweig Weihnachtsmarkt

Starting the Semester

So now its time to start engineering again and you're wondering how on earth you're going to do that in German? You will get to know the translation website <www.leo.org> very well; it is probably the most useful tool you will use during your time in Germany. Generally speaking, you don't have to take notes in class because you will get a course script that has all the information you need, and they are only about 8 Euros per class. That's a lot cheaper than \$100 textbooks at Waterloo isn't it? The scripts are not like textbooks in the sense that they only contain what you need; half of it isn't wasted like in a textbook. The scripts are written by the professors themselves so they are ordered in the same way that the class is taught. As you sit through your first few lectures, you will quickly pick up common words such as Stroemung (flow), Ableitung (derivative), Kraft (power), and many others that you will recognize because of the context in which they are used.

When you get back from classes, I strongly recommend reading over your notes and discussing them with some friends. This will really help you get used to all the technical terms and is a great way to stay on top of your studies. Since there are no assignments or midterms, it can be very easy to fall behind. If possible, try to find practice questions to work on and if you can't, then ask one of the teaching assistants or professors for recommended questions. It's very easy to procrastinate and delay that until exams come around, but you will be that much less stressed if you do that throughout the term.

Travelling within Europe

Here's the fun part. Germany's central location makes it perfect for visiting other European countries. Germans love their holidays, so you will get quite a few long weekends and opportunities to go and travel to different countries. What you see is up to you, but I can give you some examples of trips that my friends and I took while in Europe. In Germany, I visited Hamburg, Berlin, Leipzig, Munich, the Baltic Sea, and plenty of other small towns and villages. Below are some pictures from these trips.



Figure 9: Me at Hamburg City Hall



Figure 10: At the top of the German Parliament in Berlin

My fellow students and I travelled to Berlin with the language program and were given a complete tour of the Parliament. The trips with the language program were always lots of fun, as we were with lots of friends. Figure 11 is a picture of some Canadian, French, American, and British students. This was during the summer semester, and we all met each other in Munich for a fun filled weekend. Our French friends were on co-op terms in Munich and Stuttgart respectively. Munich was by far my favorite city, it had perfect weather, beautiful scenery, and the beer and pretzels were always delicious. Hofbraeuhaus is a must see for those who like beer and delicious German food. The atmosphere was great as they often have polka bands playing traditional German music. They even play modern music with a polka spin to it. There are plenty of beer halls like this in Munich, all offering something special (their own beer).



Figure 11: At the Hofbraeuhaus with friends in Munich

Figure 12 shows a picture of my fellow mechanical engineers from Waterloo and I singing the Hockey Song by Stompin' Tom Connors. There was a large group of students that all travelled to the Baltic sea together; the trip was organized by the international office. That particular evening, each group of students from the same country had to sign a song native of their country, other than their national anthem. We chose the Hockey Song of course. We stayed at a camping place by the sea, which made the trip even more fun because of the cookouts and close proximity to the beach.



Figure 12: At the Baltic Sea singing the Hockey Song



Figure 13: Walking around the pedestrian area in Leipzig

My friends and I visited Leipzig one weekend to see the autoshow there. The exposition centre was very impressive as it consisted of several glass dome buildings. The autoshow was also very interesting as we were able to see many cars that aren't offered at the Toronto autoshow. After the autoshow we walked around Leipzig and saw some of the sights. At the end of the day we headed back to Braunschweig. One day trips are very easy to make in Germany because of the great train system and student prices. On weekends you can travel to any place in Germany on regional trains for free; it's called the Schoeneswochenende (nice weekend)

deal. Figure 14 shows a picture of the football game that I saw in Wolfsburg. Wolfsburg has a decent team and are in the top Bundesligua; unlike Braunschweig, who are in the third league.



Figure 14: At a Bundesligua game in Wolfsburg (Wolfsburg 3 - Mainz 2)



Figure 15: All the Canadians with Professor Krull (left)

Figure 15 shows all the Waterloo students that attended Braunschweig during the winter semester. There was a record 8 students in 2006/2007. I also visited Austria, Holland, England, and France while I was in Europe. Some of my friends went to Belgium, Italy, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Greece, Croatia, Turkey, and Hungary. Below are some pictures from some of our trips. Figure 16 shows my friends and I during our ski trip in Austria. We did 5 days of skiing and celebrated new year's in the town of Saalfelden. We stayed at a local bed &

breakfast for about 20 Euros per day. A bus came by the bed & breakfast to bring us to the ski resort; a 15 minute bus ride. That was a great trip!



Figure 16: At the top of Mount Leogang in Austria



Figure 17: On a bridge in Amsterdam

Amsterdam was an interesting trip. We were able to see some things that are unique to Amsterdam and also went on the Heineken experience tour at the brewery. Travelling around Europe is fund and cheap when you stay in hostels. You also get to meet other students like you that come from many different countries. Hostels are a very safe and friendly place to stay,

unlike what you see in the movies. Most people are there to meet friends and have fun. Figures 18 through 21 show some of the pictures from the trips that my fellow Waterloo friends took.



Figure 18: Phil is pushing over the Tower of Pisa

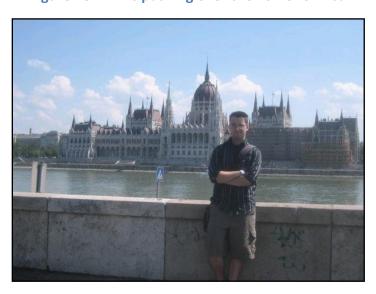


Figure 19: Phil in front of the Parliament in Budapest



Figure 20: Andrew (right) at the Parthenon in Athens

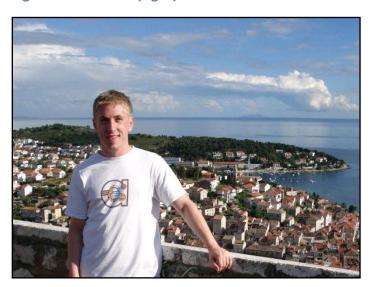


Figure 21: Cody is enjoying a nice view in Croatia

As you can see, there are a lot of reasons why you should go to Germany besides learning a new language. You will meet new friends, see new places, and create many great new memories that will last a lifetime.

Coming Back to Canada

All good things eventually come to an end, and before you know it you'll have to head back to Waterloo to finish your last year of engineering. Nevertheless, the memories that you made in Germany will last you a lifetime. You may even decide you want to return there once you finish your degree, I know I'm going to. My friend Cody from figure 21 actually did two more co-op terms in Germany following the two semesters at Braunschweig; one time with BMW and another with Daimler. Whether you finish your degree on time or a semester or two later, the experience you gain from studying abroad is certainly worth it.

Before you start your semester back at Waterloo, you should consider writing an essay about your experience in Germany, just as I have. Writing this essay and having at least 6 courses from the TUBS will enable you to get the International Studies option. I recommend writing the essay as soon as you get home because your experiences will be fresh in your mind and you might as well keep busy during the one or two weeks vacation before school starts again.

As you start your next semester at Waterloo, you will have to adjust to the school system once again; requiring you to do assignments and midterms. However, you may find that learning is much easier because you have been learning in a different language for the past year, which is that much more difficult and really develops you thinking abilities (I think so). However, it's also important to not get too overconfident since Engineering is challenging in any language; even your own. It may take a while getting used to the Canadian food and beer again. In my experience, the food and beer in Germany were much tastier, but at least now you can go back to watching Hockey Night in Canada without having to stream it off the internet.

Concluding Remarks

There's a lot more I could tell you about Germany and all the fun I had there, but I tried to tell you the most important things that I feel will contribute to your success and fun in Germany. I hope this guide gave you a good idea of what you need to do to prepare for Germany and what to expect when you get there. If you still weren't sure about whether or not you wanted to go to Germany, I hope this guide gave you a bit more motivation to go through with it and take a bold step forward in your life. Experiences like this really do make you stand out from the crowd. So good luck and have fun!

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- [2] "Brunswick Town Map." <u>Braunschweig: Die Lowenstadt</u>. 14 August, 2008.

http://stadtplan.braunschweig.de/stadtplan/stadtplan?setmode=plan&action=newses sion&locale=en>