

Erfahrungsbericht über ein Auslandspraktikum

Bitte reichen Sie Ihren Bericht spätestens 2 Monate nach Ende Ihres Aufenthalts im Akademischen Auslandsamt bei Frau Rüppell-Wee und im Institut für Mehrsprachigkeit bei Frau Prof. Dr. Martin ein. Gerne können Sie uns diesen Bericht zusätzlich auch in elektronischer Form per E-Mail zusenden.

Dieser Erfahrungsbericht soll zudem insbesondere zukünftigen Studierenden helfen, sich ein Bild von dem Auslandsstudium an Ihrer Gastschule zu machen. Behalten Sie dies beim Verfassen des Berichts im Hinterkopf. Wir würden uns deshalb sehr freuen, wenn Sie uns die Erlaubnis erteilen, diesen Bericht auch anderen Studierenden – wenn gewünscht auch gerne in anonymisierter Form – zugänglich machen zu dürfen.

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Studiengang:	Europalehramt für Grundschulen PO 2011
Studienfächer: (bei Lehramtsstudie- renden),	Englisch und Geschichte
ggf. Abschluss:	1. Staatsexamen
Name der Praktikums- einrichtung:	Teaching English in Laos
Praktikumszeitraum von - bis:	24. Oktober 2018 – 11. Januar 2019
Erhaltene Förderung:	<input type="checkbox"/> PROMOS <input type="checkbox"/> Reisekostenzuschuss AAA <input type="checkbox"/> Reisekostenzuschuss Freunde und Förderer <input type="checkbox"/> Reisekostenzuschuss aus Mitteln des Landes <input type="checkbox"/> Keine Förderung über die Hochschule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andere, und zwar: Engel-für-Kinder Stiftung

Hinweis: Sie können den vorgegebenen Platz für die Gliederungspunkte 1 – 8 anpassen.

1) Zusammenfassung

Fassen Sie Ihren Auslandsaufenthalt kurz zusammen. Haben sich Ihre Erwartungen an das Praktikum im Ausland erfüllt? Wie würden Sie Ihr Auslandspraktikum bewerten?

I spent three months teaching English in Laos. After participating in preparatory workshops, I already had a rough idea of what was expecting me. My expectations have definitely been fulfilled, I enjoyed my work at the schools in Laos very much. However, I didn't expect such a good condition of the schools. Also, I underestimated all the work that we had to do here besides teaching English and preparation lessons (weekly reports, blog articles, workshop, preparing teacher lessons, etc.) – all these extra tasks took up a lot of time so that we definitely had many weeks and also weekends that we spent with working and preparing.

Teaching English in Laos is a great way to get to know a different country and its culture and to meet many wonderful people. I enjoyed the Laotian culture and the friendliness of the Laotian people very much and also loved visiting temples and getting to know different traditions and also the Laotian food. I am very glad and thankful that I got the opportunity to do this internship.

2) Vorbereitungen des Auslandsaufenthalts

Beziehen Sie bitte folgende Themen ein: Bewerbungsprozess, Kontakt zur Praktikumeinrichtung, private Vorbereitungen, Unterstützung bei der Vorbereitung durch die PH und die Praktikumeinrichtung

The application process and the interview were very structured, I knew what expected me. We could contact Johannes Zeck and Isabel Martin at any times and usually received an answer within one day.

During the preparatory workshops, we received many information about what we can expect, about the teachers, about the blog and alfresco as well as many valueable tips about what we should bring/not bring, buy in Laos, traditions and behaviour. Due to the preparatory workshops, I felt well prepared when flying to Laos. We also got to new volunteers from former teams who had been in Laos and they also kindly answered any questions that we had.

3) Die Praktikumeinrichtung

Beschreiben Sie bitte kurz die aufnehmende Praktikumeinrichtung (Art der Einrichtung, Struktur, Mitarbeiter, Lage, Zusammensetzung der Schülerschaft, wenn es sich um eine Schule handelt, usw.)

There are three schools: Ban Phang Heng Primary School, Ban Phang Heng Secondary School and Sikeud Primary School. Due to different tandem-teachers and activity times, I worked at all three schools. However, I spent most of my time at Ban Phang Heng Secondary School (which is also the biggest school with the most students). The conditions of all three schools are good, many classrooms are equipped with air conditioning and/or fans. The table arrangements can be a little shocking when compared to German classrooms, but I got used to it after some time. All teachers and all students are very friendly.

4) Verlauf des Praktikums

Beschreiben Sie den Ablauf des Praktikums; was waren Ihre Aufgaben und Tätigkeiten? Wie verlief die Zusammenarbeit mit den KollegInnen, wie mit den anderen PraktikantInnen? Kam es zu besonders positiven oder negativen Situationen?

I worked together with three tandem-teachers. With two of them I did English and preparation lessons

and also observed their lessons/did tandem-teaching three times a week. With my third tandem-teacher, I only did English lessons. In addition, I offered an ABC-Club (twice a week) and a Reading Club (twice a week) during activity time. Therefore, I had 20 hours of active teaching per week. After school, I spent a lot of time writing the weekly report as well as preparing English lessons or activity time. We conducted one workshop which was two hours after school.

I enjoyed working together with my tandem-teachers. All three of them are very lovely and friendly women and they also taught me a lot about the Laotian culture. They were all very motivated and always came prepared so that our lessons together were a lot of fun.

I also had a great time living together with the other volunteers of Team VII. We got along very well, we never had any disputes. No matter what, I could always ask my team mates for help. I definitely found many good friends in Laos.

5) Bewertung des Praktikums

Welche Unterschiede haben Sie im Vergleich zu Praktikumserfahrungen, die Sie in Deutschland gemacht haben, festgestellt? Wo sehen Sie den Mehrwert im Vergleich zu einem Praktikum in Deutschland? Was haben Sie dazugelernt (Methoden, fachliche Kenntnisse, inter- oder transkulturelle Erfahrungen, persönliche Entwicklung als Lehrperson, etc.)?

Schools in Laos are completely different to German schools. Very often, you can see the communist impact on the educational system, which is something that I had to get used to. Teachers can be very strict, the students are very respectful. When doing tandem-teaching and activity time, I also learnt that one cannot simply transfer the western teaching methods to the Laotian classroom. Most activities and worksheets had to be adapted. In addition, the teachers have to follow the course books, which are obligatory – therefore, it was often hard to include other activities in the classroom.

The internship definitely improved my methodological and of course my intercultural competencies. Working and sometimes teaching in a Laotian classroom is a very interesting experience – even when my tandem-teacher and I had prepared a task during the preparation lessons, it sometimes didn't work out because we/I had not thought about all the difficulties that the students might have. However, I always enjoyed analyzing why something didn't work out as planned. Especially the activity time was a place where I could try out methods that I had not done during the internships in Germany (for example including songs & rhymes). Of course, also during the activity time some games/worksheets didn't work out as I had planned. I always tried to analyze why it didn't work out and then did something similar during the next activity time. Personally, I got the chance to work with many different methods, and also with many different students/student's needs. Lastly, doing all this in a different country with a different culture/traditions and also religion made it very interesting and also challenging.

6) Aufenthalt im Gastland

Beziehen Sie bitte folgende Themen ein: persönliche Erfahrungen und Eindrücke, Leben außerhalb der Praktikumsinstitution, besondere Herausforderungen oder Schwierigkeiten, unerwartete bzw. schwer fassbare Erfahrungsfelder

Outside of school, I spent all my time together with the other team mates. We always cooked together, went to Vientiane on the weekends and went on holidays together during our vacation days. We also spent time with our tandem-teachers outside of school: cooking together, having a Christmas dinner at the Villa, going out for dinner and they also invited us to their homes.

On Sundays we very often had to work as well, especially for the blog articles or preparation of English

lessons. All in all, I had three very busy but awesome months in Laos.

7) Praktische Tipps für nachfolgende Praktikantinnen und Praktikanten

- go to the preparatory workshops
- use all the material that you can find in the Villa and the Lending Library → check here before creating new material
- take enough patches for any injuries

8) Sonstiges

Gerne können Sie uns per E-Mail einige ausgewählte Fotos zukommen lassen, die wir dann zusammen mit Ihrem Bericht anderen Studierenden zur Ansicht zur Verfügung stellen.

Declaration of consent

☒ I hereby give consent that this report will be made accessible to other students of the PH Karlsruhe and the foundation Angels for Children for informational purposes with my name being

☐ anonymous

☐ visible only as a hard copy in the Academic Exchange Office of the PH Karlsruhe

☒ visible as a hard copy in the Academic Exchange Office of the PH Karlsruhe and as a pdf file on the project website www.thelaosexperience.com

Karlsruhe, 04.02.'19
Place, Date

N. Wichmann
Signature