

A18 Dewi / Indonesia / Foreign Languages in Adult Education

Interaction partner(s): German students

Moment of enquiry: SS 08

Experience of difference: Behaviour expectations towards students and lecturers

Having finished her bachelor's degree in Indonesia, Dewi is studying for a master's degree at a German university. At first, everything seems foreign to her, but by closely observing the German students, she is hoping to figure out the code of conduct at German universities. Initially, she is stunned by the casual demeanour of the students in seminars and towards the lecturers. One day, she is totally shocked when she sees a male and a female student kissing in public, right in the middle of the lecture hall, until the lecturer arrives and the lecture begins. In Indonesia, this would have been grounds for being expelled from the university.

1. Why is the Indonesian student so shocked by the student couple's behaviour?
2. What would German students think about the couple's behaviour?