

A23 Nóra / Hungary / Course of studies unknown

Interaction partner(s): German lecturer
Moment of enquiry: WS 05/06
Experience of difference: Behaviour expectations towards students and lecturers

Nóra is spending a semester as a visiting student at a German university and has considerable problems understanding the lectures. After each class, she stays back with a number of unanswered questions, wishing to discuss these questions with someone. However, she does not know where to turn. Preferably, she would like to ask someone more experienced, but how can she tell who is more advanced in their studies? One day, the professor mentions at the beginning of the lecture that the week before, he received emails from students who did not understand the graph from the last class and therefore he would explain it again. Nóra is shocked: How can you contact the professor directly by e-mail concerning your questions? She finds that very rude, as from her point of view, it's an indirect criticism of the professor's presentation.

1. What basic attitude towards lecturers could be the cause of Nóra's reaction?
2. What is the assessment of the lecturer's reaction to the students' email?