

A31 **Marco / Italy / German Studies**

Interaction partner(s): German students
Moment of enquiry: WS 01/02
Experience of difference: Social conduct among students

Marco is an exchange student at a German university. During his very first class, during the general introductory round, he has the opportunity to introduce himself as an exchange student from Italy. At the end of the class, all the students get up and leave. Marco is baffled. He had expected the students to surround him after class and ask him all sorts of questions, but he realises that nobody is interested in him, even though everyone in the class learned that he is from Italy.

1. How can the Italian student's expectations towards the German students be explained?
2. Can the German students' behaviour be considered normal, or could there be specific reasons why they don't ask the foreign student any questions?