

B13 Ms. Krause / German lecturer / Romance Studies

Interaction partner(s): Peruvian student
Moment of enquiry: WS 09/10
Experience of difference: Fields of responsibility of lecturers

Ms. Krause talks about a Peruvian student who attends her course in Latin American literature and after each class, comes to her to talk about her personal experiences and everyday problems of university life in Germany or to ask questions about how to organise her studies. Ms. Krause has a tight schedule and is usually in a hurry after her seminars. She tries to dismiss the Peruvian student as quickly as possible and refers her to the various student organisations at the university. But the Peruvian student keeps turning to the lecturer with her questions and problems. After a while, Ms. Krause decides to point out to the student that she can only turn to her with problems related to her studies, as Ms. Krause is not the contact person for private questions and problems of organising one's studies. The Peruvian student is clearly offended and withdraws completely from Ms. Krause and her courses.

1. Why does the German lecturer distance herself from the Peruvian student's behaviour?
2. What expectations might underlie the Peruvian student's behaviour?