

B21 Carla / Spain / Engineering Studies

Interaction partner(s): German lecturer and German student

Moment of enquiry: SS 08

Experience of difference: Ways of cultivating relationships between students and lecturers

Spanish student Carla is spending a visiting semester at a German university. When her and her girlfriends are in the university cafeteria, they see a professor and student sitting together. They are having coffee and seem to be involved in a lively discussion. Carla finds this very strange. In Spain, she's never seen a professor and a student sitting together in the cafeteria. Spanish professors keep to themselves and don't mingle with the students in order to maintain their authority.

1. How does Carla judge the professor's behaviour? Why does she find it strange?
2. In which cases might the cafeteria be a suitable place for students and lecturers to meet?