

C32 Daniela / Germany / Engineering Studies

Interaction partner(s): Moroccan student
Moment of enquiry: SS 10
Experience of difference: Role expectations with regard to research group members

Daniela, a German engineering student, is assigned by her lecturer to work together on a project with a Moroccan student. As the Moroccan student is relatively new at the department, she is to introduce him to the work and explain the technical functions of the different equipment. But every time she starts explaining a piece of equipment to the Moroccan student, shortly afterwards he turns away and goes to the lecturer to have him explain the functions of the equipment to him. Daniela is annoyed that the Moroccan student obviously does not trust her explanations and addresses the issue with him. However, the Moroccan ignores her question and leaves the room. Later on Daniela finds out that he has been assigned to another – male – German student.

1. What might explain Daniela's reaction to the Moroccan student's behaviour?
2. What could be the reasons for the Moroccan student's behaviour? Why is he assigned another group partner?