

I am Qusai Elmoosa, a master student in Renewable Energy Systems. In February 2020, I got a chance to do my master thesis at Maynooth University, Ireland. I applied for a student visa and I needed to wait 3 months for the visa process. In March, due to the Covid-19 restrictions, my visa process was frozen. I waited until July, in order to continue my visa process. I finally got the visa in August and travelled directly to Ireland. Before travelling, I had to spend one day in Frankfurt in order to take the Covid-test and to make sure that I was not infected with the virus.

After having arrived to Ireland, I spent another two weeks in isolation. This was particularly hard as I could not leave the isolation during this period. After finishing the isolation, I spent three days in Dublin. Even with the lockdown and the Covid-19 restrictions, it was a beautiful city and it was full of people. Then I continued from Dublin to Maynooth, which is a university town. It takes one hour to get there from Dublin by bus.

My internship took place in the Centre of Ocean Energy Research (COER) lab at Maynooth University. There was a picnic on my first day, where I met the all the group members. They were from five different continents: Asia, Africa, Europe, North America and South America. I was lucky to get to know these members personally before further Covid-restrictions were installed and I enjoyed the international dishes.

My project was about “the impact of nonlinear hydrodynamic modeling on the geometric optimization process”. I got the chance to work with postdoctoral researchers and professors on the project. There were also PhD students who were always ready to help me and open discussions about the project.

The accommodation in Ireland is more expensive than in Germany, but the other expenses are almost the same as in Germany. I shared the house with a Polish guy and his girlfriend. They were very friendly. Despite the Covid-restrictions, I visited nice places in Ireland. Its nature is fascinating and the Irish are very friendly people. I felt like at home from the very first moment.

When I travelled back to Germany, I missed my flight because I had only one Covid-test, I should have had two. Therefore, I needed to wait for another 2 days in Dublin for the next flight.

In total, I spent five months in Ireland. I learned many things during this period and met many people, because of this it deserved all aforementioned stories.

*I agree that the report will be made available to other students of HS Nordhausen and published on the web pages of the HSN.*