

## Study Report

- Exchange semester at CNU, Christopher Newport University, USA, WS 2011-12
- Electrical Engineering and Information Technology
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The CNU (Christopher Newport University) is one of the partner universities of the University of Applied Science Rosenheim located at the southern part of Virginia, USA. At this college I graduated in Electrical Engineering and Information Technology and started my Master's degree back in March 2011. Spending one Semester abroad was one dream of mine that became true in summer, autumn last year, respectively. It was amazing to see the nice Campus and the housing which belongs to the Campus, too. In difference to Germany, studying in USA is very expensive and therefore many students work at Campus to reduce their costs. In general there is nearly everywhere someone who can advise you whenever needed and this service is offered 5 days a week mostly from early morning until late evening. Lot of staff has to work also on weekend like in the dining hall or at the gym but despite that they are always very friendly.



To complete my studies in Germany I needed 3 courses here at CNU in the Computer Science faculty. The System in USA is a little different compared to Germany: One has to make homework and projects which are graded in general. Furthermore, one or two mid exams must be written during the semester in most courses depending on the professor. At the end of the semester is the final exam which is worth only about 30 to 40 percent of the final grade. I think this kind of learning pressure during the semester is somehow better than the German system with one final grade. I mentioned that I had just 3 courses during the semester, but project work and homework can be from times to times very time consuming and so I had also some busy weeks. Never the less I had time going to the gym, going out with friends or seeing some parts of Newport News. For lunch I went usually to the dining hall and the whole choice of different food was fantastic. I enjoyed also some great offers of the different fraternities and sororities like a dancing competition, the Strongman tournament, charity collections and much more. Participating at the intermural sports was a great opportunity to get in contact with other students and the staff was always fair and obliging.



In conclusion I'd suggest everyone who is not sure about spending a semester at CNU to go there. The big choice in sports and student activities, the nice Campus and the obliging people at CNU make the time abroad shorter than one thinks.

