



FEEDBACK

AMS CASE STUDY COURSE 2006

My expectations:

I was looking for an exciting experience where I could meet extraordinary people and at the same time take something for my personal development.

I thought that even though business cases are a recruiting tool very often used to measure the talent of applicants and most of the universities offer this kind of preparation during your studies, the University of Cologne was missing this kind of course. Here case studies are offered only in some of the specialization subjects and only for very specific topics.

I was expecting to get as much of 4 hours a week of the course and honestly I was not really expecting to spend my whole weekend preparing for the course.

The course

There were various aspects of the course that were very impressive and helped me in different ways:

The presentations: The presentations of the different guests showed us different approaches for solving case studies. We were able to try these different approaches practically and recognize similarities to develop a standard way of dealing with cases. Furthermore experienced debaters told us their secrets for successful presentations and public speaking.

The cases: The topics of the cases were very broad and this was very useful to apply all the knowledge gained at the lectures. This was also important since the participants were very divers and had different specialities. After solving so many case studies with time pressure I found my self to be much more self-confident in my internship-interviews for the summer (at the end none of the interviews gave me a case study to solve, but if they would've done it, I'm sure I would've impressed them!)

The people: The group was very international and mixed. This enforced my capability of working together and under pressure with and against people with different ways of thinking and different ways of approaching problems. It was also very nice to go to drink a beer every Wednesday after the competition ☺ !

The system: The system of dividing into groups and giving points, transformed the course into an extremely competitive tournament. This was very exciting. Suddenly I was spending my whole weekend on free will to prepare for next week's case. I couldn't wait to see who would be in my group next time and how many points we will get.

The Feedback: This was maybe the most important part of the course. The organizers did really a wonderful job. They listened very carefully and involved themselves 100% in their role. They were very charming when giving feedback, which allowed us to receipt critic in a very constructive manner and improving those points on the next session. Thank you once more!

Summarizing, I would say that the AMS Case Study Course overfilled my expectations by far, contributed immensely to my development not only academically but personally, in terms of self-confidence. Furthermore I found there some very nice people that I will now always greet when I meet them in the halls of the faculty, and that alone, is good reason enough to take part!