Welcome to Aalto!

New students’ questions answered

Webinar

Wednesday 24 June 2020
15-17.00 (GMT +3hrs)
Here to help you today:

Ms Eija Zitting, Head of Aalto Learning Services
Mr Toni Kaila, Programme Management Services
Ms Jenni Tulensalo, School of Electrical Engineering
Ms Nakagawa Naoko, School of Arts, Design and Architecture
Ms Annika Schultz, School of Business
Ms Minna Marin, School of Chemical Engineering
Mr Börje Helenius, School of Engineering
Ms Anu Kuusela, School of Science
Ms Minna Parviainen, School of Science

*Emails: firstname.lastname@aalto.fi* (e.g. toni.kaila@aalto.fi)
Timetable (Finnish time: GMT +3 hrs)

15:00 Welcome
15:05 September start
15:10 September teaching arrangements school-by-school
15:20 Immigration issues/solutions
15:30 Enrolling absent
15:40 Selected chat questions
17.00 Finish

Please write your questions to the chat when it opens!

This presentation is shared after the webinar
Welcome

Ms Eija Zitting
Head of Aalto Learning Services
September start

- Semester to start as scheduled, but mostly on-line
- Safety is the top priority: no large classes or meetings
- Restricted use of space to ensure safe distances
- Orientation mostly on-line, but some selected small meetings (like tutorials) can be held in person when safe to do so
- Special attention given to social and academic integration
- Digital pre-orientation material available from 1st of August
- Gradual move to contact teaching when safe to do so
- On-line start a temporary measure to ensure students do not miss the whole year of studies
September 2020 teaching arrangements school-by-school
School of **Science**

- First autumn’s master’s courses primarily organized online

- **Courses starting in the 1. teaching period** (7 Sep - 23 Oct) will be taught in online mode throughout the autumn

- Some parts of teaching (e.g. exercise sessions) may be organized on campus but presence is voluntary

- Courses starting in the 2. period (26 Oct - 18 Dec): the appropriate **method will be decided as soon as possible**

- Contact: masters-sci@aalto.fi
School of Engineering

- Almost all **first autumn’s master's courses are organized online**

- **Courses that include lab testing or other contact-teaching** are lectured online and the professors will introduce alternative sessions for online students

- Contact: [masters-eng@aalto.fi](mailto:masters-eng@aalto.fi)
School of Electrical Engineering

- All first autumn’s master's courses are organized online
- Some courses may organize contact sessions on campus (e.g. exercise sessions) in parallel with online sessions (with identical content): presence for these is voluntary
- Courses with experimental content or other forms of contact teaching are mainly not part of the first autumn curricula
- Contact: masters-elec@aalto.fi
School of Chemical Engineering

- Laboratory teaching given as contact teaching on campus
- Other teaching offered online (some exceptions possible)
- Maximum group size is 40 in one space: strict safety guidelines are followed at all times
- Teaching will follow the planned schedule as much as possible
- Remote start possible in some majors/programmes (some with special arrangements)
- Study option specific information being gathered at the moment – you will be informed as soon as possible

Contact: studies-chem@aalto.fi
School of **Arts, Design and Architecture**

- **Courses in the autumn term** are organized online, on campus and in hybrid mode.

- **Work in the workshops and studios** are offered on campus as much as possible within the frame of safety instructions.

- **Hybrid courses** are mostly taught online but have some on-campus parts. Presence is either voluntary or alternative ways to participate are arranged.

- **Detailed information for each course will be available** in the beginning of August.

- **Contact**: studentservices@aalto.fi
School of Business

• Autumn courses for the first year master’s students are offered with a possibility to attend fully online

• Some parts of teaching may be organized on campus in parallel with online sessions

• More information will be available in August

• Contact: study-biz@aalto.fi
Online **teaching** at Aalto

Development of **online teaching** has been a strategic project from 2016 to present

**Difference in delivery method must not compromise quality** - has been the starting point for decisions on the teaching mode

**Teachers are now fully prepared for online** and do not need to switch modes in the middle of the course

Other supporting adjustments and added emphasis on social issue are offered, and **strict quality assurance standards** are followed at all times: prepare to work hard!

**Standard challenges** such as varying levels of IT-equipment, network connections and country-specific restrictions on third-part services are covered and **students get their Aalto accounts early** to allow for thorough testing
Immigration issues/solutions

- Many embassies and centers for identification are still closed: follow the given information and keep in contact with Aalto
- Local travel restrictions may prevent identification or needed documents: follow the given information, try to obtain some form of proof about the restrictions and keep in contact with Aalto
- Some embassies may not process residence permits for online start: please contact your school for a personal certificate that may help

- Follow information on Migri’s website: https://migri.fi/en/coronavirus
- Contact us if no residence permit by 15th of August
Tuition fees and scholarships

- **Extended payment** deadline until 31st of July
- **No obligation** to pay if unable to arrive
- **No discounts for online start**: academic quality and progression equivalent to contact teaching
- Force majeure **scholarship deferrals** available
- Full **refund of paid tuition fee** for delayed or rejected residence permit
- Full tuition fee **payment required for enrolment as attending**
- No tuition fee payment required for enrolling as non-attending
Enrolling as non-attending for the 1st year

- The current legally valid reasons for the 1st year absence are medical condition or injury, maternity/paternity leave and Finnish conscription (military/civil service).
- A temporary change in the university law expected to become effective from the 1st of July, allowing 1st year enrolment as non-attending for new students unable to get to Finland to start their studies due to official COVID-19 related restrictions on immigration, travel or other processes required to enter Finland.
- Objective, matter-of-fact proof expected, but the university will help students with this.
- A medical certificate of inability to start studies due to personal illness or injury is required.
- University cannot grant non-attendance for reasons not recognized in the law.
- Personal choices or illness of a relative are not sufficient grounds for non-attendance.
- Enrolling as non-attending requires application and university’s approval.
- Enrolment period ends on Friday, 4th of September: apply as early as possible not to miss deadline.
- Mostly not available to double-degree students due to programme restrictions.

Detailed instructions and application form:
https://into.aalto.fi/display/enopisk/Annual+enrolment

Tuition fees scholarships are flexible with the non-attendance for up to one calendar year.
International joint programmes

• For example Nordic Master, Erasmus Mundus, and EIT Programmes
• Application & admission schedules are programme-specific, some programmes are still to admit more students
• Contact your local programme coordinator* regarding possibilities to start your studies remotely or other effects of the coronavirus
• Deferring (postponing) the start of your studies is usually not possible

*See contact information on the Into page, linked above.
Accommodation

- Try to **ensure you have accommodation before you arrive**
- Temporary residence may be **expensive**
- Check the **refund policies** before signing
- Housing is an **external service**: outside the university influence
- **Follow up-dates** on the main service providers’ websites:
  1) **The Foundation for Student Housing in the Helsinki Region (HOAS)**: [https://www.hoas.fi/en/](https://www.hoas.fi/en/)
  2) **Aalto University Student Union (AYY)**: [https://www.ayy.fi/en/housing](https://www.ayy.fi/en/housing)
Further information

Today's presentation and further updates on the presented topics are collected in Into-portal:

https://into.aalto.fi → New Students

The following Newsletters for new students will also be sent:
Newsletter 3 – June (the week of 22 June)
Newsletter 4 - August (the week of 10 August)

Contact: studentservices@aalto.fi
Thank you!

Stay safe and well – we look forward to welcoming you to Aalto in September!