Incoming exchange students

Updated information regarding exchanges at Aalto University in autumn semester 2020 (as of 9 June 2020)

Finland has succeeded in containing the outbreak to the extent that the government is gradually lifting the restrictions. Based on the new policies Aalto is able to slowly move towards opening the Otaniemi campus. The current policies on teaching and learning at Aalto are continuously updated at https://www.aalto.fi/en/aalto-university/information-on-coronavirus.

Teaching in the autumn will begin according to the planned schedule in September. Anticipating that some governmental restrictions will still be in place, most orientation activities will be held online, but some activities can be arranged to take place on campus providing that the safety measures are in place. Health and safety of our students and staff is our top priority.

Teaching will be implemented remotely for the most part of the autumn semester. Restrictions regarding the size of gatherings and the physical distancing will guide the teaching provisions in the autumn semester. We are developing diverse teaching technologies to ensure smooth online and blended teaching and learning with smaller classes and, having exams remotely.

Autumn 2020 (September-December) / academic year 2020-2021 (September - May) exchanges at Aalto University

Exchanges in the autumn semester will take place in special arrangements. Information about the pandemic in Finland and the guidelines can be followed at https://thl.fi/en/web/thlfi-en

We offer different options for incoming exchange students:

1. Study the autumn semester remotely online from your home country. Please note that it might not be possible to study all the courses remotely, but we will help you with adjustments of the study plan in the beginning of the autumn semesters.

2. Arrive in Finland by beginning of September, if the travel restrictions allow and combine online learning with attendance of courses potentially offered on campus. Please note that majority of our courses will be offered online.

3. Exchange students for only autumn semester 2020: Please note that due to limited capacity it may not be possible to defer the exchange to spring semester 2021. If you would like to do this, we need to discuss with your home university first.

4. Cancel the planned exchange for the autumn 2020 at Aalto University.

If you choose to arrive in Finland for the autumn semester, please note that you must adhere to all regulations set by the Finnish authorities e.g. potential 14-day quarantine upon arrival, social distancing, etc. Please check the information about arriving to Finland from the Finland’s representation/mission before purchasing flights or making non-refundable financial obligations. Please also familiarize yourself with related cancellation policies.

Admission decisions (acceptance / rejection letters) are soon to be sent by respective schools at Aalto University. We will also send a separate message to all incoming students regarding teaching in autumn 2020 and instructions on how to inform respective school of your plans.

It is important to notice that the home university must agree on the student's plans and decision regarding the autumn term 2020. It is student's own responsibility to negotiate with the home university.

Welcome to Aalto University!

Studying at Aalto University is a challenging and exciting opportunity to enrich your academic knowledge and professional skills. Aalto University welcomes nearly 1000 exchange students a year. Exchange studies are based on exchange agreements. Your home university can provide you further information on your exchange possibilities at Aalto University.

Aalto University was founded in 2010 as Helsinki University of Technology, the Helsinki School of Economics and the University of Art and Design Helsinki were merged. Today, Aalto University consists of six schools with nearly 20 000 students in total. The main campus is located in Otaniemi in Espoo, Finland. One campus is in a city of Mikkeli.

What makes Aalto University unique?

At Aalto University, we believe that the future of education exists at the crossroads of science, technology, business and art. We combine knowledge from different disciplines to identify and solve complex challenges, and to educate future visionaries and experts. The university emphasizes importance of multidisciplinary teaching and learning and has introduced Aalto cross-school courses and University wide arts studies (UWAS). UWAS courses offer access to design thinking for every discipline in the university. There are diverse opportunities available for all students to get involved in cross-disciplinary activities, projects and courses in order to learn design thinking and gain insight to working in multidisciplinary teams. Focusing on student learning the university supports diverse student initiatives.
The multidisciplinary experts at the School of Arts, Design and Architecture create better living environments and change the world through artistic means.

Steeped in the deep and honored tradition of Finland’s cultural heritage, Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture (Aalto ARTS) educates towards the future with a focus on fostering a more innovative society. Our programs prepare students to be global citizens; providing graduates who offer valuable contributions to their communities with a focus on collaborative, compassionate, and unconventional solutions to some of the most pressing challenges facing the world today.

Design in all scales of human environment and everyday life builds on our design tradition over many fields and embraces the expanding role of design in the development of products (large and small), the built environment, as well as services, for example, future transportation. Narratives are key to people gaining better understanding of their history, the present-age, and our shared existence. At Aalto ARTS the power of stories – meanings and expressions; storytelling – is understood and applied within diverse contexts, such as images, films, games, texts, and multi-sensory productions.

Research is core to Aalto ARTS’ identity, we develop our artistic research practice as a strategic long-term, experimental, and academic activity which helps to pave the way for future art and cultural activities through greater insight and understanding in multicultural and multidisciplinary contexts.

The School of Business is the leading business school in Finland and ranks among the best in Europe. Aalto University School of Business is the first business school in the Nordic countries to have received all three labels of excellence from the world’s leading business school accreditation bodies: AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS. This Triple Crown status is an honour held by only 0.5 % of the business schools worldwide.

The School of Business is also a member of the CEMS, Global Alliance in Management Education and the PIM, Partnership in International Management networks. The School is a comprehensive business school covering academic fields i.e. Accounting, Business Law, Finance, Economics, Marketing, Information System Science, Logistics, Management Science, Organization and Management, International Business, Entrepreneurship and Organizational Communication.

The School of Business operates on two campuses: Otaniemi and Mikkeli. The international network consists of over 150 partner universities in the world. More information on the School of Business is available at [http://biz.aalto.fi/en/](http://biz.aalto.fi/en/).

The strength of the School of Chemical Engineering is in combining expertise in natural sciences and engineering sciences. The research foci in the school include energy technologies, new materials, and sustainable processing of natural resources as well as products derived from these resources. The School of Chemical Engineering offers teaching in the following fields: Biomass Refining, Biotechnology, Chemical and Process Engineering, Chemistry, Fibre and Polymer Engineering, Functional Materials, Sustainable Metals Processing.

At the Aalto University School of Electrical Engineering, science and engineering meet society. The school’s portfolio covers fields from natural sciences to engineering and information sciences. In parallel with basic research, the School of Electrical Engineering develops ideas and technologies further into innovations and services. The school educates experts in systems science who develop integrated solutions from the care of elderly to space robotics. The School of Electrical Engineering offers teaching in the following fields: Automation, Bioinformatics, Communications Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Nano and Radio Sciences, Space Science.

The School of Engineering conducts teaching and research in areas covering the entire built environment including its machines and equipment. Key research focus areas are multidisciplinary energy technologies, mechanics and materials, systems design and production, engineering in arctic regions and sustainable built environment.

The School of Engineering offers teaching in the following programmes: Building Technology, Energy Technology, Geoengineering, Geoinformatics, Mechanical Engineering, Real Estate Economics, Spatial Planning and Transportation Engineering, Water and Environmental Engineering.

The School of Science offers a pioneering and applied approach to multidisciplinary research, which it closely connects to its inspirational teaching. The research conducted at the school meets all the world-class requirements across a range of subject areas. We see it as our mission to boldly and responsibly expand the realms of scientific knowledge and understanding. Hence, our research aims at responding to a variety of sustainable development challenges.

The School of Science offers teaching in the following fields: Computer Science, Engineering Physics, Industrial Engineering and Management, Information Networks, Life Science Technologies, Mathematics and Operations Research.

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