At the School of Science, most of the courses offered in English are on Master’s level. However, Bachelor’s degree students on the final stage of their degree can take master level courses provided that they fulfill the prerequisite skills and knowledge required for the courses.

List of SCI courses in English, 2021-22 (excel sheet - download the file to filter suitable options for modified view)

Please read the course info in Sisu carefully before registering for the course.

The School of Science offers courses for exchange students in the following fields of study:

- Computer Science
- Industrial Engineering and Management
- Engineering Physics
- Mathematics and Operations Research
- Biomedical Engineering and Neuroscience

Instructions for making Learning Agreement / study plan

How many courses should I take?

- Exchange students to Aalto are expected to study full time while at Aalto and pass the courses with good grades. Full workload is equivalent to 30 ECTS credits per term or 60 ECTS per academic year.

Which courses can I take?

- Please select at least 2/3 of the courses from one field of study at the School of Science - Computer Science (course code starts with CS-), Industrial Engineering and Management (course code starts with TU-), Engineering Physics (course code starts with PHYS-), Mathematics and Operations Research (course code starts with MATH-) or Biomedical Engineering and Neuroscience (course code starts with NBE-).
- The rest 1/3 of courses may include:
  - Courses from other fields of study offered by the School of Science
  - Courses from other technical schools (the School of Chemical Engineering, School of Electrical Engineering and the School of Engineering)
  - Language and intercultural communication courses
  - Interdisciplinary courses, such as:
    - Aalto Ventures Program (AVP) courses - AVP courses cover important aspects of entrepreneurship; leadership, design thinking, finance, innovation, start-ups, prototyping, storytelling and much more.
    - Aaltonaut courses - Aaltonaut is Aalto University’s Bachelor’s Minor Programme on Interdisciplinary Product Development. Aaltonaut courses rely on problem-based learning as well as interdisciplinary team-work in hands-on projects. The general goals of the Aaltonaut programme are creating collaboration between different disciplines, refining teamwork and communication skills and reinforcing the entrepreneurial attitude.
    - Creative Sustainability courses - Creative Sustainability programme offers courses which approach sustainability from different perspectives and disciplinary angles. Most courses are open to Aalto University exchange students. Important: Courses are popular and of limited size. Please make sure to enroll as early as possible and make alternative study plans.
    - University Wide Studies -courses (including University Wide Art Studies and University Wide Business Studies, latter includes mainly business courses in Finnish)
    - School of Business -courses, if the course is available for all Aalto students according to the course description available in sisu.aalto.fi
- For more information, please read our website on studies for incoming exchange students at Aalto.

What other things should I take into account?

- Please note that courses from the Aalto University the School of Arts, Design and Architecture can not be selected, apart from UWAS-courses. School of Business -courses can be selected only if it is mentioned in the course description that the course is open for all Aalto students.
- When choosing courses, please check carefully the prerequisite skills, language of instruction and the term when the course is offered.
- When you choose courses for your learning agreement / study plan, the detailed course information might not be available yet. In this case, the study plan is made according to the course information of the previous academic year.
- Please be prepared to modify your study plan upon arrival. You might have to remove some courses due to conflict in schedule, difficulty level of the course, limited availability of places in the course or other reasons, and respectively select new courses. Study plan / learning agreement is not a course registration! You will register for courses in Sisu upon arrival. For course registration you need Aalto username and password, which you will receive upon enrolling.
- In some cases, there may be restrictions in participation for certain courses (e.g. the amount of students can be restricted or priority given to the degree students of the school).

Instructions for submitting the online application

In the online application form, under “Studies”, you are asked to select the “Stay opportunity”. Some or all of the following options may be included in the list of possible study programmes. For the School of Science some of the programme abbreviations are in Finnish, which may be a little confusing, so here are the explanations:
Final projects for incoming exchange students

Please note that it is generally NOT possible to complete a Bachelor's thesis/project during your exchange!

In some special cases it might be possible to complete a final project (30 ECTS) during the exchange period. A final project is a written work that corresponds to a Master’s thesis completed by Aalto University degree students. In order to do a final project during your exchange, you have to find a supervising professor from Aalto University School of Science and agree with him/her on a preliminary topic. Due to limited resources at the departments, please note that final project can not be guaranteed for all interested exchange students, and without a supervising professor the final project can not be done. In some study fields, it is also possible to do a more concise research work called special assignment (1-10 ECTS), which also requires finding a supervising professor. Please see CS-E4003 - Special Assignment in Computer Science for further information on the latter.

What should I do if I want to complete a final project (30 ECTS) during my stay in Aalto University School of Science?

1. Think about your research interests and ideas. Check what kind of research groups, professors and equipment there are in Aalto University School of Science.
2. The final project (30 ECTS) for exchange students corresponds to a Master’s thesis in Aalto University. Please discuss with your home university professor and coordinator of international exchange, if needed, on how the final project made in Aalto University will be credited in your home university, and if additional steps are required by your home university (for example submitting an abstract or defending the final project in your home university). Please also make sure that the Aalto final project is accepted as your Master's thesis in your home university, or if you also need a secondary supervisor from your home university to follow the thesis progress.
3. Contact suitable professors in Aalto University School of Science, introduce yourself as a future potential exchange student, tell about your research interests and ask the professor if he could supervise your final project (Master's thesis). Please attach your CV and transcript of records. The professor may have topics to suggest, or you can decide the topic together.
4. In your learning agreement/study plan, please indicate that you will be doing a final project during the exchange (30 ECTS) and also inform preliminary topic and supervisor of the project.
5. As regular exchange students, you have to be nominated for exchange to Aalto University School of Science. Nominations are accepted only from partner universities.

What should I do upon arrival to Aalto University?

1. Academic-wise, please continue discussions with your supervising professor in Aalto University on practical arrangements and schedules for your final project.
2. Administrative-wise, please follow the instructions at MyCourses platform for SCI Master's thesis (https://mycourses.aalto.fi/course/view.php?id=19277). The procedures for a final project are the same as for a Master's thesis, except that you do not have to submit a matriculation examination (=press release) or submit a bound copy of the work. Like Master's thesis, also final projects will be published after completion.
   a. You will need to submit the Approval of the thesis topic to the degree programme's academic committee. You can do this either via the system (instructions and link on MyCourses) or send the pdf to exchanges-sci@aalto.fi. Once your Final project is finished, it needs to be submitted to the committee for final approval as well. These cannot be submitted into the same committee meeting, so please make sure you submit the Approval of the thesis topic first and have time to submit the Final project for approval to a committee meeting after that.

Things to note:

- The possibility to complete a final project (30 ECTS) during your exchange depends on whether you can find a supervising professor or not. Your application for exchange can not be accepted if you have a final project in your study plan/learning agreement but no supervising professor and preliminary topic. If you can not find a supervising professor before the application deadline, please submit also an alternative study plan/learning agreement with courses only (30 ECTS for one academic term or 60 ECTS for whole academic year). In latter case, you can continue looking for supervisor after the application deadline, but please note that there is a possibility that you can not find one. Therefore it is crucial that you find a supervisor before you begin your exchange and discuss on the preliminary topic, although you can discuss the details also upon arrival.
- These guidelines concern only Aalto University School of Science. If you find a supervising professor from other Aalto School, please confirm first that it is possible for you to do a final project there (for example there is a student exchange agreement between that School and your home university) and also check the School-specific guidelines.
- We recommend that exchange students wishing to complete a final project stay here for the whole academic year. The exchange students who do their final project and have been accepted for only one term should notice that the credits cannot be registered in Aalto University if the right to study has expired before the final project has been submitted. In this case the exchange period needs to be extended - please contact exchanges-sci@aalto.fi for further instructions at least 1-2 months before the end of the ongoing exchange period.
- Completing a final project requires a very high level of English language skills, especially in academic writing. The preferable level of English language skills is C1 on the CEFR scale (or IELTS 6.5, TOEFL ibt 92).

Faculty in Aalto University School of Science departments

- Department of Applied Physics
- Department of Computer Science
- Department of Industrial Engineering and Management
- Department of Mathematics and Systems Analysis