



STUDENT EXCHANGE

IMPORTANT DATES

HOW TO APPLY

COURSES



A study period abroad needs a lot of preparation. In this brochure you will find basic information for planning your stay at the University of Helsinki. You will find detailed information on exchange programmes, dates, application procedure, studies, arrival, housing, permits and living in Finland etc. on Student Exchange website [www.helsinki.fi/exchange](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange).

Student Exchange Programmes

- Erasmus and Tempus (EU-programmes)
- Nordplus or Nordlys (Nordic and Baltic countries)
- University bilateral co-operation agreements of the University of Helsinki
- Other programmes: AEN, ISEP, MAUI, North-South-South, North2North
- More information on website [www.helsinki.fi/exchange](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange).



Exchange periods

- Usually 1 or 2 semesters
- In some cases the exchange period can be differ from semesters. This period must be agreed with the faculty and department of the University of Helsinki.

[www.helsinki.fi/exchange](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange)

International Exchange Services  
P.O.Box 3 (Fabianinkatu 33)  
FI- University of Helsinki, Finland

E-mails:  
[erasmus@helsinki.fi](mailto:erasmus@helsinki.fi) (Erasmus students)  
[nordplus@helsinki.fi](mailto:nordplus@helsinki.fi) (Nordplus students)  
[studentexchange@helsinki.fi](mailto:studentexchange@helsinki.fi) (Students of other exchange programmes).



Student Application Deadlines

- May 15, 2011 for academic year 2011-2012 or for autumn semester 2011
- November 1, 2011 for spring semester 2012.

Semester Dates

- Autumn Semester: September 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011
- Spring Semester: January 1, 2012 - May 31, 2012
- Academic year: August 1, 2011– July 31, 2012.

Arrival Dates

- August 31 – September 1, 2011
- January 3-5, 2012
- Exchange students should arrive in Helsinki before the Orientation Course and courses start.



Orientation Course

- [www.helsinki.fi/orientation](http://www.helsinki.fi/orientation)
- September 2-6, 2011
- January 9-11, 2012.

Teaching Periods in 2011-2012

The University of Helsinki arranges teaching in most of its faculties in periodical system. Teaching periods vary from Faculty to Faculty. Web [www.helsinki.fi/exchange](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange) .

Examinations

There are no special examination periods at the University of Helsinki. Course Examinations are held at the end of the courses. It is usually possible to take examinations once a month during semesters (varies from faculty to faculty).

Info on dates on web [www.helsinki.fi/exchange](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange). Please note also the bank holidays (public holidays) in Finland, web [www.helsinki.fi/exchange/](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/) >>Living in Finland.



Read carefully all information on the application requirements and procedure and all instructions on how to apply as an exchange student to the University of Helsinki on web [www.helsinki.fi/exchange](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange).

Application Requirements and Application Procedure in Short

- Nomination for student exchange by the home university
- Completed on-line application form [www.helsinki.fi/exchange](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange)



- Learning agreement (Study plan) is compulsory and the learning agreement must be accepted by the University of Helsinki and the home university
- Language requirements
  - Very good language skills in English (in reading, writing and speaking)
  - Or very good language skills in Finnish or Swedish (if the student wants to study in these languages)
  - Very good language skills refers to level B2 on the CERF scale of the European Language Portfolio ([www.coe.int/portfolio](http://www.coe.int/portfolio) > >Levels).
- The faculties of the University of Helsinki consider every application individually and make the decision based on the fully completed application form and enclosures.
- Apply for housing.

Compulsory Enclosures

- Printed and signed Application Form
- Signed Learning Agreement
- Transcript of Credits
- Language Certificate, if language studies are not listed on the transcript.
- Enclosures must be submitted to the International Exchange Services of the University of Helsinki at the latest on the deadline.



The languages of instruction are Finnish, Swedish and English. A very good knowledge of at least one of these languages is needed for completing studies at the University of Helsinki.



- Courses in English [www.helsinki.fi/english/courses](http://www.helsinki.fi/english/courses)
- Courses in Finnish [www.helsinki.fi/lyhyesti/yksikot.html](http://www.helsinki.fi/lyhyesti/yksikot.html)
- Courses in Swedish [www.helsinki.fi/svenskaarenden/shb/](http://www.helsinki.fi/svenskaarenden/shb/)

HOUSING

The housing situation in Helsinki is difficult. It is important that exchange students make the housing arrangements as soon as possible.

**IMPORTANT: Housing is for fixed period and fixed period tenancy agreements can't be changed!** Housing period is usually the same than the exchange period.

The International Exchange Services can't guarantee housing for all exchange students. The housing providers; the Foundation for Student Housing in Helsinki Region HOAS and the Student Unions' Housing Service will do their best to arrange housing for the applicants. Students can also search for housing on private market themselves. You will find more information on housing and links on website [www.helsinki.fi/exchange](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange).

ESTIMATED EXPENSES

- Living expenses: 650-950 €/ month, including housing (300-500 €)
- Food / meals: 220-270 €/ month.
- Personal Expenses: Approx.150-170 €/ month. (February 2011).



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