

Fact Sheet of the University of Helsinki University bilateral agreements, 2018-19



Basic information about the University of Helsinki

University website

www.helsinki.fi/university
<https://university.helsinki.fi/en/studying/how-to-apply/exchange-studies>

The University of Helsinki was established in 1640 and it has the widest range of disciplines in Finland. There are 36,000 degree students and 8,000 staff members. For a general introduction, please see <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/university/the-university-of-helsinki-in-brief>

University of Helsinki has 11 faculties

- Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry
- Faculty of Arts
- Faculty of Educational Sciences (formerly known as Faculty of Behavioural Sciences)
- Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Pharmacy
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Social Sciences
- Faculty of Theology
- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

On January 1st, 2017, Psychology and Logopedics moved from the Faculty of Behavioural Sciences to the Faculty of Medicine. Cognitive Science and Phonetics moved to the Faculty of Arts. Many of the faculties are divided into departments, see <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/university/units-and-faculties> There has been a reform of all degree programmes at the University of Helsinki, and many of the departments cease to exist starting from January 2018. Despite the changes in the structures, teaching and international exchanges will continue in the new study programmes, which were launched in the autumn 2017: <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/degreefinder>

University of Helsinki has 4 campuses, all located within 10 kilometres from each other, <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/university/units-and-faculties>

- City Centre Campus for Arts and Social Sciences ([location on a map](#))
- Kumpula Science Campus ([campus map](#))
- Meilahti Campus for Medicine
- Viikki Campus for Life Sciences ([location on a map](#))

Contact information

Coordinating unit for university level student and teacher exchange	International Exchange Services P.O. Box 3 (street address: Fabianinkatu 33, 00170 Helsinki) FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland Tel. +358 2941 22401 Head of unit: Ms. Minna Koutaniemi, Overall coordination of student and teacher mobility +358 2941 22939, e-mail: minna.koutaniemi@helsinki.fi
Contact person for university level student exchange	Ms. Raisa Asikainen and Ms. Janna Koivisto Student Exchange Specialists University level student exchange with partner universities in Asia, Africa, Middle East and Europe (excluding Erasmus programme countries) Contact person for outgoing students from Helsinki, number of mobilities per year, balance issues: Raisa Asikainen Contact person for incoming students to Helsinki: Janna Koivisto Tel. +358 2941 22241 / Raisa Tel. +358 2941 57156 / Janna studentexchange@helsinki.fi Ms. Tuula Hellstedt and Mr. Mikko Moilanen Student Exchange Specialists University- and faculty-level partner universities in the Americas and Oceania Contact person for outgoing students from Helsinki, ISEP, MAUI, AEN, North2North programmes, number of mobilities per year, balance issues: Tuula Hellstedt Contact person for incoming students to Helsinki: Mikko Moilanen tel. +358 2941 22177 /Tuula tel. +358 2941 22936 / Mikko studentexchange@helsinki.fi
Contact person for university level teacher exchange	Ms. Anne Rönkä and Ms. AnneSophie Hokkanen Teacher, Researcher and Staff Exchange Specialists Tel: +358 2941 40806 E-mail staffexchange@helsinki.fi
Service e-mail for students	Questions from students: studentexchange@helsinki.fi
Agreement related issues	Ms. Raisa Asikainen: Asia, Africa, Middle East, Europe excluding Erasmus programme countries Ms. Tuula Hellstedt: Americas and Oceania exchange-agreements@helsinki.fi

Application information for student exchange			
Level of studies open for exchange students	Bachelor's and Master's level		
Semester dates	Autumn Semester: 28 August – 31 December 2018 Spring Semester: 9 January – 31 May 2019		
Application deadline	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> For autumn semester April 15: citizens of non-EU/EEA-member states May 15: citizens of EU/EEA-member states, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> For spring semester September 30: citizens of non-EU/EEA-member states October 15: citizens of EU/EEA-member states, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland </td> </tr> </table>	For autumn semester April 15: citizens of non-EU/EEA-member states May 15: citizens of EU/EEA-member states, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland	For spring semester September 30: citizens of non-EU/EEA-member states October 15: citizens of EU/EEA-member states, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland
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Arrival and orientation	Autumn semester: last week of August / Spring semester: second week of January For exact dates, see https://university.helsinki.fi/en/studying/new-students/orientation-and-welcome-fair		
Nominations and application process	<p>Partners are asked to send nominations through an electronic form: https://elomake.helsinki.fi/lomakkeet/80237/lomake.html</p> <p>We do not have a separate deadline for nominations, but we recommend that students are nominated at least two weeks before the application deadlines</p> <p>The nominated students submit their applications online by using the online application system of the University of Helsinki, and include the listed enclosures in their application. There is no need to send paper copies of the application.</p> <p>Decisions regarding acceptance are made by faculties of the University of Helsinki. Acceptance information is available about 6 weeks after the application deadline. Accepted students receive an automatic acceptance e-mail from their host Faculty with a formal acceptance letter as an e-mail attachment. Finnish immigration authorities can check the validity of the scanned, formal acceptance letter directly from the University of Helsinki, if necessary.</p>		
Online application system	https://university.helsinki.fi/en/studying/how-to-apply/exchange-studies		
Enclosures, uploaded as attachments to the Online application system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Printed, signed and scanned copy of the online application form - Approved learning agreement (study plan listing the names of the courses the student intends to participate in at the University of Helsinki, please see Workload for the amount of credits to complete; the agreement is based on the previous year's teaching, e.g. it is a preliminary plan) - Scanned, official transcript of records from the student's home university - Language certificate, see Language requirement 		
About the application form	<p>In the online application form, university bilateral agreement exchange students choose "International Exchange Services (Administration)" as the Faculty they apply to study at, and "University Bilateral Agreement" as the field of study in the agreement.</p> <p>Choosing "International Exchange Services (administration)" means that the student's application is first received by the International Exchange Services of the University. It is then forwarded by International Exchange Services to the appropriate Faculty.</p> <p>The applicant does not need to choose the name of his/her Faculty. The Faculty name is updated to the application form of each bilateral exchange student by International Exchange Services during the application process.</p>		
Courses taught in English and study plan (Learning Agreement)	<p>Information on courses suitable for exchange students: https://guide.student.helsinki.fi/en/article/where-can-i-find-studies . Course lists for the academic year 2018 – 2019 will be published in the beginning of March 2018.</p> <p>Important: University level bilateral exchange students are required to choose the majority of their courses from one faculty.</p>		

	<p>Within one faculty, they can choose courses from several study programmes. One of the study programmes will be chosen as the host study programme for the student. Students are welcome to choose some courses from other faculties, too, if they meet the requirements for the courses (see also “restrictions”).</p> <p>Please note that depending on the course level, study programmes have the right to decide whether the student has enough previous studies to participate.</p>
Language requirement	TOEFL score of 79 (IBT) or IELTS score of 6 or the Language Certificate available on https://university.helsinki.fi/en/studying/how-to-apply/exchange-studies proving that the language level is CEFR B2 at minimum
Medical report	Not required
Application information for researcher and teacher exchange	
Researcher and teacher exchange, if any	As indicated in the university bilateral agreement (if the agreement includes researcher and teacher exchange)
Quota for researcher and teacher exchange	As indicated in the university bilateral agreement (if the agreement includes researcher and teacher exchange)
Application deadline	<p>Nominations for researcher and teacher exchange should be sent to staffexchange@helsinki.fi at least eight weeks before the estimated arrival date. Please note that visits are only possible during the academic year. Applications can not be processed during the holiday seasons (end of December and beginning of January, July).</p> <p>Incoming teachers should have prior contact with the receiving unit.</p> <p>Documents needed: CV, work plan, pre-acceptance letter from the receiving unit at the University of Helsinki</p>
Accommodation	International Exchange Services will help with accommodation arrangements. More information from staffexchange@helsinki.fi
Academic calendar	https://www.helsinki.fi/en/academic-year-and-teaching-periods
Studies	
Workload	<p>Students should aim to complete 30 ECTS credits per semester</p> <p>One ECTS credit equals 27 hours of work, including both lectures and homework. A full year of 60 ECTS credits corresponds to a workload of 1600 hours</p> <p>Course descriptions may use terms “cr” or “ECTS cr” or “op”. They all mean the same thing, ECTS credits</p>
Language of instruction	<p>University of Helsinki is a bilingual institution. The languages of instruction are Finnish and Swedish. In addition to courses taught in Finnish and Swedish, the University offers a lot of courses taught in English. Courses taught in English are offered by each Faculty of the University.</p> <p>Exchange students can participate in courses taught in English. No knowledge of Finnish or Swedish is required.</p>
Terminology related to the courses	<p>The Courses in English website includes courses of various levels. Some courses require previous studies in the discipline in question. The following terminology will help the students to find out if the courses are suitable for them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic studies (or “perusopinnot” in Finnish): Bachelor’s level courses, do not usually require previous studies from the student - Subject studies or Intermediate studies (or “aineopinnot” in Finnish): Bachelor’s level courses, intermediate level, require some previous studies from the student, mainly for 2nd or 3rd year students of the subject - Advanced studies (or “syventävät opinnot” in Finnish): Master’s level courses, for students who have completed a Bachelor’s degree or have the same level
Restrictions	Fields not offered at the University of Helsinki: business and engineering.

	<p>Courses teaching English language are not open for exchange students.</p> <p>Master's Programme in Urban Studies is not open for exchange students during the academic year 2018 – 2019.</p> <p>Highly restricted: Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, and Dentistry. Please contact student exchange coordinator before nominating students to these fields. Medicine offers a set international schedule for each semester. Veterinary Medicine offers clinical practice period from February to May on advanced level.</p> <p>Master's Programme in English Studies and Study track of English at the Bachelor's Programme in Languages, Philology, study programmes in Politics and Communication, Master's Programme in Economics, Psychology, and Law are open only for students who are majoring in the subject in question and have completed enough courses in the discipline in their home university prior to arrival. Other foreign languages: student should be a major or minor in the language at the home university. These studies are considered case by case.</p> <p>The Psychology majors should check which of the following is more suitable considering their study background: Social Psychology courses (Faculty of Social Sciences' study programme for Social Research) or Psychology courses (Faculty of Medicine).</p> <p>Please note that some Faculties offer courses in English mainly on Master's level (suitable for advanced Bachelor students as well): Agriculture and Forestry, Science, Pharmacy, Biological and Environmental Sciences.</p>
Finnish courses and other language courses for exchange students	<p>Information on language courses for exchange students: https://guide.student.helsinki.fi/en/article/where-can-i-find-studies</p> <p>There are Finnish courses available for those exchange students wanting to learn Finnish. The course includes 4 hours of teaching each week. For more, please see https://guide.student.helsinki.fi/en/article/finnish-international-students Students are not required to participate in Finnish courses, but may do so, if they wish.</p>
Course enrolment	<p>Students need to have their University of Helsinki computer user ID to register for courses in WebOodi system, http://www.helsinki.fi/weboodi. Students receive the computer user ID when they arrive in Finland. Course registration happens after arrival.</p> <p>After course information for the following academic year is published, there may be some changes, so the Learning agreement is only a preliminary plan. Students are advised to check the list of courses during their exchange year again before they arrive.</p>
Grading system	<p>The University of Helsinki uses a six-level grading scale from 0 to 5.</p> <p>5 = excellent or A 4 = very good or B 3 = good or C 2 = satisfactory or D 1 = passable or E 0 = fail or F or FX</p> <p>In addition to applying this grading scale, a pass/fail grade may be used when grading practical training and practical skills courses.</p>
Transcripts of records	<p>Students can get one official transcript per semester free of charge from the Student Services, see https://guide.student.helsinki.fi/en/article/order-transcript-studies</p> <p>Students are responsible for ordering their official transcript, it is not automatically sent to the partner university. Students should follow the instructions in the link above to order their official transcript.</p>

Support services and housing for exchange students															
Housing	<p>For the students wanting to live in a student dormitory, University of Helsinki has agreed with housing providers, including Unihome and HOAS (Foundation for Student Housing in the Helsinki Region), on a number of rooms for incoming exchange students. Apartments are located around Helsinki. Students should choose their housing option based on their budget and their wishes. Exchange students submit their housing application as a part of their exchange application. Their information will be forwarded to housing providers. Each exchange student will receive one housing offer.</p> <p>Mandatory fees prior to arrival: room deposit: €500 (subject to change) to be paid to the housing provider according to their instructions. Students should be prepared to pay the deposit when they receive instructions from the housing provider. This can be several months prior to arrival.</p> <p>Information about various other housing options is available at https://guide.student.helsinki.fi/en/article/housing</p>														
International Exchange Services	<p>With any questions during their stay at the University of Helsinki, exchange students are welcome to visit the International Exchange Services, represented on each campus in conjunction with the local Student Services. Please look here for the address and office hours of each campus' Student Services: https://guide.student.helsinki.fi/en/article/contact-international-exchange-services</p> <p>With any questions before or during their stay, students can e-mail studentexchange@helsinki.fi or call +358 2941 22401.</p>														
Tutoring	<p>During orientation, incoming exchange students receive help from students tutors, who introduce Finnish university life to the new exchange students and help them with practical issues such as mobile phones, getting a monthly ticket for public transportation etc.</p>														
Hobbies and friendship activities	<p>University of Helsinki has hundreds of student organisations, and exchange students are welcome to join. Please see Students' ESN network organises a lot of activities for exchange students: https://esnunihelsinki.com/</p>														
Practical Information	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>City of Helsinki</td> <td>http://www.hel.fi/www/helsinki/en</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student benefits</td> <td>https://hyy.helsinki.fi/en/students/member-benefits-and-services</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Helsinki University Library</td> <td>http://www.helsinki.fi/kirjasto/en/home/</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Learning Centre Aleksandria</td> <td>http://www.helsinki.fi/kirjasto/en/library-locations/aleksandria/</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student Cafeterias</td> <td>https://www.unicafe.fi/en/#/9/1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student Union</td> <td>http://hyy.helsinki.fi/en</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unisport</td> <td>https://unisport.fi/</td> </tr> </table>	City of Helsinki	http://www.hel.fi/www/helsinki/en	Student benefits	https://hyy.helsinki.fi/en/students/member-benefits-and-services	Helsinki University Library	http://www.helsinki.fi/kirjasto/en/home/	Learning Centre Aleksandria	http://www.helsinki.fi/kirjasto/en/library-locations/aleksandria/	Student Cafeterias	https://www.unicafe.fi/en/#/9/1	Student Union	http://hyy.helsinki.fi/en	Unisport	https://unisport.fi/
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Student Cafeterias	https://www.unicafe.fi/en/#/9/1														
Student Union	http://hyy.helsinki.fi/en														
Unisport	https://unisport.fi/														
Information for accepted students															
Residence permit	<p>Students who are non-EU nationals need to apply for a Residence permit according to the instructions provided by Finnish Immigration Service http://www.migri.fi/studying_in_finland. Information regarding applying for a Residence permit is also available at the closest Consulate of Finland.</p> <p>University of Helsinki recommends that students submit their application electronically, because it makes the application process faster. Students are advised to apply immediately after receiving their Acceptance Letter from the University of Helsinki.</p> <p>Even if the student has submitted the Residence permit application electronically, he/she needs to visit the Finnish consulate in person to verify his/her identity and to present the original copies of any supplements needed for the application. Because of the above, students should apply for a Residence permit immediately after receiving acceptance information from the Univ. of Helsinki.</p> <p>Please note that cost for the online residence permit is 300 euros (subject to change)</p>														
Health insurance	<p>Students who are non-EU nationals need to seek comprehensive health insurance prior to applying for a Residence permit. For more, please see https://guide.student.helsinki.fi/en/article/health-insurance and www.migri.fi</p>														
Student union membership	<p>Exchange students are strongly recommended to pay the Student Union Membership Fee for Exchange Students (€100 for academic year and ca €52 for semester, subject to change). Student Union membership includes benefits for students, for example basic health care, etc.). Please see: https://hyy.helsinki.fi/en/students/membership</p>														

Student health care	Exchange students who join the Student Union can use the services of Finnish Student Health Service, http://www.yths.fi/en/internationalstudents , which is open Mon-Fri.
Cost of living	https://www.helsinki.fi/en/studying/new-students/costs-and-finance
Websites for accepted students	Orientation, Welcome Fair, Tutoring https://guide.student.helsinki.fi/en/article/orientation-tutoring-and-welcome-fair New Students Website https://guide.student.helsinki.fi/en/new-students Welcome to UH Blog http://blogs.helsinki.fi/welcometouh/ Join us in Facebook https://www.facebook.com/newstudentsuh
Information provided on	20 December, 2017