International Programs Office

University of Helsinki Finland

Fact Sheet



University of Helsinki homepage:
http://www.helsinki.fi/university/
Webpage for International Exchange students:
http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange

Location

Helsinki, Finland

Helsinki is situated on the south coast of Finland.

The city of Helsinki was initially a small fishing town until 1812 when it was "modernized" under Russian rule and turned into the administrative capital of the Autonomous Grand Duchy of Finland. Helsinki is thus a prime example of 19th century Neoclassical architecture, and the Lutheran Cathedral in the middle of the city is, without doubt, one of its best known landmarks.



Accommodation costs

The housing situation in Helsinki can be difficult. It is important that you apply for housing as soon as you are accepted. IMPORTANT: Housing for fixed-period and fixed period housing agreements can't be changed. Housing Offer: you will receive a housing offer when the housing has been reserved Please read all information on the housing offer carefully and act accordingly! For more information on housing, click here.

Costs

The cost of living in Helsinki is on average €600 - 900 / month. This estimate includes housing costs.

For more information see: http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/permits/index.html#CostofLiving

Currency

The Euro (EUR) is the official currency of Finland.



Visas

An international student must acquire a residence permit if his/her studies in Finland lasts for more than three months. Residence permits must be obtained in advance from the nearest Finnish embassy or consulate. The reason for entry must be clearly stated. A visa is needed if the student is a citizen of a country that has not signed an agreement on the abolition of the visa with Finland. For more information see: http://www.helsinki.fi/studying/visa_and_residence_permit.sht ml

Disciplines

Students from all majors can study at the University of Helsinki. It is especially appropriate for History, Theology, Political Science and Natural Science majors. The University concentrates on high-level scientific research and researcher education. Scientific research is also the basis of the teaching provided by the University. The University operations support the development of society, as well as business and industry. University representatives offer their competencies for the benefit of society through a number of positions of trust and expertise.

Structure of University

Featuring a variety of study options, an extensive selection of subjects, and teachers from among the best in science, the University of Helsinki is a great place to study. http://www.helsinki.fi/admissions/index.html

Average semester work-load

A total of 60 credits (in Finnish *opintopiste*) will measure the workload of a full-time student during one academic year; a total of 30 credits is the full-time workload for one semester. The annual student workload amounts to 1600 hours. The concept of the student workload refers to the time required to achieve the set learning outcomes of a programme.

Courses

The grading scale is directly comparable to the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) grading scale, but in the Finnish system there is no rule or expectation as to how big a proportion of the participants in any given course can be given a grade; each student is graded on his/her individual performance, not in relation to the performance of others.

General Semester dates

Autumn Semester: September – late December

Spring Semester: January – late May

For More Information Contact:

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