**University of Helsinki\***

**FINLAND**

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| *THE UNIVERSITY* | The University of Helsinki is one of the best multidisciplinary research universities in the world. The high-quality research carried out by the university creates new knowledge for educating diverse specialists in various fields, and for utilization in social decision-making and the business sector.  The university, with almost 4,000 researchers and teachers, operates on four campuses in Helsinki and at 17 other locations. There are 35,000 students, and a further 30,000 participate in adult education.  Founded in 1640, the University of Helsinki wants to strengthen its position among the world's leading multidisciplinary research universities and to actively promote the well-being of humanity and a fair society.  niversity of Helsinki Main Building |
| *THE CITY* | Helsinki, the capital of Finland, is situated on the south coast of the country on the Bay of Finland. King Gustav Vasa of Sweden founded Helsinki in 1550. Fires destroyed the old wooden town many times, but it was always rebuilt. The capital elsinki University Librarywas officially changed from Turku to Helsinki in 1812, and the university was moved to the new capital in 1827. **Location** Helsinki quickly became the cultural and intellectual centre of Finland. Its harbor and location bolstered trade and made Helsinki an important city in the Baltic region. Today, Helsinki and the neighboring cities of Espoo and Vantaa are home to a sixth of the Finnish population, or nearly a million people. The capital offers the cultural, educational and entertainment necessities of student life in beautiful natural surroundings, as the Helsinki metropolitan area are regarded as one of the greenest cityscapes in the world. |
| *LOCATION* | Helsinki, Finland |
| *GENERAL*  *WEBSITE* | <http://www.helsinki.fi/university/> |
| *EXCHANGE*  *STUDIES* | elcome to UH! |
| *APPLICATION* | * Your home university has to nominate you for student exchange period at the University of Helsinki. * The University of Helsinki checks that there is an existing and valid student exchange program in your field of study. * Please note that the faculties of the University of Helsinki consider every application individually and make the decision based on the fully completed application form and enclosures. * Kindly note also that the University of Helsinki does not have to accept all the nominated exchange students. * After the nomination for student exchange by the home university, you can fill in the on-line Application for Exchange Students of the University of Helsinki and submit the compulsory enclosures.   + Remember the deadlines May 15 or October 15.   **Application Form**   1. The Application for Exchange Students is [an on-line form >>](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/howtoapply/form.html) 2. Before you start to fill in the on-line form, please read the instructions carefully, [instructions >>](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/howtoapply/form.html)    * Plan what courses you would like to study at the University of Helsinki (Learning agreement is part of the application form)      + Remember that you should choose courses within the field of the exchange agreement. For example agreement in Sociology, choose courses in Sociology    * Plan what you will write on the Statement of Purpose (part of the application form)    * Print the Learning agreement and ask your home university coordinator to sign the Learning agreement  * Print the Application Form and sign it * Print the Learning agreement and ask you home university co-ordinator to sign and stamp it   **Compulsory enclosures**   * Signed Application form * Singed Learning agreement, info on [Learning agreement](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/howtoapply/index.html#LearningAgreement) * Official Transcript of Credits, * [Language Certificate](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/howtoapply/Language%20Certificate%20CERF.pdf) (download the form) * Optional enclosure: Copy of the front page of the passport   **Submit the** [**enclosures**](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/howtoapply/index.html#CompulsoryEnclosures) to the International Exchange Services at the latest on the deadline May 15 or October 15   * **by fax** to number +358-9-191 22176 or * **upload** them to Mobility online system or * **as email attachment** (take care that your virus prevention software is up-to-date) to the coordinator at the International Exchange Services  1. Erasmus students to erasmus@helsinki.fi 2. Nordplus and Nordlys students to nordplus@helsinki.fi 3. Students within other exchange programmes to studentexchange@helsinki.fi  * or submit them **by post** at the latest on the deadline  1. International Exchange Services, P.O.Box 3 (Fabianinkatu 33), FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland. |
| *APPLICATION*  *DEADLINES* | Fall Semester: February 15 Spring Semester: September 15 |
| *ACADEMIC*  *CALENDAR* | August, 2011 - July 2012 Courses are held and exchange periods: Fall semester: Beginning of September – end of December Spring semester: beginning of January –end of May.    \* Please note, that the University of Helsinki arranges teaching in periodical teaching system. There are different periods in different fields of study. Please check this information on website: <http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange> |
| *LANGUAGE*  *REQUIREMENTS* | earning Centre Aleksandria**Language Requirements**  The University of Helsinki offers instruction in the following languages: Finnish, Swedish and English.  The University of Helsinki requires the student has very good language skills (very good knowledge in reading, writing and speaking of the language) in at least one of the languages in order to be able to study here.  Please note that fluent language skills in English (or Finnish or Swedish) are vital for successful studies at the University of Helsinki. If the language requirements are not met, the University of Helsinki will not accept you.  **Required Language Skills - Language Skills in English**  Most students must present a certificate of their English language skills. Very good language skills refers to level B2 on the CERF scale of [the European Language Portfolio](http://www.coe.int/portfolio" \t "_blank) >Levels.  **How to prove the language skills in English**   * Language skills in English are listed on the [Transcript of Credits](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/howtoapply/index.html#TranscriptofCredits) of the home university; or * Submit [the Language Certificate](http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/howtoapply/Language%20Certificate%20CERF.pdf) with CERF scale signed by the English language teacher of your home university; or * Submit TOEFL score of 79 (IBT) or IELTS score of 6.   **Students who are not required to enclose language certificate:**   * Students whose native language is English * Students who are studying at home university in Study Programs taught in English (this must be certified in the application enclosures).   The faculties or departments have a right to request for further clarification on the language skills, if they consider that the language skills in English stated on the application form and on the Language Certificate are insufficient for studies at the faculty or the department.  Kindly note that if an accepted exchange student does not have the required language skills, for example the information on language skills given on the application form is not correct; the University of Helsinki has the right to cancel the study right and send the student back home.  For Courses in English please visit the website of [Courses in English.](http://www.helsinki.fi/english/courses/" \t "_blank)  Changes (new courses, some courses may be cancelled) are possible. The faculties and departments update the web version of the Courses in English all along during the academic year. |
| *HOUSING* | Helsinki is a big student city and finding accommodation can be a challenge.  That’s why we at the University of Helsinki and the Student Union (HYY) compiled a Housing Guide with useful hints and the most important sources of information for house hunters.   * [Housing Guide (pdf)](http://www.helsinki.fi/newstudents/Materials/Housing_Guide.pdf)   Once you have found an apartment, please take the time to read the useful tips on the Lyyra Housing Guide website. The Housing guide gives information on things that helps you when you are moving in, it gives advice on how to take care of your apartment etc.   * [Lyyra Housing Guide](https://www.lyyra.fi/housing_guide/toc" \t "_blank)   tudents |
| *INSURANCE* | **Health insurance for international students coming to Finland**  Health insurance is one of the obligatory requirements for obtaining a residence permit for studies. The student’s health insurance must be valid upon his/her entry to Finland. Students applying for an extension of to their residence permit must also have valid health insurance.  More information about what kind of an insurance you need is available at the [Finnish Immigration Service's (MIGRI) webpages](http://www.migri.fi/studying_in_finland/filling_in_the_application/insurance" \t "_blank). |
| *EXPECTED*  *COSTS* | All students have to pay for their accommodation and living expenses as well as their books and other study materials. The total **monthly living expenses** of a single student average from **700 to 1000 euro** depending on your spending habits. |
| *ADDITIONAL*  *INFO* | ress relations  Further information for exchange students, available at:  <http://www.helsinki.fi/newstudents/enrolment.html>  <http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/programmes/index.html> |

*\* Information subject to change*