



**STUDY AND RESEARCH
OPPORTUNITIES**
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TURKU
2005-2006



UNIVERSITY OF TURKU

FINLAND

Finland is situated in Northern Europe and has been a member of the European Union since 1995. There are 5.2 million inhabitants, of whom 67 % live in towns or urban areas. In addition to the towns and urban areas, there is still a lot of unspoiled nature to experience in Finland. The uniquely beautiful archipelago with more than 20,000 islands starts just outside Turku. Furthermore, Finland's four distinctive seasons give its nature and the Finnish life-style an ever-changing aspect.

TURKU

Turku, Finland's oldest university town, has traditions of education and research going back 700 years when the Royal Academy of Turku provided education in the town.

Today, Turku and its surrounding towns have a total population of over 270,000, forming one of Finland's major urban centres. Even though in continental terms, Turku is a relatively small city, there is a wide selection of services, and business, cultural and sport activities available for its inhabitants and visitors. Turku is also an active student town with about 30,000 students enrolled in the various institutions of higher education in the city.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TURKU

The University of Turku was founded in 1920 as the first entirely Finnish-language university in the country. Today, Finland's second largest university is a highly international institution with a reputation resting on the quality of research, teaching and services. As one of the leading universities in Finland, it offers study and research opportunities in six Faculties: humanities, mathematics and natural sciences, medicine, law, social sciences and education. Even though the main language of instruction is Finnish, each Faculty offers study opportunities also in English. The university is a member of the Coimbra Group, a network of prestigious universities in Europe.

The total enrolment of students is about 18,000, and each year about 1,000 international students study at the university. Most of them participate in English-language programmes or at the doctoral level in research projects. In English-medium teaching, the university focuses on entire programmes or modules in English. Annually, about 200 courses are offered in English by different disciplines. Moreover, the Finnish language and culture programme is offered for

international students with previous studies in the language. The University of Turku offers study opportunities for both non-degree and degree students. Finnish university degrees correspond to the Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees. In medicine the basic degree is called the Licentiate.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The University of Turku offers good support and counselling services for incoming students. The Orientation Course for new international students is arranged at the beginning of each term. The University offers, together with the Student Union, a 'tutor-system' for exchange students. Tutors are degree students, who help newcomers with all kinds of practical matters upon their arrival.

All degree and formal exchange students who are members of the Student Union are entitled to use the basic student health care services, and to reductions on the cost of meals and transportation. Moreover, all students have access to the university computing and library services free of charge.

INTERNATIONAL MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMMES 2005-2006

In the academic year 2005-2006, the University of Turku offers five Master's degree programmes which are taught in English: the Baltic Sea Region Studies Master's Programme, the Master's Programme in Environmental Sciences, the Master's Programme in Information Technology, the Institutions and Social Mechanism Master's Degree Programme (IASM), and the Master's Programme in Learning, Learning Environments and Educational Systems. In addition to the above-mentioned programmes, a Master's Programme in Finnish and other Finno-Ugric Languages is also available. The language of instruction of this programme is Finnish. Moreover, in the academic year 2006-2007, new programmes will be introduced in different disciplines.

Master's degree programmes usually take two (2) academic years (academic year is September - May) to complete. The basic prerequisites for the programmes taught in English are a university degree equivalent to a Finnish Bachelor's degree in the relevant field and a good knowledge of English. For the Master's Programme in Finnish and other Finno-Ugric Languages a good knowledge of Finnish is required. For more

information about applications and specific requirements, please refer to the web pages of the programmes.

The Baltic Sea Region Studies Master's Programme

has a multidisciplinary approach. Its contents are historical and current political, economic and cultural developments in the Baltic Sea Region, national and international co-operation in and among the countries in the region, as well as the region's perspectives in the context of European regionalisation and globalisation, especially with regard to the processes initiated since the recent EU enlargement. These processes of economic and political entanglement and region-building need to be scientifically observed and analysed. Perspectives on politics and culture in the region are also needed. For more information please see: <http://balticstudies.utu.fi/masterprogramme.html>.

The Master's Programme in Environmental Sciences challenges students to broaden their perspectives in environmental issues. The studies encompass different aspects of environmental sciences, environmental assessment and economic life. The multidisciplinary programme is jointly managed by the Department of Biology, the Department of Chemistry, the Department

of Geology, and the Department of Geography. In the form of cooperation among the participating units, the programme covers four interdisciplinary specialisation fields: Ecotoxicology, Geoinformatics in Environmental Research, Paleoecology and Environmental History, Tropical Environments and Development. Students are selected directly into the specialisation fields.

For more information please see: www.sci.utu.fi/lenvsci.

The Master's Degree Programme in Information Technology covers many fields in the broad area of information technology, including theoretical, technical and applied subjects. The common factor is their connection to modern computer and communication technologies. The strength of the programme is its versatility, enabling the students to tailor their studies according to their personal interests. The Master's Programme in Information Technology is a part of a Master's School co-ordinated by the Turku Centre for Computer Science (TUCS). TUCS is a joint centre of research and education for the three universities in Turku.

For more information please see: www.tucs.fi/education/master/.



FACTS AND FIGURES

- Founded 1920
- Six faculties
- Total number of students 18, 000, of whom 600 international students
- Annually over 1,000 international students study at the university
- Languages of instruction: Finnish and English
- Website: www.utu.fi

Fields of study

Humanities
 Mathematics and Natural Sciences
 Medicine
 Law
 Social Sciences
 Education



theoretical knowledge to understand how education functions as a part of modern society, and deepen their understanding of learning in different complex and multilevel learning environments.

For more information please see: www.edu.utu.fi/maisterikoulutus/index.htm.

The Master's Programme in Finnish and other Finno-Ugric Languages is intended for non-native Finnish speakers who have a Bachelor's degree in Finnish or other Finno-Ugric languages and adequate proficiency in the Finnish language. The aim of the programme is to deepen students' theoretical and practical Finnish language skills and to acquaint them with the Finnish culture, linguistics, and Finno-Ugristics. The goal of the programme is to train specialists in Finnish language and culture, as well as Finno-Ugric linguistics. The language of instruction of the programme is Finnish. For more information please see: www.hum.utu.fi/suomilasukinmaisteriohjelma.html.

NEW PROGRAMMES IN 2006-2007

The Master's Programme in Bioinformatics is a new degree programme which offers interdisciplinary knowledge of bioinformatics. Courses are arranged jointly with the University of Tampere and will take advantage of modern educational technology. The programme will be "bilingual", in terms of its combined expertise in information technology and the biosciences, so applicants' educational background can be in biological as well as in computational fields.

For more information: www.sci.utu.fi

According to the preliminary plans, other new Master's programmes in English will start in 2006-2007. For more information about these possibilities please see:

www.utu.fi/en/studying/studies/course_slindex.html

DOCTORAL STUDIES

Most disciplines of the University of Turku also offer doctoral or other postgraduate training (doctoral and licentiate degrees), and in most cases these degrees can be carried out in English. In Finland, doctoral students are required to extensively familiarize themselves with research carried out in their field of study and, on the basis of that knowledge, carry out independent research work which is supervised by the professor of the field. The Doctor's degree normally requires at least three to four years of full-time study. There are two main ways to apply for doctoral studies in Finland. Applicants can seek postgraduate student status from the Faculty and discipline concerned, or they can apply to one of the national graduate schools nominated by the Ministry of Education and coordinated by different Finnish universities. The Academy of Finland supports these graduate schools by funding researcher training positions. For more information about disciplines offering postgraduate doctoral training and graduate schools coordinated by the University of Turku, please refer to the web pages of the relevant Faculty: www.utu.fi.

The Institutions and Social Mechanisms Master's Degree Programme (IASM)

offers advanced training to graduate students in social sciences, in ways that will enable them to apply the tools of research on institutions to the modelling of real-world problems. At the heart of the IASM Programme is the comparative study of social institutions on an international scale. Students will learn the tradition, theory and methods of research on institutions and will therefore be capable of analysing social institutions and mechanisms both in a national and an international context. The aim of the Programme is to provide the students with a capacity for critical thinking and analysis. For more information please see: www.soc.utu.fi/iasm.

The Master's Programme in Learning, Learning Environments and Educational Systems (LLEES)

is organized with international co-operation in the field of education. The aim of the programme is to develop qualifications needed as a researcher or specialist in national and international projects. The students plan their personal curriculum according to their previous studies and special fields, focusing on learning theories, on learning environments or on educational systems and sociology of education. During their studies, the students develop the



Useful web-pages for more information:

Studying at the University of Turku: www.utu.fi/en/studying/

Turku and Finland: www.turku.fi, <http://virtual.finland.fi>

Student Housing: www.tys.fi

Student Health Care for members of the Student Union: www.yths.fi

Student Union of the University of Turku: www.tyy.fi/english/

PHOTOS VESA-MATTI VÄÄRÄ

NON-DEGREE PROGRAMMES 2005-2006

Non-degree programmes are modules which do not lead to a degree at the University of Turku, but are complementary studies to be used at the home university at undergraduate or postgraduate level. Finnish students can study these modules as their minor subject. International students attending these programmes normally apply to the University under some exchange programme arrangement. Application deadlines for students attending the non-degree studies starting in the autumn term is 31st May, and for the studies starting in the spring term, 1st November. Participants in programmes taught in English or in Finnish should have a good knowledge of the relevant language. For more information about these programmes, prerequisites and application procedures, please refer to the web pages of the Faculty concerned.

Faculty of Humanities:

Baltic Sea Region Studies (non-degree option)

Women's Studies (restricted number of exchange students)

North American Studies (complementary studies only)

Finnish Language and Culture for Foreigners (instruction in Finnish)

For more information please see: www.hum.utu.fi/tdk/kansval.html

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences:

The Master's Programme in Environmental Sciences (some courses available as a non-degree option)

The Master's Programme in Information Technology (some

courses available as a non-degree option)

Development Studies

Different departments of the faculty offer a selection of courses in English.

For more information please see: www.sci.utu.fi/kv/courses.htm

Faculty of Medicine:

All courses in the regular curriculum are offered in Finnish, but exchange students can participate in small group teaching in English. Some departments offer lectures in English.

For more information please see: www.med.utu.fi

Faculty of Law:

Turku Law School (non-degree programme)

For more information please see: www.law.utu.fi

Faculty of Social Sciences:

European and Nordic Studies (non-degree programme)

For more information please see: www.soc.utu.fi

Faculty of Education:

Learning, Learning Environments and Educational Systems (some courses available as a non-degree option)

Teaching practice for exchange students.

For more information please see: www.edu.utu.fi