

Stay connected!

Student life at UTU

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UTUstart

Orientation course for the
University of Turku
international degree
students



- Log in with UTU or Google account, preferably on laptop. The course will remain open throughout your studies, so you can always return to it when you need a recap.
- Please leave feedback so we know how **UTUstart** fulfills its purpose!



How much daylight do we get during the winter?



How do I reach out to the emergency services?



How do students budget their everyday lives?



On my free time, should I visit the Turku castle first, or go hiking in Ruissalo island..?

Turku – the (b)oldest city in Finland

- What is this city known for?
- Culture and history: Finnish civilization began from the block surrounding Turku Cathedral
- Turku = Åbo. You'll see and hear both official languages in the city.
- Restaurants – "a Nordic food hotspot"
- One of the world's largest archipelagos made up of 40,000 islands
- Students! Every 5th citizen is a student in one of the higher education institutions in the region.



We are an active expert community

22,500 Students, [see nationalities](#)

3,593 staff members,
16% internationals



Record number
of international
students
starting in 2025

5

other higher
education
institutions
in Turku



Get connected!





Other people – your support system

- The famous Finnish work-life balance covers study time, too.
- Friends, hobbies, and lovely memories keep you warm during the long and gloomy winter.
- Making new friends and getting to know people > networking with potential future colleagues.

Two years goes by fast
– start exploring now!



Find friends in hobbies and networks!

- Own study programme
- [Student Union TYY](#), its Wings, and [student organisations](#)
- [ESN Uni Turku](#) events
- [CampusSport](#)
- [Boost Turku](#) (student entrepreneurship)
- [Culture and sports Turku](#)
- Communities also beyond UTU and Turku!

> Visit the Welcome Fair tomorrow!

How to get to know the Finns?

- Finns might seem shy and distant at first, but give it some time!
- Join the student organisation of your programme.
- Keep your eyes, ears and mind open for Finnish – it helps to know the culture and people
 - University courses, discussion groups organised by the City, and everyday life
 - Follow accounts like @veryfinnishproblems, @secret.finland, ThisisFINLAND, on Instagram – and #utuambassador!
 - [Learn Finnish with us!](#)

**UN: FINLAND'S THE WORLD'S
HAPPIEST COUNTRY FOR
THE 5TH YEAR RUNNING!**

FINNS:



**own land strawberry,
other land blueberry**

/oma maa mansikka,
muu maa mustikka/ (exp.)

1. there is no place like one's
motherland 2. possibly the cutest
way to praise your country
over others





Friendship Programme

- Connects international students with Turku area locals and matches them into friends
- The Friendship Programme takes place twice a year, in the spring and autumn semesters. You can enroll for the programme from 1.8.2025 to 4.9.2025
- More info coming up on Wednesday in their own session!

Website >



UTU supports student exchange with exchange grants!

How to get started?

1. Check out the student [exchange possibilities here in intranet!](#)
2. Double-check your exchange plans with your program coordinator.
3. Apply in time! [Application schedules here in intranet.](#)

- QR code to UTU intranet on exchange studies
- Check out @UTUvaihhdossa Instagram account for student experiences!
- Possible questions can be sent to outgoing@utu.fi 😊



utuvaihhdossa
Tšekki



103



2



vannukkare ja muut ovat tykänneet

utuvaihhdossa FI/EN

Esittelyssä Tsekin top-kymppi 🇨🇪 😊





EC2U mobilities and events

- UTU is a member of the European Campus of City-Universities (EC2U) Alliance.
- Many face-to-face and virtual events organised throughout the year.
- The EC2U Alliance offers grants to students for short mobility.
 - No need for previous contact with the partner university.
 - You may apply for a grant to establish connections, network, or participate in an event.
- [Info about EC2U mobility >](#)

**Subscribe to
the UTU EC2U newsletter!**





One-time possibilities and projects

- Join any project courses that your programme arranges with companies or together with other programmes or Faculties!
- Follow the University and Unit news to learn about projects, competitions, etc.



Become an
UTUambassador!

UTUambassadors: a glimpse to the student life at UTU

The UTUambassadors are an international and interdisciplinary group of motivated students who share their experiences as international students on our social media channels. They also assist the University in marketing and recruiting efforts and represent the University at events, providing a student perspective to different topics.

Read their thoughts [on the Student Life at UTU blog](#)

Watch their videos [on Youtube](#)

Becoming one of the UTUambassadors is a unique opportunity to grow, develop your skillset and expand your personal networks.

- Kristaps, Latvia



New people

"The best thing was the people I got to meet. By interacting with other people I was able to grow and learn a lot of myself."

- Mária, Slovakia



Skills

"Communication is one of the positive outcomes I got from the ambassador year. I learned how to better use digital media."

- Eman, Egypt



Experiences

"Participating in different events broadens the understanding of the university values and how the things are done."

- Olha, Ukraine

What
would
I do?



- Share your student life on your own social media
- Take over the @uniturku Instagram account
- Create videos or blog posts
- Chat with prospective students
- Participate in international events
- Join UTUambassador get-togethers
- Arrange events for new students

Apply to the UTUambassador programme by 11 September!



Answer the questions
on the online
application



Attach 2 examples
of social media
posts



Wait for an
invitation to a
group interview



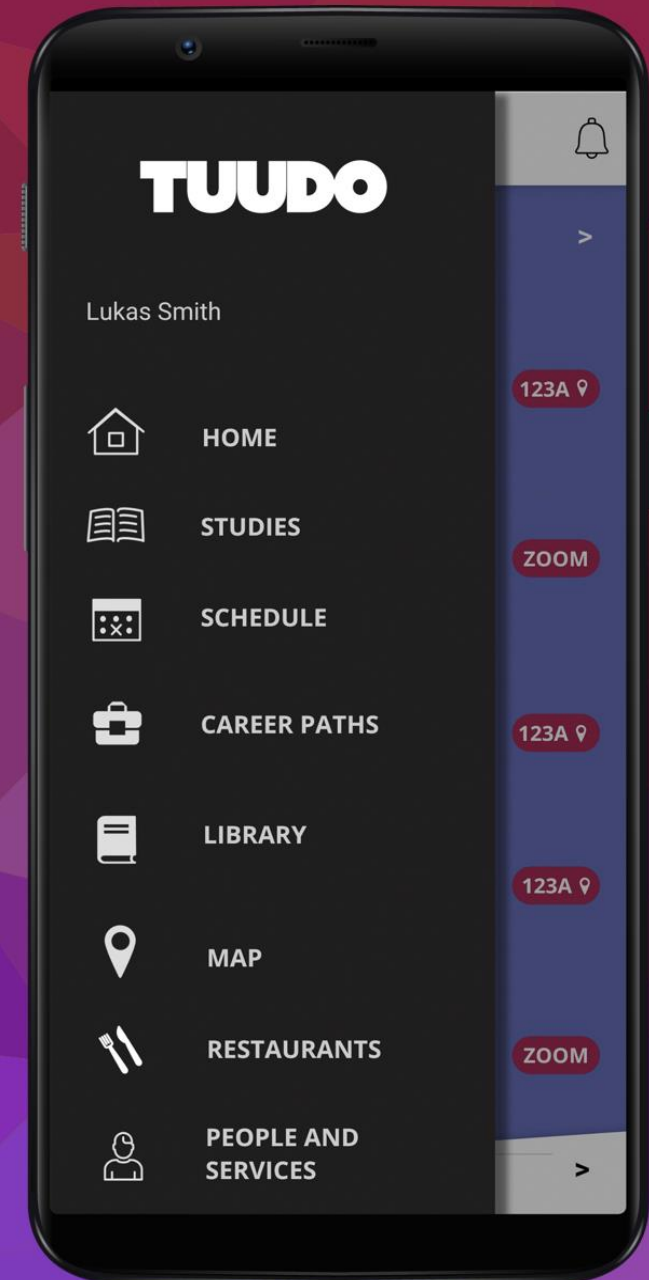
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Stay in the loop:
channels to follow



University channels: Tuudo

- Mobile app for students offering information and services needed in every student's life.
 - check your study credits and schedules
 - examine campus maps
 - find your student card and library card
 - find information about the most important student services
 - check the lunch menus of student restaurants.
- Download **Tuudo** from App store/Google Play store and sign in with your utu credentials.
- [Video guide](#) for using Tuudo app



University channels: newsletter

- Student's Bi-Weekly Mail is a newsletter sent to UTU students twice a month.
- Own letters for English and Finnish speakers. English version also includes information specifically for international degree students.
- Important intra news, deadlines, opportunities, events and job openings. Important University-level information!
- Students are automatically added to the list. You can also [subscribe to the lists](#) to receive newsletters in both languages.



Celebrate spring with your student cap on and join the May Day events

The buzz of celebration and annual traditions return to the University Hill as May Day (vappu) arrives once again to cheer up the spring for Turku students, alumni, and other fun-loving people. There's something for everyone to do, see or hear in the broad range of events. The whole family is invited to the campus to enjoy activities for younger children and the warming weather.

Celebrate vappu with us!



Join the Job seeking in Finland course in May

The Job seeking in Finland sessions organised by UTU Career Services run one final time before the



Career Writing Workshop on June 7th

Welcome to the Career Writing Workshop! This bilingual workshop comprises guided writing sessions, small group discussions, and a theoretical component that delves into various workplace requirements regarding self-awareness.

More info and registration

New Career Podcast! Get to know Alumni Insights into your career

Alumni Insights is a short Podcast series that aims at supporting international students in their transition

University channels: intranet and news

- Intranet is the home for news for the University community.
- It also stores a lot of information about the University and studies here
- Explore the intranet to get an idea what it covers

- www.intranet.utu.fi

Intranet

Alumni Insights

Listen to the new podcast with stories and tips from University of Turku alumni



Most important intranet contents for a student

"Services for studying" drop down menu:

- Well-being
- Study matters and counselling
- Internationality
- Working life

"General support services" drop down menu

- IT guides and services
- Library services
- Facilities and security

Faculty pages

- All information about studies in your programme/faculty

When searching for University services, you can also use the **search field**. When looking for study related information, be careful to check that the page is not under some other faculty.

The screenshot shows the University of Turku intranet homepage. At the top, the University of Turku logo is on the left, and navigation links for "News and Events", "Online tools", and "FI" are on the right. Below the header, a horizontal menu contains links to "Intranet front page", "Employment and HR", "Services for teaching", "Services for studying" (highlighted with a green circle), "Services for research", "General support services" (highlighted with a green circle), and "Organisation and decision-making" (highlighted with a green circle). Below this menu is a "View:" section with "Student" (selected) and "Personnel" buttons. To the right of the "View:" section is a search bar with a "Search..." placeholder and a "Search Q" button (highlighted with a green circle). The main content area is titled "Intranet" and features three large tiles: "Alumni Insights" (with a black background and white text), "Mentoring programme attracted a record number of participants" (with a photo of people sitting in a room), and "University community gathers together to open the new academic year on 3 Sept – Join in the celebration!" (with a photo of a group of people). Below the "Intranet" section, there are three columns: "News" (with a list of recent news items), "Events" (with a "Today" section and an "Add new event" button), and "Links and Tools" (with a "Linkit" section and a list of links). The University of Turku logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

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News and Events Online tools FI

Intranet front page Employment and HR Services for teaching Services for studying Services for research General support services Organisation and decision-making

View: Student Personnel

Search... Search Q

Intranet

Alumni Insights

Listen to the new podcast with stories and tips from University of Turku alumni

Mentoring programme attracted a record number of participants

University community gathers together to open the new academic year on 3 Sept – Join in the celebration!

News

13.8.2024 Digital Services' maintenance day Tuesday 20.8.2024 (reservation also for Monday 26.8.2024)

13.8.2024 Supplementary Exchange Application period for Spring 2025

13.8.2024 Degree diplomas are now electronic – first diplomas issued to August graduates

9.8.2024 Student, have you downloaded Tuudo yet?

8.8.2024

Events

Today

Add new event All events

News from my units

25.3.2024 Get ready to suggest the teacher and the counsellor of the year 2024!

23.2.2024 Arctic Congress 2024 – Registration is now open!

Links and Tools

Linkit

Työkalut

- > Allocation of working hours (CATS)
- > Konsta Event Management
- > My Grano - Create Materials with the University's Visual Identity
- > Staff Training
- > Teams
- > Volter database
- > Work Time Tracking

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University channels: blogs

- Student Life Blog mostly updated by the student ambassadors
- Tips for things to do in Turku, everyday life, and much more from student perspective
- [Official blog of the University of Turku](#)
- There are also [tens of other blogs](#) >



June 28, 2024 Oshani Weerakoon

Looking forward to going on exchange? Tips and insights

International student's exchange journey from the University of Turku, Finland to the University of Pavia, Italy. Learn how to apply and explore exchange opportunities at the University of Turku!



May 21, 2024 Olesia Komarova

All roads lead to Turku: 5 ways to get to Turku from anywhere in the world

Read the blog post to learn how to get to Turku by plane, bus, train, or ferry on a student budget.



May 20, 2024 Olesia Komarova

University of Turku main campus buildings: map and history

Read this guide to get a glimpse into the origins of main UTU buildings' names and to learn how to get the most of your UTU campus experience.



May 17, 2024 Olesia Komarova

How to move in TYS apartment like a pro

A step-by-step guide and useful tips on moving in TYS student apartment!



April 25, 2024 Almira Yausheva

Overalls: what are they and where to find them

Each country has its unique student culture, and Finland is famous for its student organisations and overalls. But what exactly overalls are and why do students wear them?



April 22, 2024 Esther Oluwawemimo

A quick guide to applying for housing through TYS-Student Village Foundation for new students

As an international student, getting an apartment is one of the first steps to getting settled in a new country, no one wants to move from their country to another country without having a place to call home. TYS provides accommodation for students in Turku.



April 1, 2024 Kristyna Hrivnacova

Writing a thesis at UTU: Tips, tricks, and experiences from four East Asia students

Love it or hate it, a thesis is something most of us have to go through if we want to get our hands on the much desired degree certificate, and it can be a great source of excitement and stress. Have look at some useful tips from current students!



February 29, 2024 Nour

Comfort zone? Pfft... exciting activities for the adrenaline junkies in Turku!

Nour shares some of her exciting experiences in Turku, and recommends some places and activities for students to try out and enjoy.



August 13, 2023 Selcen Erten

Mama mia, sono in Italia! My EC2U adventur-a at the University of Pavia!

Would you like to experience a relatively less-known European city with an amazing university in it, discover a new way of academic thinking, be a part of the mosaic of the European culture, meet new people you will learn from, and acquire new communication

University channels: social media

- **Instagram** @uniturku, #utulähettiläs, #utuambassador
 - On Instagram, we share pictures and videos of everyday life on campus, studying, student life, and events. On this channel, we reach especially young people, the future and current students.
 - Hosted mainly by Finnish and international student ambassadors. Study tips, peer-to-peer support and experiences, recommendations for places to visit, where to swim, where to eat...
- **Facebook** @uniturku
 - The target group of the account is above all else the University community, i.e. our students, personnel and active alumni. By following our Facebook accounts you can keep up with the latest research, education, and events.

Bluesky @uniturku, #uniturku, #turunyliopisto

- We post about research and science. Bluesky is most suitable for sharing current issues and creating impact.

LinkedIn, Turun yliopisto - University of Turku

- On our LinkedIn channel, we share information about the University's services and training possibilities, open vacancies, and contents and news related to professional life. The contents are aimed at our alumni, community, and potential employees.

Youtube, Turun yliopisto - University of Turku

- The University's videos are published in YouTube. Our channel offer both research- and education-related content.

Reddit, universityofturku

- On Reddit, we share posts of our English press releases on scientific publications mainly on the subreddit r/science.

Spotify, Turun yliopisto

- Podcasts about science and studying



TYY newsletter

THE STUDENT UNION OF UNIVERSITY OF TURKU

Newsletter week 22/2024

The Newsletter goes on vacation. We'll be back again in August!

In this newsletter:

- In collaboration with Kesärauha: Kesärauha Festival is celebrated in Turku for the fifth time!
- TYY wishes you a pleasant summer! Check the opening hours of the most important services
- European Parliament elections - Advanced voting period is from May 29 to June 4 and the election day is June 9
- FSHS will serve students in higher education institutions throughout the summer
- Are you interested in the European Union, international relations or gaining valuable work experience in event production? Join the Europe Forum as a volunteer!
- Events
- University News

In collaboration with Kesärauha: Kesärauha Festival is celebrated in Turku for the fifth time!

Kesärauha Festival brings together the most interesting artists, delicious food and smiling people on 7-9 June in Linnanpuisto, near Turku Castle.

Kesärauha's programme will feature indie rock sensation The Libertines, shoegaze legend Slowdive, 070 Shake from US, French electro-group Acid Arab, soft rock band Infinity Song, afrobeats up-and-comer Libianca and alternative K-pop collective Balming Tiger. Check out the schedule [here](#)!

The super popular Elektrolinna moves to an even bigger venue in the courtyard of Turku Castle! The medieval rave party will be taken over by the coolest DJs and electronic music's names, e.g. Franc Moody, Darude and Sofia Kourtesis.

Btw! The best 90's and 00's throwback party of the summer will be experienced in Turku at Slot Festival on 19-20 July! If you're looking for more festivals, experiences and new friends this summer, [the call for volunteers](#) is open.

Uni partners: student organisations

- Student Union TYY
- International newsletter
[> subscribe](#)
- Social media: Instagram and Facebook, TYY and TYY International
- Other student and hobby organisations/ clubs





Uni partners: Student City of Turku

- Study in Turku organisation
- Joint effort of all HEIs in Turku
- Interesting social media channels: [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)
- [Study in Turku fair](#) on 29 August a
- [Study and Stay in Turku](#) event on 5 November
- [Visit Turku](#) – official website
- Follow also [@visitturku](#) on social media!

Welcome to Turku!





Uni partners: City of Turku

- **Career in Southwest Finland:** "one-stop shop for all international talents"
- [Blogs and articles](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- Social media: Business Turku, @businesstku
- [Events](#) with emphasis on face-to-face networking
- **International House Turku:** brings together counselling and guidance services supporting the integration of international newcomers in Turku
- [Newcomer's Guide](#)
- [Services on their website](#)
- [Instagram](#)



Something missing?

- Let us know!
- > Your programme for study-related issues
- > TYY is the official channel for student influencing
- > Other units, like Admission Services
- **We will send you a survey in a month – please take the time to share your valuable feedback!**

Get inspired.



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Kiitos!

admissions@utu.fi