

# International Degree Student Orientation 2023



Get inspired  
by science.



UNIVERSITY  
OF TURKU

# Studying at the University of Turku

**Orientation for International Degree Students 2023**

- **Practical Issues**
- **Academic Culture**

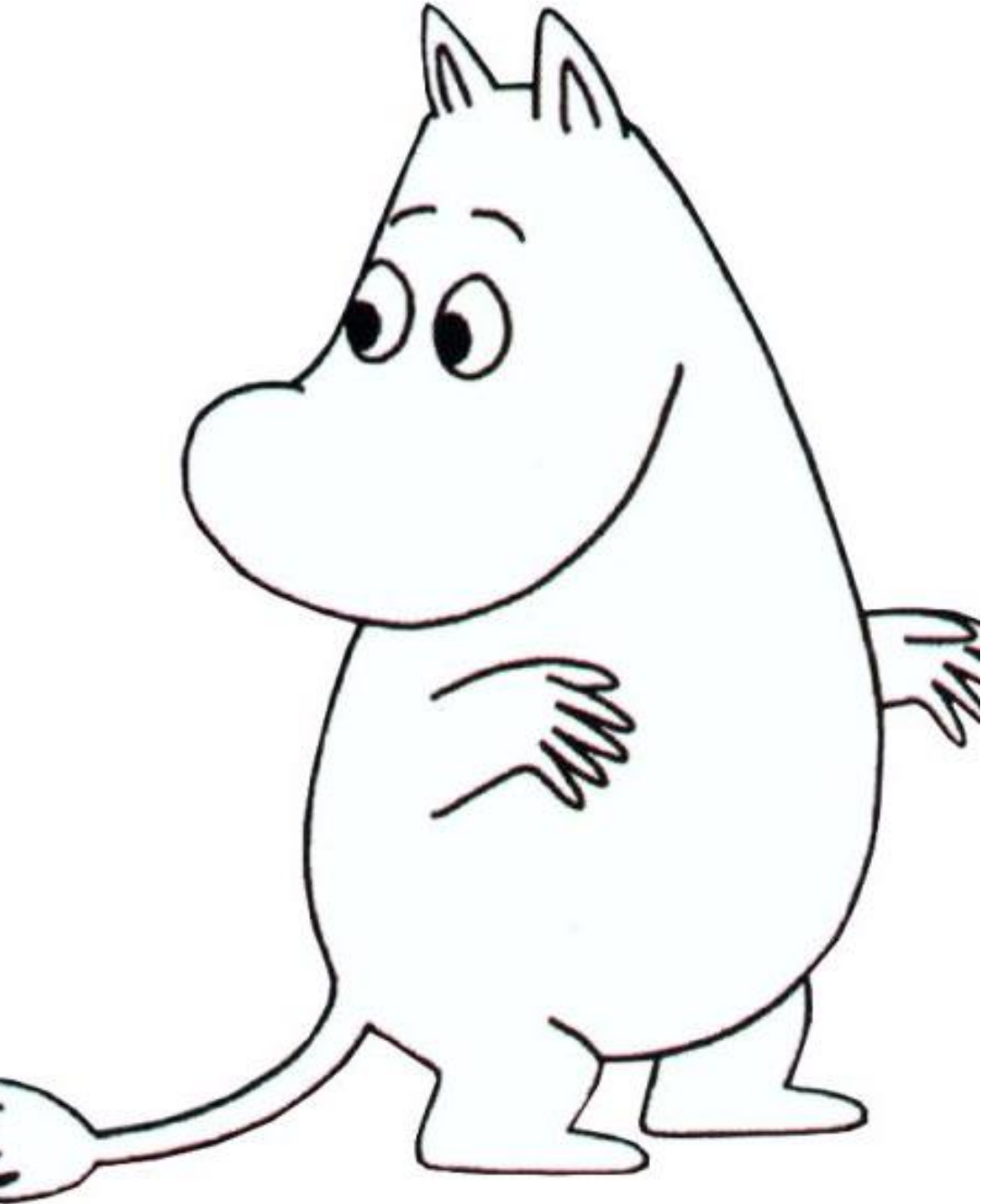
**Johanna Kärki and Valtteri Kiviö, [admissions@utu.fi](mailto:admissions@utu.fi)**



# Country of coffee drinkers!

- Finns drink the most coffee per capita in the world.
- 9.6kg of coffee per person every year.
- Source: [Caffeine Informer](#)





# Home of the Moomins

- Artist and author Tove Jansson created the Moomins in the 1930's.
- Numerous books, comics, animations and toys over the years.
- Moomin World in Naantali.



# Always time for Sauna

- There are about 3 million saunas in Finland.
- More than there are passenger cars.
- National Sauna Association has published instructions on the [right sauna etiquette](#).





# Ice Cream lovers

- Finns consume 14 liters per person of the frozen delight each year.
- Eating ice cream in the winter is perfectly normal. Usually not outside though.
- Source: [Frozen Dessert Supplies](#)

# Heavy Metal!

- In Finland, heavy metal is mainstream.
- There are more heavy metal bands in Finland per capita than anywhere else.
- 53.2 heavy metal bands per 100,000 residents.



## Wednesday 23 August

Place: Turku School of Economics, Elovena-sali (Elovena-hall)

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**09:00 – 09:30 Studying at the University of Turku**

Valtteri Kiviö & Johanna Kärki, Admission Services

**09:30 – 10:15 UTU Career Services, Career after Studies**

Oscar Nyman & Lotta Metsärinne

**10:15 – 11:00 Alumni and Mentors**

Ameya Foujdar, UTU Partnerships and Strategic Engagement

**11:00 – 11:15 Break**

**11:15 – 11:45 Registration with the University and in Finland**

Valtteri Kiviö

**11:45 – 12:30 Tuition Fees and Scholarships + Residence Permits**

Johanna Kärki

**12:30 – 13:30 Lunch**

**13:30 – 13:40 Rector's Greeting**

Vice-Rector Piia Björn

**13:40 – 14:10 Student Union of the University of Turku, TYY**

Vilma Virtanen, TYY International Specialist

**14:10 – 14:40 IT Services**

Aleksi Turunen

**14:40 – 15:10 Library Services**

Jari Herranen

**15:10 – Chocolate & Chat** (at Mercatori, Turku School of Economics)

**17:00 Sign-up for Bus Tours!** (check your e-mail for the sign-up link)

- Each presentation starts at the time written on the programme.
- Please try and be punctual.
- Don't leave too much empty space between you and other people, so it is easy for everyone to find a seat.
- Feel free to ask questions and participate in the discussion! 😊



# Degree Programme-Specific Sessions & Contact Info

- Check the times of the programme-specific orientation from our orientation website: <https://www.utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/accepted-students/orientation>
- In the programme-specific sessions you will get an introduction to your programme and programme staff.
- If you were/are not able to attend your programme's session, contact your programme coordinator.
- You can find your programme's contact information on your original admission offer, or e.g. through each programme's page at [www.utu.fi/degrees](http://www.utu.fi/degrees)
- You can also contact the e-mail address of your Faculty's study office, find the e-mail address through [www.utu.fi/en/university/faculties](http://www.utu.fi/en/university/faculties) → Contact information

Each international degree programme usually holds their own short orientation sessions or introductory meetings for their new students. We recommend that you attend both the general orientation as well as your programme-specific orientation. Information on programme-specific orientation sessions will be updated here during summer 2023.

## MDP in Biomedical Sciences & MDP in Human Neuroscience

- Monday 28th of August
- 9:00–

## MDP in Biosciences

- Monday 28th of August
- 9:15–11:00
- Location: Lecture room Dentalia 1 (+ Zoom option available)

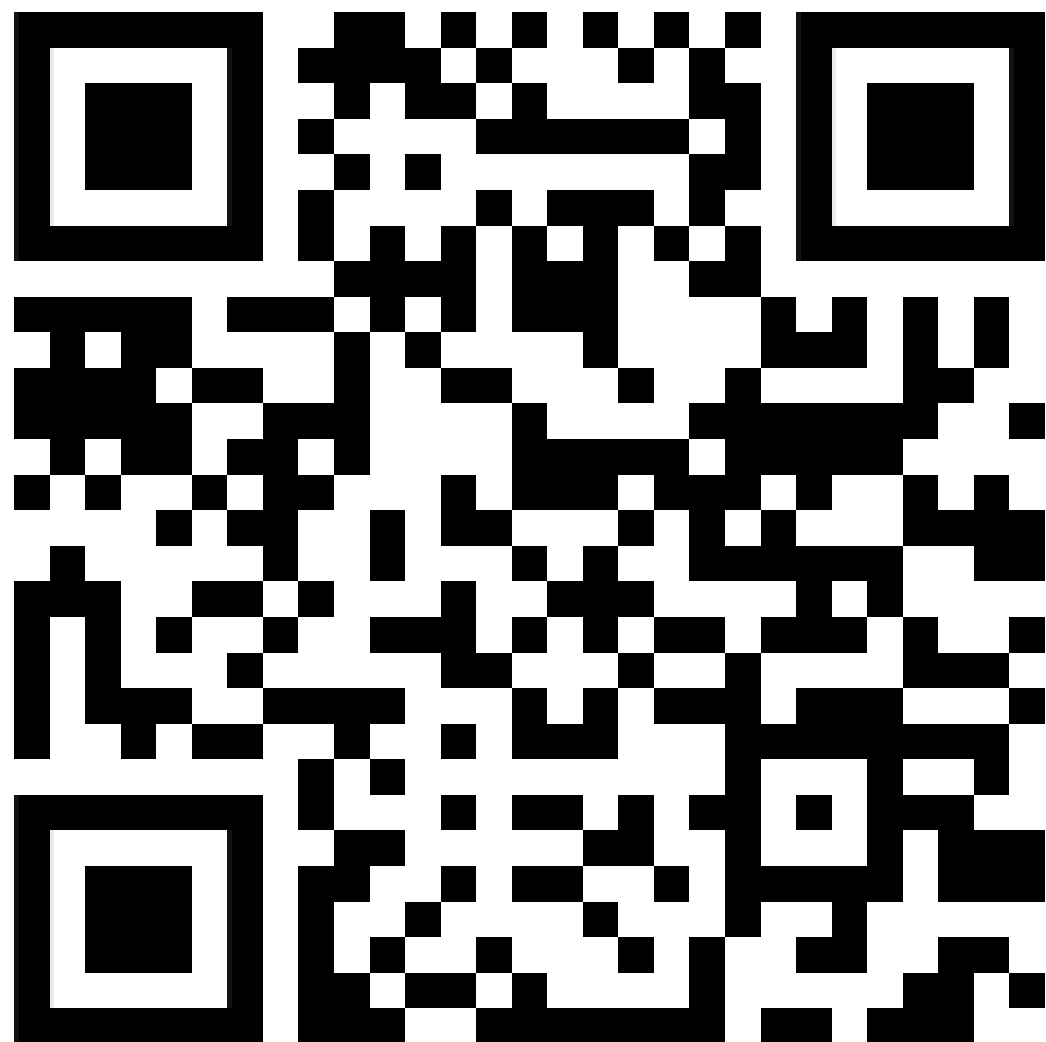
## MDP in Education and Learning

Please attend both days:

- Wednesday 30th of August
- 10:00–12:00
- Location: Lecture room Edu244.1 (Educarium building)
- Friday 1st of September
- 10:00–12:00
- Location: Lecture room Edu244.1 (Educarium building)

# Sign-up for the Bus Tour

- A bus tour around the key sights in Turku will be organised on Friday the 25th at 14:30.
- Sign-up is required, and the sign-up link will be sent to you via e-mail today around lunch time. The sign-up link itself will open at 17 o'clock sharp. Sign-up is not possible before that time.
- There is a limit of 100 attendants. The sign-up form will not allow more than 100 people to sign-up. Do not send multiple submissions on the sign-up form.
- Your name and degree student status will be checked before you are let on the bus.
- If you sign up → show up!
- The busses leave from the square in front of the Turku Cathedral.  
**Please arrive at 14:20 as it will take time to load the busses.**  
**Make sure you are on time, the busses will leave at 14:30 sharp!**



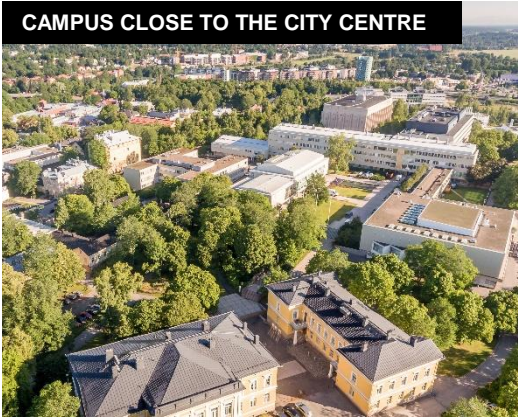
# Academic community

- Students are not considered customers but equal members of the academic community > easiness in approaching the staff (office hours!)
- Students are an important part of the decision making processes at the university
  - Student representation in programme committees, faculty work groups etc.





CAMPUS CLOSE TO THE CITY CENTRE



STAFF AND STUDENTS FROM  
OVER 100 COUNTRIES



ACTIVE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY



” The community committed  
to the University is  
our strength.  
RECTOR JUKKA KOLA



**100+ years  
of top research  
and education**

The University of Turku is an  
inspiring and international  
academic community of 25,000  
students and employees.

We build a sustainable future  
with multidisciplinary research,  
education, and collaboration.

➤ [utu.fi/university](https://utu.fi/university)

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# 100

**YEARS IN  
2020**

Founded in 1920 by the initiative of the Finnish people with the support of 22,040 donors.

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# Nº1

**FINNISH-  
LANGUAGE  
UNIVERSITY**

“From a free people  
to free science”



**ACADEMIC  
HERITAGE IN  
TURKU SINCE  
1640**

The first university in Finland, the Royal Academy of Turku, operated in the city 1640–1828.

**8**  
**FACULTIES**



**Faculty of Education**  
**Faculty of Humanities**  
**Faculty of Law**  
**Faculty of Medicine**  
**Faculty of Science**  
**Faculty of Social Sciences**  
**Faculty of Technology**  
**Turku School of Economics**



# 4

**INDEPENDENT  
UNITS**



**Centre for Language and  
Communication Studies**

**Turku PET Centre**

**Finnish Centre for Astronomy with ESO**

**Turku Bioscience Centre**



INTERNATIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES  
BASED ON HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH



INSPIRING LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS



THE VIVID AND COSY STUDENT CITY TURKU



**22,000**

DEGREE  
STUDENTS



**2,600**

INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENTS  
FROM OVER 100  
COUNTRIES

ANNUALLY

**500**

INCOMING AND

**500**

OUTGOING  
EXCHANGE  
STUDENTS

## We reimagine education and career paths

The University of Turku is a popular destination for exchange and degree studies. We collaborate with over 400 universities worldwide and offer a wide selection of courses taught in English.

We educate creative and independent problem solvers who will build a sustainable world. The University offers inspiring learning environments and new study methods to ensure the best learning results.

We meet the needs of professional life with new training and collaboration. We encourage continuous learning and personal development by offering versatile training and courses.

> [utu.fi/study](https://utu.fi/study)





**6,600**  
SCIENTIFIC  
PUBLICATIONS  
ANNUALLY



OWN GRADUATE  
SCHOOL UTUGS



**180**  
DOCTORAL  
DEGREES  
ANNUALLY

## We build a strong and sustainable future

We seek solutions to global challenges with multidisciplinary, international, and effective research.

Our exceptional research profiles enable unique projects, for example, in sustainable development, biodiversity, marine and maritime environment, health and welfare state, and in digitalisation and future technologies.

We pioneer in open science and our research impacts public debate and is employed in decision-making.

> [utu.fi/research](https://utu.fi/research)

**Our research  
is profiled  
through six  
thematic areas**



**Biodiversity and sustainability**  
**Future technologies and digital society**  
**Cultural memory and social change**  
**Children, young people and learning**  
**Health, diagnostics and drug development**  
**Sea and maritime studies**





# Academic culture

## Punctuality and timing

- "Academic Quarter"
- 12 - 14 = 12.15-13.45
- 12.00 – 13.00 = 12.00-13.00

## Informal interaction with professors

- [firstname.lastname@utu.fi](mailto:firstname.lastname@utu.fi)
- Office hours
- During/after lessons



# Academic freedom and responsibility

- Freedom to make decisions on your studies (timetables, minors, the interest of research)
- Responsibility of the progress of your studies
- Basic rights guaranteed by administration: objectivity, lawfulness, equality
- No insurance provided by the university for students (exception: e.g. lab work, field course)

# Academic year

## Autumn Semester

- 1 August - 31 December
- Periods I and II
- Teaching ends around 20.12.

## Spring Semester

- 1 January – July 31
- Periods III and IV
- Teaching starts around 10.1. and ends in April/May (may vary between faculties)

No official Summer Semester, but some courses or exams can be taken during summer.



# Credits

- 1 credit (cr) = 1 opintopiste (op) = 1 ECTS
- 1 ECTS = 27 hours of work
  - (including lectures, seminars, reading, writing, and independent work)
- The recommended workload for one Academic year equals to 60 ECTS
  - 30 ECTS during one semester.
- How many credits can I take?
- How many credits do I need to take?



# Grades

UTU		ECTS
0	Fail	F
1	Sufficient	E
2	Satisfactory	D
3	Good	C
4	Very good	B
5	Excellent	A

or pass/fail (cannot be converted to a **numeric** evaluation)



# Peppi & Personal Study Plan (PSP)

- [student.peppi.utu.fi](https://student.peppi.utu.fi) → Accessed with your UTU account.
- Peppi is the most essential system for students in their studies.
  - Used to create and update your personal study plan (PSP), enroll to courses and non-electronic exams, examine your completed studies, and update your contact information.
- Instructions on how to use Peppi, how to enroll on courses (and when to do that), and how to create your PSP should be offered by your degree programme staff.
  - You have coordinators, study advisors and academic/teacher tutors for this purpose.
  - Most likely they will e-mail you with information and/or offer it at their degree programme orientation session.
- If your degree programme does not discuss these topics with you at the latest during your degree programme's orientation session → E-mail them and ask for assistance.

# How to use Peppi? Where to find Information?

- See the intranet page **Peppi Study System for Students** for detailed instructions to using the system:  
[intranet.utu.fi/en/sites/peppi-students](https://intranet.utu.fi/en/sites/peppi-students)
- Find @uniturku on Youtube and see UTUAmbassador Tolga's video  
[Tour with Tolga 1: Course Plan and Peppi Study Guide at University of Turku](#)
- Familiarise yourself with your programme's Study Guide ([opas.peppi.utu.fi](https://opas.peppi.utu.fi)) for detailed information on your programme's courses.
- Ask your tutors to help you with using Peppi!
  - But keep in mind that they are not academic counselors, your degree programme staff is responsible for going through your PSP with you!



# Further Help and Information

- Academic counselling
  - From programme coordinator, teachers, study psychologists.
- Mental well-being
  - [Support services for students](#)
  - [Early support for students](#)
  - [Services outside the University](#)
  - On my Mind -project
- Programme Coordinators
- Tutor
- Student Union & Student Organisations
- International House Turku
- Also available: Career Guidance Services, Job Seeking Guidance, Services for Students with Disabilities and Students with Special Needs, CampusSports...

# Kiitos!





**UNIVERSITY  
OF TURKU**