

Degree Programme in Information and Communication Technology, Pinfos20, Path Studies

Welcome to Finland and to Turku University of Applied Sciences (TUAS)!
Congratulations on being accepted to study Information and Communication Technology,
Path Studies. It is always a delight to welcome new students to our ICT campus. We look
forward to meeting you in Turku. Please read carefully through the following information.

Beginning of your studies

Your orientation to studies at TUAS starts on Wednesday the 26th of August 2020 at 9
am in ICT City Campus, Joukahaisenkatu 3 C. [http://www.tuas.fi/en/about-us/faculties-
and-campuses/ict-building-joukahaisenkatu/](http://www.tuas.fi/en/about-us/faculties-and-campuses/ict-building-joukahaisenkatu/)

Date: Wed 26 August 2020

Auditorium Lambda

Time: 9:00 – 15:00 (registration, introduction to TUAS & Staff, Getting to know each
other)

Date: Thu 27 August

This day is reserved for some **tutor-led informal activities**, as well as **time** to sort out
some **formal paper work** (e.g. getting a bus card, Registry Office, opening a bank
account, getting a phone SIM card - See 3.1 Official Stuff).

Date: Fri 29 August

Room: B1038, B1039

Time: 9:00 – 15:00 (IT rules, Web Programs, Finnish Culture, Study-Related Matters)

2. Things to do before coming to Finland

2.1 Accommodation

Before arriving to Finland, **the most important** thing is to have a place to live. Here are a
couple of alternatives:

TYS – Turun Ylioppilaskylä, Turku Student Village. The cheapest alternative for students. You need to provide your acceptance letter in order to apply. There are multiple choices. You can live alone or with someone else. <http://www.tys.fi/en>. **APPLY FOR TYS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

The tricky thing about TYS is that there are a lot of applicants and NOT everyone is getting a place. So here are some solutions to the problem. The following two are companies on the private market. You can apply to them as well. It is a bit more expensive, but you can always find someone else to share accommodation with. It is quite cheaper in that way.

SATO – is a company on the private market. <https://www.sato.fi/en/>

TVT – similar to SATO <http://tvt.fi/english/>

Turku Students' accommodation Facebook Group:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TurkuStudents>

Many people sublet their apartments or look for flat mates in this group, so check it out.

For **temporary** accommodation, check Omenahotelli and Laivahostel Borea, for example.

<https://www.omenahotels.com/en/hotels/turku-en/>

<http://www.hostelborea.fi/>

2.2 Documents

Take all documents that you have, such as:

- Passport
- ID
- TUAS Acceptance letter
- School certificates (including higher education certificates you might already have completed)
- Other documents that can be beneficial for you because in most cases you will need them here.

If you are arriving from outside the EU, bring:

- All your health certificates or a statement from a licensed physician in English.
- Chest x-rays results in English.

The healthcare system in Finland requires these certificates to ensure that you do not suffer from any contagious respiratory diseases, such as tuberculosis, “TB”. It is better if you bring certificates or at least evidence that you didn't have an infectious disease such as smallpox or measles.

2.3 Local Transportation

From Helsinki to Turku, your easiest choice is [Onnibus](#).

If you are arriving straight from Helsinki Vantaa airport, you could take the Express Bus to Turku. Check all options here: <https://www.matkahuolto.fi/>

You can also take the train from Vantaa airport, if you buy your ticket in advance, it will be the cheapest way to get to Turku, you will need to change once from commuter train to Intercity train, but it's not hard at all. Check the times on [VR](#) website. The fastest way is to take the train from Vantaa airport to Pasila and change there to the train to Turku. In Turku there are two main stops, the Kupittaa stop is next to our school, while the Turku railway station stop is close to the city center (keskusta).

Once you're in Turku, [Föli](#) handles all the local transportation.

You can check the bus timetables on the website, so you won't get lost on your first day. A single bus ticket costs 3 €, and you can get a one-week pass (25 €) before you can get your student discount seasonal card. See more: <https://www.foli.fi/en>

2.4 Clothes

Yes, it gets cold in Finland in winter. You can expect ample rain in summer and heavy rain showers in spring. With all this in mind, you'll have to come prepared. Take some warm clothes and socks with you because that is the secret to surviving the winter and some of the spring weathers.

2.5 Acquire a Laptop

Turku University of Applied Sciences is increasingly moving towards the utilization of students' own computers. Starting next semester, a lot of used-to-be computer classrooms have been transformed into “Bring Your Own Devices” (BYOD) - classrooms to be used with students' personal laptops.

3. Things to do AFTER coming to Finland!

3.1 Official Arrangements

In order to stay here, you need to get a Social Security Number (the Finnish ID number). You need this for literally everything. You must obtain it from Maistraatti (Registry Office) and you need to book an appointment for this. Address to registry office is:

Itsenäisyydenaukio 2, 20800 Turku (Valtion Virastotalo). See here more info and possible contact info: <https://www.maistraatti.fi/en/Services/Registration-of-a-foreigner/>.

EU-students: You **must** register first in the **Finnish Immigration Office** (address: Nallikatu 8, 21200 Raisio), before you are able to obtain the Social Security Number. After registration you will be able to get the number from Registry Office. See the registration process here: <https://migri.fi/en/eu-citizen>

If you are arriving outside EU, you already have the Social Security Number in your residence permit, but you still need to register it in Registry Office.

For renewing your visa, you need to visit the **Finnish Immigration Office, in Nallikatu 8, 21200 Raisio.**

Get a phone number. You need a Social Security Number for a permanent data plan. You can still get a prepaid data plan without the Social Security Number.

Open a bank account. In order to open a bank account, you need a social security number. Tutors provide assistance if necessary.

Banks in Finland: Säästöpankki, Osuuspankki, Danske Bank, Nordea Bank

Documents required: Study certificate, Residence permit, Passport

Säästöpankki: If you are under 27 years old, you will have free access to internet banking and no monthly payments. If you are older than 26, the fee will be 4€/month for the card and 1€/month for internet banking services.

Osuuspankki: If you are under 26 years old, you will have free access to internet banking

and no monthly payments. If you are older than 26, the fee will be 2€/month for the card and 2,70€/month for internet banking services.

3.2 Fun Stuff

Parties

During the year, there are a lot of student parties and events for everyone. The student parties and events usually take place on Thursdays, because most students work over the weekend. There are many pub crawls, or scavenger hunt type events around the city. For students who do not like to drink, the parties are a fun way of meeting new people even if you don't drink alcohol. Also, there are events such as Sport Appro which is basically a pub crawl but instead of bars you go and do different sports.

Overalls

Students in Finland have a tradition of buying and wearing [student overalls](#) in parties. Students have different colors for their overalls depending on what they study. Engineers in Turku have purple overalls with yellow linings. The overalls are a great for finding people who study the same subjects as you or it's just a great way of breaking the ice by asking "What degree does your overalls color represent?"

Other fun stuff to do in Turku.

We have a lot of fun stuff to do in Turku besides studying math. All the movies screening in Turku you can find at <http://www.finnkino.fi/movies/turku> .

Turku is a relatively large city by Finnish standards so we do have a lot of activities for everyone to enjoy. If you enjoy a fancy dinner every now and then, our restaurant scene is among the best in the country. If you like different sports, we have a lot of possibilities for different sports. Also, there are many events that aren't just for students but can be really fun. We'll try and inform you on Facebook whenever there are such events. In short: if you get bored just sitting at home there are a lot of things to do in your spare time.

4. Student Tutors' Greetings

We are your student tutors, which means that we get to provide you with the necessary information and help for the duration of your studies here at TUAS.

Feel free to ask us about whatever you need: accommodation, Finnish culture, information on visas and study-related matters. We will try to answer all your inquiries as clearly and as informative as we can.

For easier distribution of information, we have created a Facebook group page for your class of 2020. **Please, join the TUAS PINFOS20 group by following this link:**

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/PINFOS20/>

4.1 Tutor Introductions



Riku Lindblom riku.lindblom@edu.turkuamk.fi

Hello everyone! I'm a third-year student at TUAS and interested in Networks and Network Security. I am from Finland and I've lived my whole life here at Turku. I think myself as a person that's positive and easy to approach. My hobbies are playing video games and going for some walks. I'm not really into parties, but I still try to partake in some events. If you have any problems don't be afraid to contact me, I will try to help in any way I can. I hope you will have wonderful time here in Finland and TUAS,

and I wish you the best years ahead!



Filipe Lopes filipe.lopes@edu.turkuamk.fi

Moi! Congratulations and welcome to TUAS. I'm Filipe and I'll be one of your tutors for this year! I moved from Portugal to Finland two years ago and so far it has been a beautiful experience. I'm excited for all of you! Besides English and Portuguese, I can also speak Spanish and can get around with French and Finnish. In my free time I'm usually making games or composing music. I also enjoy walking and hiking in nature. If you have any questions, don't be afraid to hit me up. Good luck!



Katri Paananen katri.paananen@edu.turkuamk.fi

Hey everybody! I'm fourth year student in TUAS and I will be one of the head tutors this year. I'm native Finnish, although I'm not originally from Turku area, but I have been living in here almost 6 years. On my free time, when I'm not at school, doing homework or working part-time I like to read and be on my PC, which usually means videogames. I'm outgoing person and don't be afraid to ask whatever you like from me. I have lot of knowledge about studying, unions and such, if I don't know answer of the top of my head, I usually know how to get the info needed. Last but not least, Welcome to TUAS!



Ayush Pradhan ayush.pradhan@edu.turkuamk.fi



Namaste everyone! A hearty congratulation on getting selected. I am a second-year student in TUAS, currently doing embedded systems and IoT. I am from India but moved from Oman which I consider as my second home. Like you all, I also started my journey from Finland as an international student in the year 2018. I love making new friends understanding different cultures and going for sudden adventures, during pass time I usually go for cycling, swimming or jogging. I took up this position of Tutor to get to know you guys and be a good guide so feel free to message me if you have any doubt, and I will try to reply

with an appropriate answer within a short while. You can contact me via Gmail - ayushpradhan1@gmail.com or Instagram (the_mysterious_ayush_).

Lastly, I hope you have carried sufficient winter clothes cause tervetuloa suomeen {Welcome to Finland}.



Iulia Alexandru iulia.alexandru@edu.turkuamk.fi

Hey! My name's Iulia, I come from Romania and I'll be one of your tutors. I've been living in Turku for over a year and been studying in TUAS for about 9 months now, just finished my 2nd semester! I get on in Finland by working online part time & with the help of my family. In my free time I usually do digital painting, some game design here and there and gaming (I'm addicted to modding). I'm also

into retro fashion & makeup so you'll sometimes spot me wearing some weird stuff. Anyways, welcome & good luck!

Further Contact Information

Open Studies office: avoinamk@turkuamk.fi, 02 26336109 (on Tuesday 9-11 and on Friday 9-11)

Mr. Janne Ahtinen, Student Counsellor
Mrs. Poppy Skarli, Tutor Teacher
Student office

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