



UNIVERSITY
OF OULU

2026/2027 Fact Sheet

Dear partner,

Greetings from the University of Oulu! We hope that the information contained in this document is helpful, feel free to contact us if anything is unclear or if you require further information.

Kind regards

University of Oulu, International Mobility Services

International.office@oulu.fi

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Contact Information: International Mobility Services

Website	https://www.oulu.fi/en	
Website for exchange students	https://www.oulu.fi/en/for-students/incoming-student-exchange	
Erasmus Code	SF OULU01	
PIC Code	999844670	
OID	E10208661	
Mailing Address	International Mobility Services Academic Affairs PO BOX 8000 90014 University of Oulu Finland	
Street Address	Pentti Kaiteran katu 1 90570 Oulu Finland	
Contact Person	Position	Contact Information
Ms Sari Vähäkangas	Erasmus Institutional Coordinator	International.office@oulu.fi

Contact Information: Faculty Exchange Coordinators

Each faculty has an exchange coordinator who can help prospective students with course related questions and other faculty specific matters. They are also responsible for the Erasmus+ agreements for their faculty.

Faculty or Department	Contact Person	Email
Humanities	Ms Johanna Isoviiita	study.humanities@oulu.fi
Education and Psychology	Mr Karri Hurskainen	study.education@oulu.fi
Science	Ms Maria Juntunen	study.science@oulu.fi
Technology	Ms Marita Puikkonen	study.technology@oulu.fi
Architecture	Ms Hanna Hentilä	study.architecture@oulu.fi
Chemistry	Ms Varsha Srivastava	varsha.srivastava@oulu.fi

Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine	Mr Jari Heikkinen	study.fbmm@oulu.fi
Information Technology and Electrical Engineering	Ms Maiju Ainesmaa-Gabell	study.itee@oulu.fi
Faculty of Medicine	Ms Anni Annunen	study.medicine@oulu.fi
Dentistry	Mr Saujanya Karki	saujanya.karki@oulu.fi
Oulu Business School	Ms Elisa Mejías	study.business@oulu.fi

Academic Calendar 2026/27

Our academic year consists of autumn and spring terms. **Exchange students are accepted for either one term or a full academic year (autumn-spring).**

Autumn Term 2026

Autumn Term exchange dates	26.8.2026-23.12.2026
Full Academic Year exchange dates	26.8.2026-31.5.2027
Recommended arrival date for exchange students	25.8.2026
Orientation for exchange students	26.8.2026
Teaching Periods	1. period: weeks 34–43 (17.8–23.10.2026) 2. period: weeks 44–52 (26.10–31.12.2026)
Holidays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 43 (Autumn Break/Syysloma: A break in <i>most</i> faculties, but there can be teaching) • 6th December (Finnish Independence Day) • 24th Dec - 1st Jan (Christmas & New year's holidays)

Spring Term 2027

Spring Term exchange dates	5.1.2027-31.5.2027
Recommended arrival date for exchange students	4.1.2027

Orientation for exchange students	5.1.2027
Teaching Periods	3. period: weeks 1–10 (1.1.–14.3.2027) 4. period: weeks 11–18 (15.3.–9.5.2027)
Holidays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th January (Epiphany) • Week 10 (Winter break in <i>most</i> faculties, but there can be teaching) • 26th March (Easter Friday) • 29th March (Easter Monday) • 1st May (May Day) • 6th May (Ascension Day)

Requirements for exchange students

All exchange applicants (study and traineeship) **must be enrolled at a higher education** institution regardless of the exchange programme.

English language competence	The required English language level for exchange students is B2 in the CEFR scale . This is equivalent to IELTS 6.5. Certificate written by the home university's English teacher is sufficient. We do not require an official language test document, e.g. TOEFL or IELTS, but they are also accepted.
Previous studies	Students should have completed at least one year of university level studies before applying to exchange. Please note, that some courses may have prerequisites that must be considered when choosing the courses.
Grade Point Average (GPA)	The University of Oulu does not have a specific GPA requirement for incoming exchange students. We trust that our partners nominate students who have the sufficient academic skills needed to study abroad. However, transcripts of records are used as one criterion for exchange student selection.

Nomination Process

All incoming exchange students must be nominated by their home university's exchange coordinator before the student can apply. Exchange students should be nominated either for one term or a full academic year (autumn-spring).

How to send nominations	Nominations should be sent through our online nomination form. If you do not have access to the online form, please contact the International Mobility Services at international.office@oulu.fi
Nomination period and deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Autum term and full academic year exchanges: 1.2.2026 - 15.4.2026Spring term exchanges: 1.8.2026-1.10.2026 <p>Please note that due to the high number of incoming students, late nominations are not accepted unless otherwise agreed.</p>
Traineeship (placement)	Students applying for traineeship (placement) exchange need to be nominated as well. We strongly recommend you follow the nomination deadlines given above. Regardless, traineeship nominations should be submitted at least three (3) months prior to the planned start of the traineeship exchange.

Application Process

After the nomination has been processed, the **student will get access to our online application system SoleMOVE. Students will receive their user ID and instructions by email.** All necessary information including required enclosures are to be submitted through SoleMOVE, we do not accept any application documents by email.

Application deadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Autumn term and full academic year exchanges: 30.4.2026
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring term exchanges: 15.10.2026
Traineeship (placement)	Traineeship applications must be submitted through SoleMOVE at least three (3) months before the planned start date. Please note, we don't accept any freemover applicants . Traineeship exchanges are always subject to availability, and the student must be active in searching for suitable traineeship options. Use Erasmus+ LA -document for traineeships .

Courses and grading system	
If the student proposes courses from another study field or faculty, the Faculty Exchange Coordinator needs to separately check the availability of those courses. In addition to study-field specific restrictions, it needs to be noted that when choosing courses from another faculty, schedule overlaps are possible.	
Recommended course load per term	30 ECTS
Course Catalogue	<p>Students can find available courses from our course catalogue: Courses for Exchange Students 2026-2027</p> <p>All courses listed in the catalogue are taught in English.</p>
Finnish Language Courses	<p>Students can also choose Finnish courses offered by the Language and Communication unit. These courses are listed in the catalogue under "Language and communication courses". We recommend everyone take the Survival Finnish course to make their stay as smooth as possible.</p> <p>Students who choose Finnish language courses must include them on their Learning Agreement (LA).</p>
Grading	Courses are assessed on numerical scale 0-5 (0 stands for fail) or pass/fail. The assessment criteria are given in the course description. For more information on assessment, please see the Assessment Criteria at the University of Oulu page.

Faculty specific restrictions and comments

Students **must** choose a percentage of courses from their chosen faculty. The amount differs and is specified by each faculty or study-field.

Outside of that percentage, students may study courses from other faculties/study fields providing they meet the course prerequisites.

More details here: <https://www.oulu.fi/en/courses-and-learning-agreement>

Faculty of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine	50% of courses must be chosen from this study-field if host faculty. Study field specific exceptions may apply, please see the course catalogue or contact Faculty Exchange Coordinator.
Faculty of Education and Psychology	80% of courses must be chosen from this study-field if host faculty. Courses are divided as 'Bachelor's level studies' and 'Master's level studies' – both these are also divided by term, so students need to make sure to check clearly which term they are selecting courses from. To see more detailed information on the course, please click the course name. Please also refer to the study guide's "Show description" section to read more about studying at the Faculty of Education and Psychology.
Faculty of Humanities	50% of courses must be chosen from this study field if host faculty. In the catalogue, courses are listed under different study fields. Some courses are available in English only by independent study. Also, some courses (e.g., courses offered by the English unit) are meant only for students majoring in the field in question. The Scandinavian Studies courses are available for all exchange students (if the course is full, the exchange and degree students of the Faculty of Humanities have priority to enrol). Please read carefully the information provided in the "Show description" tab and by clicking the name of the subject you are interested in.

Faculty of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering	<p>80% of courses must be chosen from this study-field if host faculty.</p> <p>Courses in the course catalogue are listed by study fields, but exchange students of the Faculty of ITEE are welcome to take courses from all of the study fields within the faculty, as long as the prerequisites of the courses are met.</p> <p>Advanced level courses require bachelor's level knowledge of the study field in question. Bachelor level students who wish to take advanced courses will need to provide information on how they meet the prerequisites.</p> <p>Biomedical Engineering students are allowed to take courses from both the Faculty of ITEE as well as the Faculty of Medicine, but a majority of the courses have to be chosen from their own faculty.</p> <p>Please read further instructions in the course catalogue description section.</p>
Faculty of Medicine	<p>80% of courses must be chosen from this study-field if host faculty.</p> <p>Courses are in sections according to the study fields. There is also a list of courses that are open for all exchange students of the faculty. Note that only study field specific courses are planned so that they don't overlap.</p> <p>Clinical rotations: medical students can carry out internships in several specialities. There are limited number of placements in each speciality. The timing of the internships varies. For clinical rotations, previous knowledge (studies) of the specialty is a prerequisite.</p> <p>Biomedical Engineering students are allowed to take courses from both the Faculty of ITEE as well as the Faculty of Medicine, but a majority of the courses have to be chosen from their own faculty.</p>
Faculty of Science	<p>50% of courses must be chosen from this study-field if host faculty.</p> <p>Courses are in sections according to the study field (Biology, Geography, Physics and Mathematics). Courses are marked as</p>

	<p>“basic level studies”, “Intermediate level studies” and “Advanced level studies”. Students at the end of their bachelor studies may also choose advanced level courses. By clicking on the course, you can see more detailed information.</p>
Faculty of Technology	<p>80% of courses must be chosen from this study-field if host faculty.</p> <p>Courses for exchange students are divided into the FTECH study fields. Courses are available for students nominated to that specific study field or related FTECH study fields.</p> <p>For Architecture, only Master's level courses are available and students should have completed at least 3 years of studies or have their Bachelor's degree.</p>
Oulu Business School	<p>80% of courses must be chosen from this study-field if host faculty.</p> <p>Students who wish to take Oulu Business School courses should have business studies or equivalent on their study transcripts.</p> <p>Courses are divided as ‘Bachelor’s level studies’ and ‘Master’s level studies’ – both these are also divided by term, so students need to make sure to check clearly which term they are selecting courses from. To see more detailed information on the course, please click the course name.</p>

Acceptance	
Acceptance letter and information package	Accepted students will receive their official acceptance letter and information package by email. Students should go through all the materials carefully, as it includes information on residence permits, housing and other important matters.
When to expect acceptance letter and information package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autumn term and full academic year students: Early June • Spring term students: Early to mid-December

Confirmation	Accepted students must confirm their exchange in SoleMOVE system. Instructions are provided in the information package.
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Fees	
Tuition fees	Exchange students do not pay any tuition fees
Student Union Fee	<p>All students should pay the Student Union fee which entitles you to several student discounts.</p> <p>Cost: €30 per term</p> <p>For more information about the fee, please see the Student Union webpage.</p>

Housing	
Housing for exchange students is available through the local student housing foundation PSOAS.	
Room description	Students are housed in shared apartments with private bedrooms and shared kitchen and bathroom facilities.
Furnished Rooms	The university has reserved a certain number of rooms that are furnished with basic furniture (bed, pillow and duvet, bed linen, table, chair, lamp, wardrobe). Please note that the number of these rooms is limited , so students should apply for housing as soon as possible.
Tenancy agreements	Tenancy agreements are made for fixed period (one term or two terms) and they are binding, meaning that you are required to pay the rent for the entire agreement period. Should you decide to leave early, note that tenancy agreements are cancelled in force majeure cases only (illness, etc).

Webpage for more housing information	PSOAS Webpage
Contact for any housing related questions	asuntotoimisto@psoas.fi

Insurance and Healthcare

All incoming exchange students, both study and traineeship, are required to have a valid health and accident insurance that covers possible accidents and health problems also during your travel to and from Finland. The University of Oulu does not cover medical costs for students.

European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)	Citizens of an EU/EEA/EFTA country are eligible to apply for a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) which gives you access to the public health care services. Students from EU countries must bring their European Health Card with them. Note that the European Health Insurance Card is not valid during your travels to and from Finland or during any excursions to a third country.
Students coming from outside of EU	If you are a non-EU/EEA/EFTA national, a health insurance policy is to be taken when applying for a Residence Permit. You can use the public health care services, but services in private health care are more affordable for you. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More information: https://migri.fi/en/insurance

Orientation

Orientation for new exchange students is hosted at the beginning of each term.

Please see the [Orientation webpage](#).