WELCOME TO ÅBO AKADEMI UNIVERSITY VASA CAMPUS!
TODAY’S PROGRAMME

- Who is who?
- This weeks schedule & next

- Registration

- Åbo Akademi University
- Support services

- Tutors
25 accepted exchange students for autumn and full-year
- 5 full-year students, 3 short-term teacher trainees (Sweden and USA) in November, new group in January
- Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Korea, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, USA

19 Master’s students *Peace, Mediation and Conflict Research*
- Two-year Master’s Programme
- Bangladesh, Germany, Great Britain, Hongkong, Finland, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Sudan
Who are you?
Where do you come from?
What will you study here in Vasa?
If you’re new in town, how long will you stay? Do you have friends/family in town?

What would you like to do in the future, how would you like to use your university degree?

Discuss with someone new – share with the group
The only Swedish-language multidisciplinary university in Finland

Approx. 6,500 students, of which approx. 1,800 in Vasa

5,500 undergraduate, 1,000 postgraduate

1,300 employees; 700 working in education and research

Annual budget of 115 million euros

1,500 scientific publications annually
Situated in the old parts of Åbo and by the waterside of Vasa

Donated residential homes and old factory buildings, also modern buildings

Academill in Vasa, an old renovated mill

Pre-school teacher education moves from Jakobstad to Vasa in 2018
Over 900 international students; 250 exchange students (50 in Vasa per year)
Over 200 ÅAU-students study abroad annually
Six international Master’s Programmes (including PEACE)
GRADUATES

- 500 masters degrees per year
- High number of doctoral degrees (approximately 70/year)
- Very good employment situation among graduates and doctors: 92% work with tasks that correspond to their education
FAST FACTS ABOUT FINLAND

- Independent since 1917
- Population of 5.4 million
- EU Member since 1995
- Official languages: Finnish and Swedish
- Swedish-speaking minority of 5.5 percent
- Small Sami minority in the north
- Part of Sweden from 12th to the early 19th century
- An autonomous Grand Duchy within the Russian Empire from 1809 until the Russian Revolution
VASA (VAASA) AND SURROUNDINGS

- About 67,000 inhabitants – about one in five is a student
- Several universities and polytechnics represented: Åbo Akademi University (Swedish), University of Vaasa (Finnish), Hanken School of Economics (Swedish), VAMK (Finnish UAS), Novia (Swedish UAS), University of Helsinki (bilingual law department)
- About 70 % Finnish-speaking, 23 % Swedish-speaking, 7 % other languages (the municipality of Korsholm around Vasa is about 70 % Swedish-speaking)
THIS WEEK

- Orientation
  - Exchange students: Advising sessions
  - Exchange students: Enroll in courses through MinPlan
- Practicalities
  - Register! Pay Student Union Fee (58 euro/term)
  - Sign the Starting Package agreement with the Student Union/Jonna (cost: 20 euro, plus 50 deposit)
  - Get a Finnish Personal Identity Code (at the Local Register Office Magistraten/Maistraatti)
  - Order a basic Student Union Card or download the app: frank.fi (identity code needed for the app to function)
  - Sign rental agreements: Realia (Lärkan) or VOAS
  - Open a bank account (if needed)
UNIVERSITY STRUCTURE

- Faculty of Arts, Psychology and Theology, Åbo/Turku
- Faculty of Education and Welfare Studies – in Vasa
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Business and Economics – the Department of Political Science with Mass Communication in Vasa
- Faculty of Science and Engineering – the Department of Energy Technology in Vasa
Teacher Education – responsible for the education of teachers for the Swedish-speaking areas in Finland

- Department of Early Childhood Education situated in Jakobstad (will be moved to Vasa in 2018)

- Social sciences and health sciences
Teacher programmes – Bachelor of Arts (Education)
- Pre-school teacher (kindergarten)

Teacher programmes – Master of Arts (Education)
- Class teacher (primary school teacher)
- Teacher of special education
- Subject teacher – sloyd/home economics
- Subject teacher – other subjects – mostly in Åbo

Other programmes – Bachelor/Master/Doctor of Arts (Education)
- General and adult education
Pedagogical studies of 60 ECTS for

- Subject Teachers (Secondary and Upper Secondary Teacher)
- Vocational School Teachers
- Study Counsellors
- Special Teachers in Vocational Schools
- Driving Instructors
PROGRAMMES
SOCIAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

- Bachelor/Master/Doctor of Health Sciences
  - Study programme in Caring Science
- Bachelor/Master/Doctor of Social Sciences
  - Social Sciences (Social Policy/Developmental Psychology, Master’s Programme in Peace, Mediation and Conflict Research)
- Bachelor/Master/Doctor of Social Sciences (Faculty of Social Sciences, Business and Economics)
  - Political Science with Masscommunication
DEGREE STRUCTURES

- Bologna: two cycles
  - Bachelor degree 180 credits (ECTS)
  - Master degree 120 credits (ECTS)
- Basic, intermediate and advanced studies in a major
- Minors/Subsidiary subjects (25-60 credits)
- Language and Communication (15 credits)
- Optional Studies
- Practicum (e.g. Teacher Training Practice) (5-20 credits)
Teacher education students do the lion’s share of their practice at Teacher Training Schools, which also function as normal schools in the municipality.

Vasa Teacher Training School Vasa Övningsskola (VÖS or ”Övis”) is part of Åbo Akademi University.

Offers didactical practices within a wide range of curriculums, including the IB Programme.
Susanne Nylund-Torp, Coordinator (study advisor for PEACE)
- susanne.nylund-torp(at)abo.fi
- 06-324 7164
- Location E406

Available most weekdays 12-15, appointments via e-mail or the booking system.
OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES

- International affairs website: [www.abo.fi/exchange](http://www.abo.fi/exchange)
- Student Union [www.studentkaren.fi](http://www.studentkaren.fi), Havtornen
- [www.abo.fi/dc/minsture/](http://www.abo.fi/dc/minsture/)
- Electronic keys to Academill – [shop.abo.fi](http://shop.abo.fi) (25 euros), for other keys, ask at Technical Service (B1)
- Libraries – visit to Tritonia
- Computer facilities – information on Friday
STUDENT LIFE

- The Student Union of Åbo Akademi University is an active student union
- Student apartments and rooms in Åbo at a reasonable price
- Over 60 student associations
- ESN for exchange students; ISAV (International Students’ Association of Vaasa) for degree students
- Excursions, parties, language exchange, traditional student festivities
REGISTRATION EXCHANGE STUDENTS

- Fill in the User Agreement form for ICT services and hand in the agreement part
- Log in to Selfservice (www.abo.fi > Selfservice) and pay the Student Union Membership with credit card or through a Finnish bank (58/116 euro)
- Print/take a screenshot of the receipt
- In case of problems, turn to Susanne
- Sort on Tuesday! Deadline is 1 September
- Check the information in Selfservice (student number)
REGISTRATION DEGREE STUDENTS

- Register online through the application system...
- ...or pay the Student Union fee (invoice has been sent through e-mail) – and register with the Academic Affairs on F4 (Student Affairs Officer, Ms. Ann-May Nordmyr)
- Bring the receipt of the payment of the Student Union membership fee, ID, admission letter and original degree certificates (the ones that were the basis for your application)
  - Certificates will be returned within approx. two weeks
- Register no later than 1 September!
PERSONAL IDENTITY CODE

- For all students studying over 3 months in Finland
- The code is required for registering your credits in the national and the university study registers
- Also required by most Finnish banks, etc.
- Non-EU nationals may already have this code (check the back of the permit card, ddmmyy-xxxx), you still need to register your address at the Local Register Office
- Bring ID, lease (for full address), certificate of registration and the filled form Request for registration of personal data in the Population Information System to the registration http://www.maistraatti.fi/en/Forms/
- Report the code to University Services (Susanne/Ann-May)