

University of Jyväskylä (Finland)

Contact Information	
Mailing address	International Office P.O. Box 35 FI-40014 University of Jyväskylä, Finland
Street address	University of Jyväskylä, Seminaarinkatu 15 40100 Jyväskylä, Finland
Office email	international-office@jyu.fi
Website and promotional videos	https://www.jyu.fi/en https://www.jyu.fi/en/study-with-us https://www.jyu.fi/en/study-with-us/student-exchange-at-jyu https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wsYDL1TlwTI https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtPoGYK4-bY
Contact person for incoming and outgoing Erasmus+ Global - mobility students	Ms Tiina Savela, International Coordinator email. global@jyu.fi tel. +358 40 805 4342

General information about the university

University of Jyväskylä	<p>University of Jyväskylä (JYU) is an internationally ranked research university. We are one of the largest and most popular multidisciplinary universities in Finland. JYU provides a genuinely supportive and enjoyable environment for studying. Our university has 14 300 students from about 100 countries. We believe that interaction with people from different cultures and backgrounds is an essential part of academic studies and the university experience. We are therefore committed to promoting international cooperation. JYU offers undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, teacher training programmes and over 100 disciplines within the Faculties of Education and Psychology, Humanities and Social Sciences, Information Technology, Mathematics and Science, Sport and Health Sciences, and the School of Business and Economics.</p> <p>Study experience at JYU is shown as excellent results in the International Student Barometer (ISB) in autumn 2017: Over 90% of our international respondents are satisfied with their study experience. In the survey, JYU's ratings for satisfaction with living were the best worldwide and satisfaction with teaching was the highest in Finland. ISB also shows our success in welcoming our international students, as satisfaction with arrival experiences and conditions topped other European universities.</p> <p>https://www.jyu.fi/en/study-with-us/get-to-know-us</p>
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UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

Core fields	<p>The University combines high-level competence in education, natural sciences, humanities and social sciences, and sport and health sciences, as well as in economics and business administration, into a multidisciplinary entity. This profile is strengthened through the following core fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning, teaching and interaction • Basic natural phenomena and mathematical thinking • Sustainable business and economics • Language, culture and society • Physical activity, health and wellbeing • Information technology and the human in the knowledge society
The city of Jyväskylä and the campus	<p>“A small city with a big feel” accurately describes Jyväskylä, located in the lake district of Finland some 270 kilometres north of Helsinki. It has the advantages of a small town being comfortable, compact and safe, and at the same time, it is a bustling modern centre of industry and learning. Out of the 142 000 inhabitants in the Jyväskylä region almost one fourth are students.</p> <p>The naturally beautiful JYU campus is a combination of modern style and classics of the famous architect Alvar Aalto. Seminaarinmäki campus was awarded 2022 with European Heritage Label. The campus highlights the significance of the Finnish and European education system as a basis for equal and democratic society.</p> <p>https://www.jyu.fi/en/about-us/jyvaskyla-at-the-heart-of-finland</p>
Estimated cost of living	<p>International students must be able to pay for their food, accommodation, transport, social life, etc. The average living expenses of a single student in Jyväskylä amounts to about €800-900 per month. Average monthly costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rent in a student apartment 280 - 420 € • food 250-300 € (eg. a lunch in a student restaurant 2,95 € for Bachelor’s and Master’s level students) • transport, leisure and other costs 150-250 €

Nominations and Application

Nominations	<p>Nominations should be sent via our online nomination form. The link will be sent to partner universities when a new application period begins.</p> <p>Nomination deadlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autumn semester: 1 May • Spring semester: 15 October
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UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

Application periods	<p>Autumn semester: 15 March - 15 May Spring semester: 1 September - 1 November</p> <p><i>Please notice that it is highly recommended that students coming from countries outside the EU apply well in advance because the application process for the residence permit to Finland will take more than a month (especially for the autumn semester).</i></p>
Application form	<p>In order to be admitted to the University of Jyväskylä, students must fill in an online application through the Mobility-Online system. The link to the online application will be send to the nominated students. The application instructions can be found at https://www.jyu.fi/en/study-with-us/student-exchange-at-jyu.</p> <p>In addition, students should attach an official transcript of records (in English) and a copy of their passport to the online application. Students also need to submit their preliminary study plan (Learning Agreement) as part of the online application.</p> <p>Course registration is done after the student's arrival to Jyväskylä and it is then possible to make changes to the preliminary study plan.</p> <p>Paper copies of the application or its attachments are not required.</p>

Academic Calendar	
Semester dates	<p>Autumn semester: 26 August – 19 December 2025 Spring semester: 5 January – 24 May 2026</p>
Orientation programmes	<p>Autumn semester: 26-29 August 2025 Spring semester: 5 and 7 January 2026</p> <p>An orientation programme is organized at the beginning of each semester. All exchange students are requested to take part in the orientation programme as it gives valuable information on studying and living in Jyväskylä. For further information on the orientation, please see https://www.jyu.fi/en/for-students/instructions-for-bachelors-and-masters-students/new-student-handbook/orientation-programme.</p>
Arrival dates	<p>Autumn semester: 25 August 2025 Spring semester: 2 January 2026</p>



Courses	
Courses in English	https://www.jyu.fi/en/for-students/courses-for-exchange-students
Questions related to courses and academic matters	Faculty-level international coordinators: https://www.jyu.fi/en/contact-information/support-services-for-internationalisation
Which courses to choose?	<p>Exchange students can choose courses from the curriculum of their host department and/or from the international study programmes arranged at the University of Jyväskylä. Some courses may be open to all exchange students. The openness is indicated in the course description by 'ALL' or a similar marking.</p> <p>Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some courses may be targeted at students of a particular department or faculty only. - Courses may have prerequisites which participants must fulfil. <p>Important: The University of Jyväskylä is usually not able to offer a supervisor for the doctoral thesis work of exchange students. If the student is interested in enquiring about a possible supervisor, they should send their research plan to the international coordinator of the host faculty at JYU (https://www.jyu.fi/en/contact-information/support-services-for-internationalisation). Doctoral students may, however, use the library and complete courses at JYU.</p>
Course levels	<p>The fourth character in the course code indicates the level of study as follows:</p> <p>P = Basic studies, bachelor level A = Intermediate studies, bachelor level S = Advanced studies, master level.</p>
Language of instruction	All courses offered for exchange students are given in English, apart from some language courses.

Accommodation	
How to apply for student housing	<p>International students are accommodated in the housing units of Central Finland Student Housing Foundation (KOAS) and Soihtu Housing. Accommodation is located about 2,5 - 4 kilometres from the main campus.</p> <p>Students can apply for housing via a separate form during the following application periods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autumn semester: 7 May - 20 May • Spring semester: 18 October - 1 November



	Priority is given to students coming from FORTHEM partner universities and students coming through the following exchange programmes, provided they apply on time: Bilateral, Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility, ISEP.
Application deadlines for student housing	Autumn semester: 20 May Spring semester: 1 November
Application for accommodation	https://link.webropol.com/s/exchange-accommodation
Further information	The apartments are usually shared by two (sometimes more) students. Each student will have a study-bedroom for him/herself. The kitchen and bathroom are shared with a roommate. More information about housing at https://www.jyu.fi/en/for-students/instructions-for-bachelors-and-masters-students/day-to-day-life-and-free-time/search-for-accommodation .
Tenancy period	JYU has reserved a quota of furnished study-bedrooms for exchange students. Those placed in the study-bedrooms of KOAS or Soihtu within the quota are required to sign a tenancy agreement for a fixed term. The fixed-term tenancy agreement cannot be terminated within the tenancy period.
Availability of the apartments	Student housing cannot be guaranteed to all applicants during the autumn semester. Most students coming for the spring semester will be able to get a room from KOAS or Soihtu. Student apartments are available from the first working day of the month. If students arrive earlier, they may have to stay at a hotel or hostel until the student apartment is available. More information on hotels and hostels in Jyväskylä can be found at https://visitjyvaskyla.fi/en/stay/ .
Monthly rent and deposit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The price for a furnished single study-bedroom with a shared kitchen and bathroom varies from 280 € to 360 € per month. A limited number of studios are also available at Soihtu. The price for a studio apartment is about 400 € per month. A deposit and/or rent for the first month must be paid to the accommodation office's bank account in order to confirm the housing offer. • A furniture fee of about 15-25 €/month is added to the rent (furniture includes a bed, desk, chair, storage space). • Internet connection, basic household items and bedding (mattress, pillow and duvet, but no towels or bed linen) are also included in the rent of a furnished apartment. Laundry facilities, saunas and common rooms are available in the buildings.



Language Courses and Language Skills Required

Language skills required

Applicants should be at least B1 but preferably B2 (or higher) level users of the English language. Students should be able to follow university lectures in English, participate in seminar discussions and understand written material in their field. In addition, most courses require writing essays and research papers.

A language test certificate is not required from exchange students.

NB! In order to apply for English as a major subject during the exchange, a student needs to have at least a level B2 of English proficiency. Exchange students are accepted to study English as their major on a case-by-case basis.

Finnish and Academic English language courses offered in August

The Centre for Multilingual Academic Communication - Movi organises beginner courses in Finnish and advanced courses in English: These courses are organized in August before the regular semester teaching begins. The courses are free of charge for exchange students.

- **Survival Finnish**
- **Advanced Summer Course in English** for students whose English language proficiency level is B2-C1 (upper intermediate – advanced).
- **Intensive Summer Course in Academic English** for students whose English language proficiency level is A2-B1 (lower intermediate – intermediate).

Students must apply separately. **Application deadline is 15 May.**

NB. It is possible to take both Survival Finnish and Intensive Summer Course in Academic English OR Advanced Summer Course in English as the courses do not overlap, but keep in mind that the workload will be considerable.

Application and more information:

<https://www.jyu.fi/en/for-students/instructions-for-bachelors-and-masters-students/new-student-handbook/register-for-intensive-language-courses-in-august>.



Language courses offered during the semesters	The Centre for Multilingual Academic Communication – Movi offers courses in Finnish, English and other languages, as well as in multilingualism and intercultural communication during the semesters. These courses are free of charge and available for all exchange students. More information: https://www.jyu.fi/en/for-students/instructions-for-bachelors-and-masters-students/studies-at-movi/communication-and-language-course-offerings-at-movi
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Residence Permit	
EU/EEA/EFTA citizens	Citizens of the EU/EEA/EFTA countries do not need a residence permit but they must register their right to reside in Finland if their continuous stay in Finland lasts for longer than 90 days. The registration should be done by submitting an application for registration and visiting a service point of the Finnish Immigration Service. More information: https://migri.fi/en/i-am-an-eu-citizen
Non-EU/EEA/EFTA citizens	<p>Citizens of non-EU/EEA/EFTA countries who wish to stay in Finland for more than 90 days must be in possession of a residence permit when entering the country. An application for the permit should be submitted electronically at https://migri.fi/en/home as soon as the student has received the letter of admission. In addition to the electronic application, all applicants must visit a Finnish mission or a VFS Global application centre in their country of residence in person to prove their identity More information: https://migri.fi/en/guide-for-students.</p> <p>In order to obtain a residence permit to study in Finland, international students must show that their income is secured for their exchange period. They must be able to prove that they have at their disposal at least EUR 800 per study month. The following conditions must also be fulfilled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the applicant must be at least 18 years of age • the application must provide evidence that the applicant has been accepted as a full-time student in Finland (letter of admission) • details of the comprehensive health insurance cover (with a reliable and solvent company or institution) must be attached to the application <p>Doctoral students must apply for a residence permit for scientific research https://migri.fi/en/researcher.</p>



	<p>NB! Doctoral students must be able to prove that they have at their disposal at least EUR 1090 per study month.</p> <p>NB! Please notice that if a student wishes to open a Finnish bank account, s/he needs to be in possession of a valid residence permit.</p> <p>Stays of 90 days (only applicable to doctoral students): Please apply for a visa in the nearest embassy, consulate or VFS Global office. Please check the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland for further information on the visa requirements and on how to apply.</p>
Non-EU/EEA/EFTA citizens studying in an EU/EEA/EFTA country	<p>Citizens of a non-EU/EEA/EFTA country who study in an EU/EEA/EFTA country as a degree student should have a valid residence permit in the country where they study as a degree student. In addition, a mobility notification should be submitted to the Finnish Immigration Service. More information: https://migri.fi/en/mobility-notification-to-finland</p>

Insurance

Non-EU/EEA/EFTA citizens	<p>The University of Jyväskylä will acquire a travel insurance for incoming Erasmus+ Global Mobility students. An insurance certificate will be sent to the student by e-mail after they have been admitted to study at the University of Jyväskylä.</p>
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Erasmus+ Global mobility grant

Individual support grant and travel grant	<p>Erasmus+ Global mobility students will receive an individual support grant and a travel grant from JYU. The amount varies according to the length of the exchange period and of the distance of the host university to JYU. The amount of the grant will be communicated to the partner university and to the student.</p>
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Student tutors and free-time activities

Student tutors / Arrival Service	<p>The International Office employs tutors (senior students) from each faculty. Their task is to acquaint new international students with the system of studies and campus life in Jyväskylä and to help them with practical questions, such as planning a timetable for studies and finding their way around the campus and the city centre.</p>
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	<p>Tutors will contact arriving students a couple of weeks before the beginning of the semester. They will, among other things, meet the students at Jyväskylä Travel Centre (railway/bus station) when they arrive to Jyväskylä and take them to their apartments, provided that the incoming student has notified the tutor of their exact time of arrival at least one week in advance. https://www.jyu.fi/en/for-students/instructions-for-bachelors-and-masters-students/new-student-handbook/be-in-touch-with-your-tutor</p>
Free time activities	<p>Sports and exercise opportunities at JYU are almost limitless ranging from wall climbing, spinning and snowboarding to the more traditional skiing, aerobics, yoga and various ball games. For music and culture lovers the University offers many other free time activities, including performances by the University Symphony Orchestra, several choirs and bands, student theatre, and a rock club with stand-up comedy nights and improvisation theatre.</p> <p>The Student Union in cooperation with JYU's subject associations bring together students sharing the same study field and help in creating a community at the University. The associations organise various events for their members, create opportunities to influence and pursue shared interests.</p> <p>The Erasmus Student Network (ESN) organises various events, trips, parties and get-togethers for exchange students eg. the Ultimate Sauna Experience, Café Lingua, Trips to Lapland, Sweden and many more!</p> <p>More information at https://www.jyu.fi/en/for-students/instructions-for-bachelors-and-masters-students/day-to-day-life-and-free-time/activities-and-culture</p>

Summer and Winter Schools

Summer and Winter Schools at JYU	<p>JYU organizes two annual summer schools: International Summer School in Human Sciences in May-June, and Jyväskylä Summer School in August which offers courses in various fields of science. We also organize two winter schools: Winter School in Sport Sciences and Winter School in Ecology.</p> <p>More information at https://www.jyu.fi/en/study-with-us/summer-and-winter-schools.</p> <p>NB! JYU has decided not to arrange the Summer School in Human Sciences in 2025 as the programme will be undergoing some renovations. We apologise for any inconvenience this decision may cause. We will keep all of our partner universities informed about our future plans!</p>
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