

Moi! Hej! Hello! Salut! Hola!

Language and communication studies at Aalto University

Language Centre

+ Why learn Finnish?

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Aalto University Language Centre

Aims to

- Provide all students with a strong foundation in language and communication skills for success in both studies and professional life.
- Equip students with the necessary language and communication skills to
 - successfully navigate today's multicultural and multilingual environments
 - success in diverse teamwork
 - guide their own learning.



Photo: Aalto University/Unto Rautio

Teaching

Languages

Finnish, English, Swedish, Chinese, French, German, Portuguese, Spanish, Russian, Japanese

Intercultural communication

Communication and Social Interaction



Learning a new language is beneficial

- Language learning has many benefits:
 - it develops thinking skills,
 - enhances problem-solving skills,
 - increases creativity,
 - expands cultural perspectives,
 - and helps to understand the local culture, which in turn can make integration and social inclusion easier.

+ It's a lot of fun. 😊

Why learn Finnish? 1/3

- Language is key to accessing information, understanding the local culture and being able to fully enjoy life in the country.
- Understanding of the local language promotes
 - a sense of belonging in the communities around you
 - and reduces feelings of being an outsider.
- Even basic knowledge of the local language makes it easier to navigate daily life and to build social connections.

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Photo: Aleksi Poutanen/Aalto University

Why learn Finnish? 2/3

- Over time Finnish language skills become more important, for example with finding employment here.
- Finnish language skills are particularly important for career progression.
- Showing interest in learning the language and culture – and thus participating in the community – is appreciated by friends, colleagues and future employees alike.



Photo: Aalto University/Aleksi Poutanen

Why learn Finnish? 3/3

- Perceptions of language skills: a means of communication or something you either can or can not?
 - Language learning is a gradual process.
 - Even basic knowledge of the language **is** knowledge of the language.
 - Adults tend to approach learning in an analytical and systematic manner which can be helpful as well...
 - ... but to learn a language, it's important to use it in real-life situation, ask for help, embrace mistakes, and learn from them.



Photo: Aalto University/Aleksi Poutanen

Tips for learning Finnish

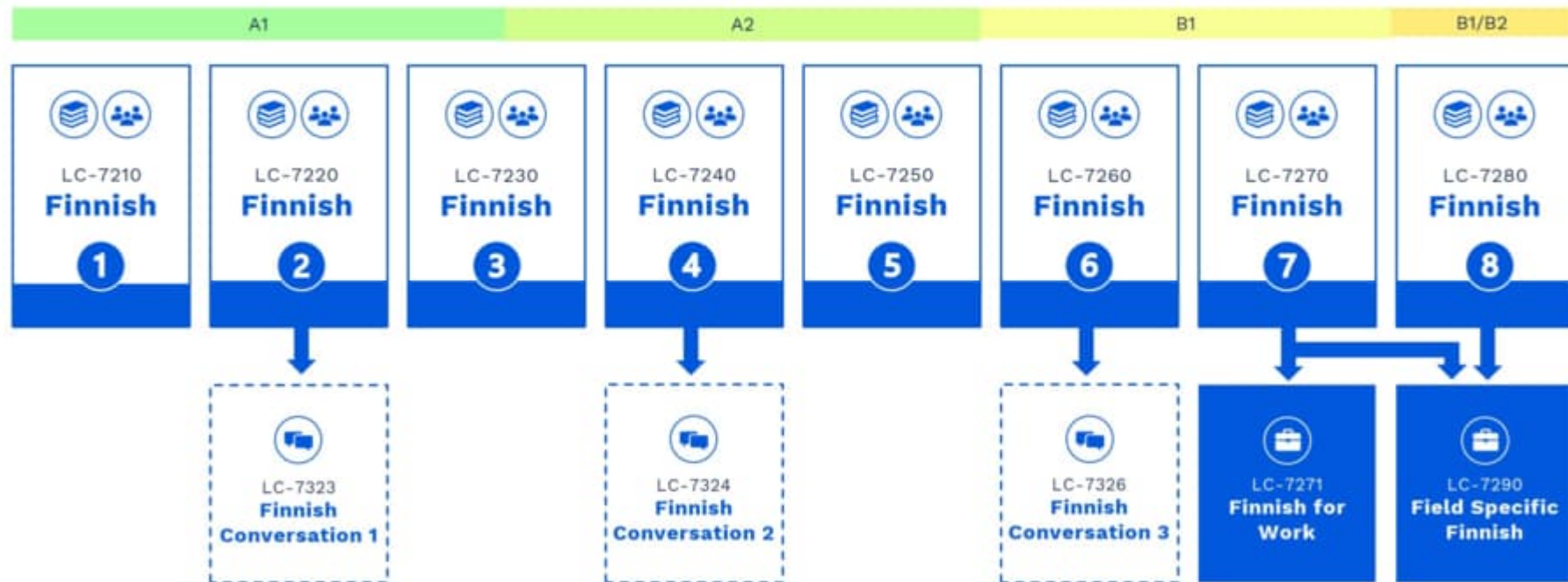
1. Begin learning **right away**. (For example, change the language of your phone to Finnish!)
2. Use Finnish every day – start with baby steps aka words such as “*moi*” and “*kiitos*”.
3. Set clear goals for own learning – what do you hope to achieve by learning Finnish?
How can you achieve this?
4. Shape your own learning experience – engage fully with the (language) resources and opportunities around you.
5. Remember that learning is a process - be proactive, ask for support, embrace mistakes and learn from them. 😊

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Examples of the Finnish courses at Aalto

- We offer Finnish courses in beginner, intermediate, and advanced level (CEFR A1-B2).
- Courses for **degree students** and one-year exchange students:
 - Finnish 1-8
 - Finnish for work / Työelämän suomi
 - Finnish for specific fields / Oman alan suomi
- We offer many implementations for the most popular courses, such Finnish 1, in every study period.
- Registration for the courses is now open and places for the courses will be confirmed after the registration period ends.

Finnish Courses



What has been said about the Finnish courses

*“What I learned in Finnish lessons is **much more than just language.**”*

*“I just took this course to learn the very basics but now I am interested in learning more and **taking it further.**”*

*“The lessons are **engaging and interesting.**”*

*“Ample amount of **talking**, the courses are **fun and interactive!**”*

*“The learning environment was **comfortable and encouraging.**”*

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Let's learn Finnish in 1 minute

Moi!

Mä oon...

I am...

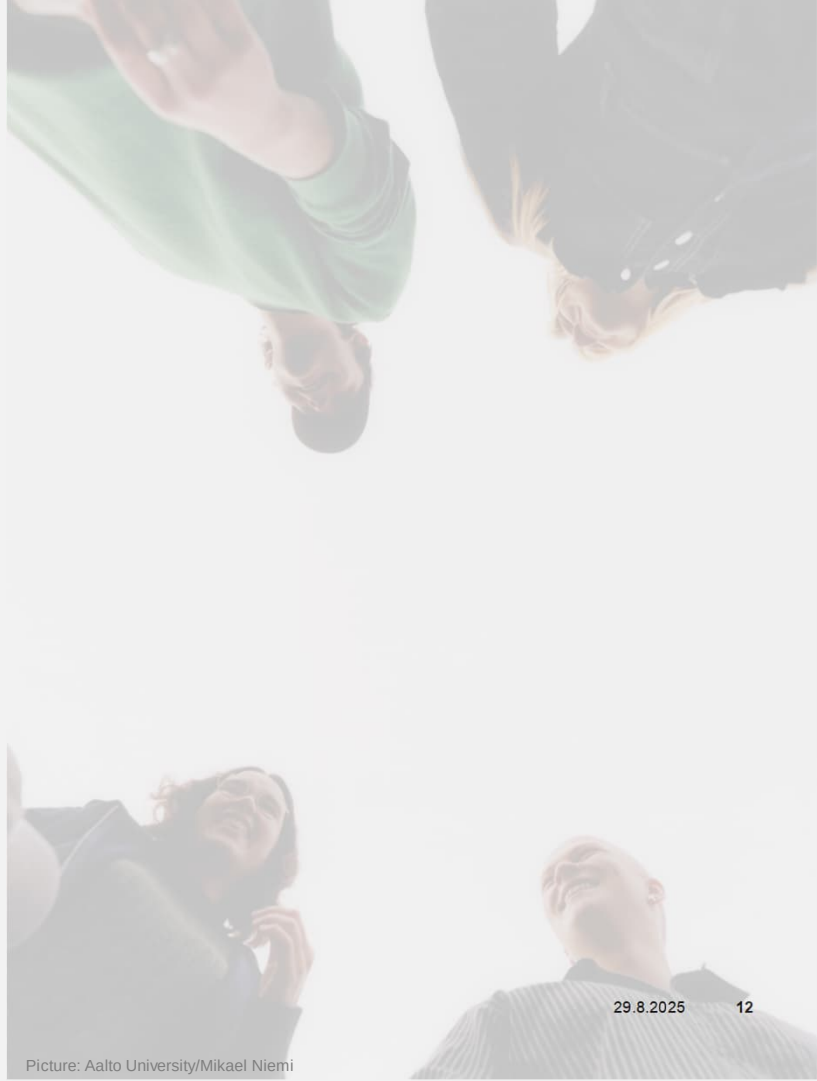
Kiva tavata!

Nice to meet you!

Samoin!

Likewise!

A!



Further information

Student guide: Language and communication
studies

Language Centre

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