

Orientation for new master students of Life Science Technologies

- Opening words and introduction of the programme
- Introduction of majors
- Introduction of Inkubio guild
- Introduction of student services, information about planning studies, and other study related topics
- Majors' sessions

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Topics

- LifeTech student services
- Planning your studies
- Personal Study Plan (HOPS)
- Other reminders

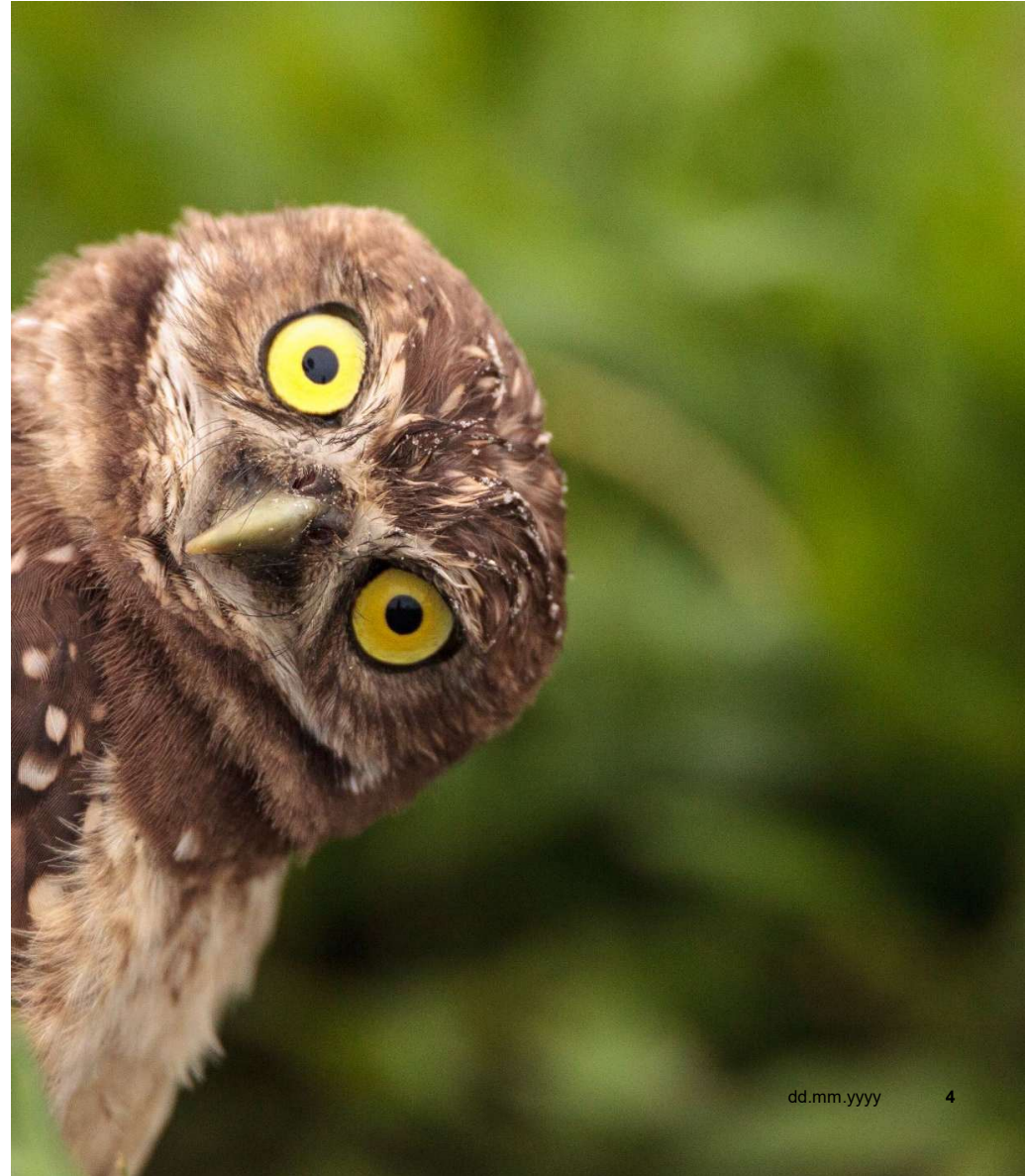
Student services of LifeTech programme

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Päivi Koivunen

Planning Officer

- Study Plan (HOPS) approval
- Credit transfer
- Exchange learning agreements
- Master's thesis process



How to contact Student Services?



Emailing sci.masters@aalto.fi (recommended)
paivi.Koivunen@aalto.fi



Book an (online or on campus) appointment in MyStudies:

<https://mystudies.aalto.fi/s/>

If you can't book an appointment at MyStudies yet, contact the planning officer by email.



Student Services are located Konemiehentie 2

Please note that we work in hybrid-mode, so always book an appointment!



Contact information in the Student guide:

<https://www.aalto.fi/en/programmes/masters-programme-in-life-science-technologies/contact>



Aalto University
School of Science

Study-related information systems at Aalto

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Study-related information systems at Aalto

- **Student guide:** <https://www.aalto.fi/en/student-guide>
You can find all the information available about your studies and the university guidelines here.
- **Sisu (Student information system):** <https://sisu.aalto.fi/>
Personal study plan (HOPS), enrolling for courses, completed courses, Transcript of Records and Certificate of Student Status.
- **MyCourses:** <https://mycourses.aalto.fi/>
Tool for everyday course work and communication. It also contains course descriptions.
- **MyStudies:** <https://mystudies.aalto.fi/s/>
Book appointment with Aalto staff (e.g., student services, study psychologists)

Degree structure

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MSc degree (120 credits)

Major (62 ECTS)

- Compulsory courses
- Optional courses

Curriculum 2026-2028

Elective studies (28 ECTS)

Curriculum 2026-2028
Planning your studies

Master's thesis (30 ECTS)

Thesis

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Master of Science (Technology) degree



Degree: 120 ECTS credits exactly or as close as possible



Exceeding courses will not appear on the diploma, but it's possible to get a transcript for all completed courses



The programme is planned to be taken in two years, but the study right is valid for four years

Planning your studies

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HOPS

- **H**enkilökohtainen
OPinto**S**uunnitelma
= Personal Study Plan
- Your degree = courses in your approved HOPS
- The first HOPS does not need to be the final one
- You can only enrol on courses that are in your primary study plan
- Remember to keep your HOPS up-to-date!



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Plan your studies



- Follow the curriculum.
- Check also Planning your studies –page.
- Consider the following questions:
 - What do I want from my studies?
 - What skills do I want to develop?
 - What are my career goals?
- Create your HOPS in Sisu

HOPS process



- Make your preliminary HOPS for the whole degree at beginning your studies.
- **You can change and edit the plan during your studies.**
- While selecting the courses for your degree, you should also schedule your studies in Sisu's Timeline function.
- Scheduling your studies helps you to balance the workload between autumn/spring terms.
- You can register on the courses even before the HOPS is approved.

Get approval



- Some parts of HOPS require approval, and those parts are followed by text “Approval required”
- Elective studies:
 - If you are not yet completely sure about your course choices, you can apply for approval in Sisu later also.
 - Don't apply for approval in Sisu, if you haven't done all the selections for that part.

Students with Aalto scholarship need to have HOPS completed and approved by 30 October.

Planning your studies: teaching period and recommended year of completion

Code	Course name	ECTS	Teaching
Compulsory courses (12 ECTS)			
JOIN-E3300	Life Science Technologies	2	I English, 1. year
NBE-E4070	Basics of Biomedical Data Analysis	5	I-II English, 1. or 2. year
TU-E4350	Technology Entrepreneurship	5	I-II English, 1. or 2. year

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Compulsory language studies

Compulsory language studies

According to the Universities Act, students must take certain language studies in their degree

Compulsory language studies

BSc degree from Finland

- language studies completed in the BSc degree → no language studies required in MSc degree

Compulsory language studies

BSc degree abroad

1. comprehensive and upper secondary education abroad
→ 3 credits of foreign language studies
2. comprehensive and/or upper secondary education in Finland → studies in the language of education, second national language and foreign language may be required

Compulsory language studies

Information about the language requirement will be sent by email in September

Language studies are included in the elective studies.

Compulsory language studies

Foreign language

- Not Finnish or Swedish
- 3 credits
- Both oral and written part
 - Courses with letters O and W after the name of the course meet the criteria
 - English recommended, but other languages accepted

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Compulsory language studies

- Excellent command of English → 3 credits of Finnish or 3 credits of Swedish instead
- Basic courses accepted

Elective studies

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Elective studies

As elective studies, you can

- select additional courses from your major
- Select courses from other LifeTech majors
- select individual courses from other programmes at Aalto University
- select a minor
- select individual courses from University of Helsinki via Ripa agreement (only BME and NEURO students)
- participate in an international student exchange programme
<https://www.aalto.fi/en/other-studies/exchange-studies>
- include 1-10 ECTS of work experience completed in Finland or abroad.

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Elective studies

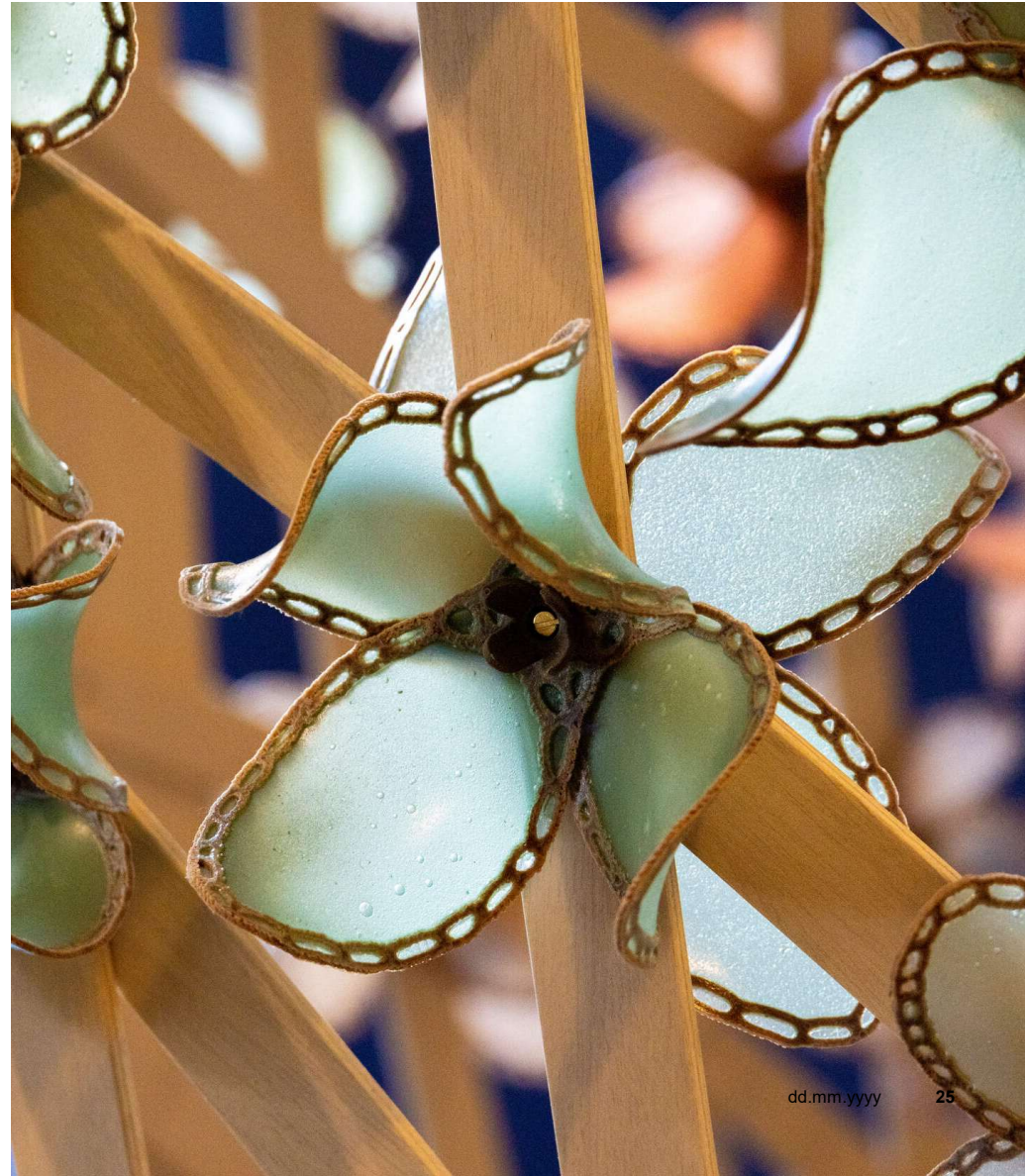
- You can complete studies also outside your own field of study
- All courses are not open to all Aalto students! (Mainly applies to Aalto ARTS courses)
- As a student, you are responsible for checking whether there are any prerequisites for taking a course or a minor
- In practice, a maximum limit on the number of participants may limit course access.
- Information on limits to course size and on the order of priority is available on the course information sheet.



Elective studies

- Elective studies must be university level studies that fulfill the degree requirements and in general, studies that are offered as degree studies at the university in question.
- Universities also offer courses that are targeted for a larger audience. The suitability of these studies is evaluated taking into consideration the learning outcomes of the degree that the courses are planned to be included in.

→ *If you plan to complete Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), please contact Päivi via (sci.masters@aalto.fi) beforehand.*



Important reminders

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Remember to:

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- Follow your Aalto e-mail!
- Read the student newsletter

Questions?

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NEXT: Major specific sessions

- Bioinformatics and Digital Health (Harri Lähdesmäki)
- Biosensing and Bioelectronics (Tomi Laurila)
- Complex Systems (Mikko Kivelä)
- Biomedical Engineering (Matias Palva) & Human Neuroscience and Technology (Linda Henriksson)

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Kiitos
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