

# A guide to Master's studies

for BScBA students

This guide contains information on all of the Master's programs offered at the Aalto University School of Business. It also includes other options to take into consideration after completing your studies at Mikkeli Campus.

Although the final decision on the Master's program you'll choose to continue your studies in is done after finishing the Bachelor's degree, it is highly advisable to start planning your studies as early as possible. Certain Master's programmes have a minimum GPA and/or course prerequisites for students to be eligible to select them.

More information on the criteria and courses required for the Master's programs are found on <u>Into pages</u> of the BSc Programme in International Business. If you have questions or you need advice, please contact Mari Syväoja in the Mikkeli campus study office.

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#### **Master's Programmes**

The Aalto University School of Business offers the following Master's programmes:

- · Accounting
- · Business Analytics
- Economics
- Finance
- · Information and Service Management
- Marketing
- People Management and Organizational Development
- · Strategic Management in a Changing World
- · Yritysjuridiikka (Business Law; in Finnish)

In addition there are three MSc programmes with a separate admission process:

- · Creative Sustainability
- · International Design Business Management
- Global Management (CEMS)

The language of teaching in all other Master's programmes than Business Law is English, but there may be some courses in Finnish as well. Business Law (Yritysjuridiikka) is taught in Finnish.

#### **Selecting the Master's programme**

When applying for the Bachelor's diploma, the student informs the Mikkeli study office of which Master's programme they would like to continue in. A Bachelor's student does not have a study right to any of the MSc programmes until after completing the BSc degree and graduating. MSc programmes can have some preconditions, which BSc graduates must fulfil in order to enter the particular programme (see p. 18).

The student is allowed to follow either the criteria on force at the time when the student's study right begins in the School of Business or newer.

#### Other useful resources

After reading this guide there are several resources that can be used to look for additional as well as more specific information.

Continuing to Master's programmes: into.aalto.fi/display/enbscba/
Continuing+to+Masters+programs

All Master's programmes on aalto.fi: aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/get-a-degree-in-business





Master's Programme in Accounting prepares students for producing, analyzing, interpreting, and communicating financial, non-financial and sustainability-related information to control and manage organizations operating in the modern highly digitalized environment.

Topics in financial accounting focus on the preparation and use of financial statement –related information serving the needs of firms' external stakeholders, especially the debt and equity holders. The core topics covered in this area include financial statement analysis, theories of financial statements, international and national accounting standards, issues in group accounting and consolidated financial statements, as well as auditing theory and practice.

Topics in management accounting focus on the preparation and use of financial and non-financial information serving the needs of managerial control and decision-making. The core topics covered in this area include performance management, strategic management accounting, capital investment decisions, and financial planning.

Accounting for sustainability serves the information needs of both internal and external stakeholders regarding environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues. Reporting, measuring, controlling, and assuring ESG impacts is essential for ensuring sustainable decision-making. In addition, our Master's Programme in Accounting offers students relevant knowledge of and expertise in data analytics, risk management, and corporate governance, as well as different research methodologies.

#### **Comments from faculty**

Our M.Sc. programme in Accounting gives you key expertise and general management skills on how to produce and use information – for managing organizations, for communicating to stakeholders and for striving towards a better society.

Accounting is at the heart of every business and a critical part of planning and decision-making for sustainable business.

#### **Career prospects**

After graduation you face an international job market of multiple possibilities. Depending on your orientation, you would start as a Business Controller / Financial Controller, Junior Consultant, Financial Analyst or Associate Auditor. But you could end up one day being a Partner in an audit firm or Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in a multinational organization – or, since we keep an eye on your general management skills, being even the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a company.

#### Comments from students/alumni

"Today I have the confidence in myself and my skills: I believe I can figure anything out. This is one of the key mindset shifts shaped by my studies at Aalto and I know this will set me up for success... for life."

"Master's studies at Aalto provided me with a solid foundation in financial reporting, as well as great opportunities for connecting with professionals from a variety of companies – everything needed for starting my career in the field."

#### Sample courses

22E00100 Financial Statement Analysis 22E24000 Performance Management 22E21000 Auditing - Theory and Practice ABL-E1300 Big Data Analysis in Accounting 22E29100 Accounting for Sustainability

#### Typical job titles

Business Controller, Financial Controller, Financial Analyst, Auditor, Management Consultant, or Chief Financial Officer

The Master's Programme in Business Analytics combines leadership, business, and technology. It provides you with in-depth knowledge on data-based decision-making, analytics, and business intelligence and allows you to specialise in different business domains. Graduates are critical thinkers who analyse business decisions based on data.

#### **Comments from faculty**

# What makes Business Analytics a good major for students with a background in international business?

Knowing data management and analytics is relevant for all business leaders and top experts regardless of their background so you can utilize the knowledge and skills gained in the programme in various jobs and organisations. The core courses include studies in business analytics, programming, and data management and in addition, you will choose a specialization area among Marketing Analytics, Supply Chain Analytics, Accounting Analytics, and HR Analytics.

# What skills and competencies are needed in the programme?

We are looking for analytical-minded students who are willing to learn and to develop their skills in programming, statistics, and mathematics.

#### **Career prospects**

There is a strong demand for analytics students with strong business knowledge and it will only grow in the future. You will have good chance of being employed already during your studies. In the later career stages the ability to understand data and analytics gives you a unique advantage to advance to top management positions. Courses are organized in collaboration with companies and alumni which gives you the opportunity to work on real-life cases and network already during your studies.

#### Sample courses

ISM-E1004 Business Analytics II 30E03000 Data Science for Business 30E03500 Capstone: Data Science for Business II

21E00052 Data-Driven Business

#### Typical job titles

Business Analyst
Data Analyst
Business Intelligence Specialist
Quantitative Marketing Analyst
Product Analyst
Consultant



The programme qualifies you both to understand the connection between micro- and macroeconomic questions and to see the causality between such questions.

In addition, the programme equips you with appropriate econometric and mathematical analytical tools to address economic issues and problems. You will learn to analyse, organise and effectively communicate your analyses.

Aalto University is part of Helsinki Graduate School of Economics (Helsinki GSE). This long-term cooperative arrangement between the Department of Economics at the Aalto University School of Business, the Disciplines of Economics and Environmental Economics at the University of Helsinki and the Department of Economics at Hanken School of Economics allows students to take economics courses from each of the three Helsinki GSE universities with a minimum of paperwork.

#### **Comments from faculty**

# What makes economics a good major for students with a background in international business?

A combination of studies in international business and economics provides a good background for those who are interested in careers in international corporations and organizations and in government agencies or who want to pursue doctoral-level studies in economics.

International business studies give an understanding of the operations of firms, and economics provides a broader picture of the environment of the firms, for example international trade and development, competition between the firms, and monetary and fiscal policy.

# What skills and competencies are needed in the program?

Economic studies at the master's level require that the students have studied, besides intermediate-level microeconomics and macroeconomics, also quantitative methods, especially econometrics and mathematical methods of economics. In addition, the ability to use statistical software is required.

#### **Career prospects**

As a graduate of Economics, you will have broad career prospects in areas that require strong economic expertise and analytical skills.

Examples of positions held by our graduates in firms, the financial sector, research institutes, public administration, and international organizations include: economist, specialist, analyst and consultant.

The programme also gives you a good background for doctoral studies in economics.

#### Comments from students/alumni

"Studying Economics was one of the best decisions of my life, giving me the tools to apply my knowledge in a variety of fields".

"Studying Economics at Aalto has landed me in my dream job: Making an impact on our society through evidence-based policy-making."

#### Sample courses

31E99906 Capstone: Microeconomic Policy 31E23000 Macroeconomics: Policy 31E00910 Applied Microeconometrics I 31E15000 Development Economics I 31E16000 Development Economics II

#### Typical job titles

Economist Analyst Expert



The Master's Programme in Finance at Aalto University offers an exciting curriculum spanning various topics including corporate finance, (alternative) investments, mergers and acquisitions, behavioural finance, sustainability, fixed income, entrepreneurial finance, fintech, and financial econometrics. Students can select minor and elective studies from numerous other disciplines including Economics, Accounting, Analytics and Data Science, and (Financial) Engineering. Students selected into the programme share high academic potential, ambition, and an analytical mindset, making Finance graduates an extremely attractive talent pool for global employers in the financial sector and beyond. The programme also provides an excellent preparation for the world's leading PhD programmes.

#### **Comments from faculty**

# What makes finance a good major for students with a background in international business?

Finance is a dynamic and global sector filled with challenging career opportunities in e.g. international banking and management consultancy. The Finance Master's Programme provides the opportunity to develop a solid scientific approach to financial problems in a dynamic and demanding but supportive, learning-centered environment.

The Master's Programme in Finance gives you a solid theoretical and practical skill set that will help you work successfully in a world where financial services are global, significant to the economy, and in constant change – and where the financial environment is increasingly aware of system-wide risks, conflicts of interest, and regulatory challenges.

# What skills and competencies are needed in the program?

Students selected to the Master's Programme in Finance should feel comfortable with quantitative analysis and be equipped with basic econometric skills. Furthermore, in constantly evolving financial markets, successful students should be able to adapt to a changing environment and display out of the box thinking.

#### **Career prospects**

As a graduate of Finance, you will have broad career prospects. Our students have an excellent placement record in the job market.

Finance graduates often find their first jobs in the financial industry (e.g. investment and commercial banks, brokerage firms, mutual fund companies, and insurance companies), but also within other industries, management consulting companies, and in the public sector.

#### Sample courses

28E34600	Portfolio	Management
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28E29000 Advanced Corporate Finance

28E00900 Fixed Income

28E33000 Capstone: Mergers and

Acquisitions for Finance

FIN-E0307 Behavioral and Sustainable Finance

28E35700 Capstone: Alternative Investments

FIN-E0309 Entrepreneurial Finance

#### Typical job titles

Analyst

Director

Manager

Associate

CFO



The Master's Programme in Information and Service Management (ISM) gives you in-depth expertise in developing and managing information-based services – one of the primary growth areas of advanced economies.

The interdisciplinary programme has a strong emphasis on data analysis and project management. The skills you learn will help you analyse the ever-growing supply of information, as well as manage digital business operations and deploy new technologies.

#### **Comments from faculty**

# What makes ISM a good major for students with a background in international business?

The importance of knowledge work is increasing in all disciplines. The studies in our program combine excellently business analytics and opportunities created by modern information systems, especially in operations management. The new logistics services based on extensive usage of IS, and data analyses serve as a good example of this.

### What skills and competencies are needed in the program?

We expect good command of business studies. We appreciate willingness to learn and to develop one's analytical and programming skills, as well as interest in possibilities of digital technologies to change organizations and their processes.

#### **Career prospects**

Graduates of our program have found employment extremely well, and the skill and knowledge they have is needed in business both now and in the future. Upon graduating our students can operate in the international information and service business, as well as in high technology enterprises.

The programme prepares students to work in managerial, expert-level and development assignments of diverse business tasks, for instance, as a specialist in risk management and analytical decision-making, or as

an independent entrepreneur. Students concentrating on information systems work as information systems managers, or as experts or consultants in information system and e-business development.

Examples of companies that have employed our students include Google, Microsoft, Bain & Company, Kone, and Supercell.

#### Comments from students/alumni

"The Master's Programme in Information and Service Management complements the Bachelor's degree in international business very nicely. The studies are more technical and allow a student to learn very valuable quantitative tools and methods."

"There is a lot to choose from when it comes to courses. One can easily concentrate on mathematical topics in Business Analytics or combine it with courses from the Information Systems Science track, which concentrates also on the softer skills needed in consulting and project management."

#### Sample courses

57E00550	Capstone: Business Intelligence
30E03000	Data Science for Business 1
37E00200	Strategic Information Technology
	Management
30E00400	Simulation
CS-E5710	Bayesian Data Analysis
CS-E4710	Machine Learning: Supervised
	Methods

#### Typical job titles

Business Analyst
Management Consulting Analyst
Project Manager
Logistics Manager
Business Development Consultant
Data Analyst
Service Designer
Digital Strategy Consultant



Markets have become truly global, and digitalisation further accelerates the global flow of products and services, breaking barriers for market entry. Digital technologies also revolutionise the ways in which organisations interact with customers and identify customer needs. Thus, organisations must embrace customer-centricity and see marketing as a strategic imperative. Marketing graduates have:

- A customer-centric view of business. Graduates gain a deep understanding of customer behaviour and consumer culture at large.
- A strategic approach & analytical skill set. Graduates are strategic thinkers with the ability to connect customer and market insights with strategic decision-making. They learn to apply a variety of methods and data sources to analyse the potential success of marketing activities.
- Creative problem-solving skills. Graduates approach business and societal challenges from a human perspective and are able to present ideas to address them.
- Ability to leverage technology. Graduates possess a strong analytical skill set and understanding of how technology can help identify customer needs and improve marketing-related business processes.
- A strong research skill set. Graduates use methodological tools and apply academic research literature in the area of marketing.

Upon graduating from the Marketing programme, graduates are able to manage, develop and lead the strategic marketing efforts of global organisations.

#### **Comments from faculty**

The programme focuses on three central domains in marketing. This three-way structure forms the core of your degree and is compulsory for all, with each domain comprising a number of specialisation courses of your choice. You will, at a minimum, complete one course from each domain. The programme builds your skill in three central domains of study in marketing:

 Customers – courses in this domain deal with theories and methods for developing insights about customers and markets.

- Strategy courses in this domain deal with theories and frameworks that merge marketing thought with strategic management.
- Technology & Analytics courses in this domain deal with the intersection of digital technologies, data analytics, and marketing.

Upon graduating from the Marketing programme, you will be able to:

- Develop actionable insights about customers and consumption-related phenomena.
- Analyze companies' sources of competitive advantage from a customer-centric viewpoint.
- Understand how technological change in and around marketing shapes the work of marketers, and the ways in which market-oriented companies operate.
- Use methodological tools and apply academic research literature in marketing research.

#### **Career prospects**

The job market is seeking talent that understands how global trends such as digitalisation, globalisation and circular economy affect a company's core business, strategy and brand. Thus, the Master's Programme in Marketing prepares you for a wide range of career opportunities from marketing-related specialist roles to more general positions as well as leadership, expert, and management positions.

#### Sample courses

23E28000 Consumer Culture 23E48000 Consumer Psychology 23E21050 Marketing, Strategy and Firm

Performance
Digital Marketing
Marketing Analytics

#### Typical job titles

Expert
Marketing Manager
Consultant
Brand Manager

The Master's Programme in People Management and Organizational Development aims to educate responsible professionals and future leaders who can successfully manage human resources (HR) and develop business operations in a fast-changing world. The programme is characterized by a multidisciplinary approach and it draws on management and leadership theories, psychology, social psychology, communication studies, and sociology.

#### **Comments from faculty**

# What makes People Management and Organizational Development a good major for students with a background in international business?

People Management and Organizational Development programme is a great choice for all students who are interested in learning how to re-think organizations, leadership, and the future of work. The theoretical knowledge is combined with a strong practical orientation, and the studies are built around challenge-and project-based learning. The courses include real-life cases, guest lectures, and consultancy-type projects for organisations. The programme is highly interactive, and the participants learn to use both theory and practical tools to develop evidence-based solutions to organizational challenges.

Students of the programme have the chance to complete a double degree programme with the University of Queensland (Australia) or University of South Carolina (USA). In the double degree programme, you will spend one year at Aalto and one year in the partner university and gain two Master's degrees.

# What skills and competencies are needed in the programme?

We are looking for students with good conceptual skills as well as good written and oral communication skills. Reflective skills are also highly appreciated. The programme is aimed at students with different backgrounds such as business and economics,

industrial engineering, law and social sciences so if you wish to study in a multidisciplinary group, this programme is for you.

#### **Career prospects**

There is a strong demand for people management and organizational development experts who have a business studies background. The graduates will have a strategic mindset and a data-oriented attitude that are needed in the working life everywhere. In addition to businesses, this programme prepares you for careers in public organizations and NGOs.

#### Sample courses

Leading Yourself, Teams, and Organizations Managing Organizational Behaviour People Management Practices and Tools Organizational Development People and Organizational Analytics Strategic People Management

#### Typical job titles

HR Specialist
Organizational Learning and Development
Specialist
Recruitment Consultant
HR Manager
Business Development Director



The Master's Programme in Strategic Management combines business, sustainability, and entrepreneurship and teaches students how to develop effective strategy in a rapidly changing world and how to bring an entrepreneurial mindset into their organizations.

#### **Comments from faculty**

# What makes Strategic Management in a Changing World a good major for students with a background in international business?

In this programme, you will study strategic management, quantitative analysis, and business decision-making, with sustainability as an overarching theme. You will also have the possibility to broaden your expertise in International Business. All students major in Strategic Management in a Changing World, but you can also choose electives to specialise in:

- · Advanced strategy
- · Sustainability
- Entrepreneurship
- · International Business

The students learn how to make sense of an increasingly complex world so that you can continuously update your organisation's strategy, keeping it geared towards success. The programme structure is backed by teaching methods – such as the use of cases, industry partnerships, and accessible faculty – that help you get the most out of your studies.

### What skills and competencies are needed in the programme?

We are looking for curious students who want to understand the world broadly and who are interested in combining strategy, entrepreneurship, and sustainability in their studies.

#### **Career prospects**

Graduates are analytical decision-makers who can identify valuable business opportunities by evaluating of complex global megatrends such as sustainability, digitalization, and globalization. You will have diverse career opportunities in e.g. consulting. The skills you learn will be needed in both large corporations and smaller companies.

#### Sample courses

Strategy in Action
Strategy Communication
International Strategy
Sustainability in Global Value Chains
Megatrends as Entrepreneurial Opportunities
Social Innovation

#### Typical job titles

Industry Analyst
Business Analyst
Sustainability Analyst
Product-line or Regional Manager
Business Development Associate
Strategic Planner



# The Master's Programme in Business Law (Yritysjuridiikka) is offered only in Finnish.

In business life, the importance of mastering the legal regulation of business operations is becoming more important every day. As the risks in a company's operating environment increase, so does the demand for business professionals understanding the dynamics between the legal environment and the business operations.

The Master's Programme in Business Law provides students with in-depth skills and competences in the areas of business economics and business law. The programme educates business professionals who also master the complex legal environment of the company.

The teaching and courses of Business Law focus on providing the students with skills of managing the legal viewpoints related to contracting and control of collaterals, entrepreneurship, company forms, securities markets, IPRs, competition rules, taxation and tax challenges of corporations. The programme is tought mainly in Finnish.

Master's Programme in Business Law educates professionals who are able to recognize the rights and obligations of employer and employee, the significance of taxation on a company's operations and the legal and practical conditions that must be noted during contracting.

As a student graduating in business law, you have learned to master the legal norms of the operating environment and are able to control the legal correctness of the compliance of the company. But most importantly, you are able to apply your expertise strategically – manage to gain strategic and tactical added value by applying legal advice.

#### **Career prospects**

The Master's programme in Business Law does not educate professionals competing on the same work tasks with graduates completing a traditional law degree related to applying legal norms. Instead, a degree in business law provides the students with more profound knowledge than the traditional legal degree, related to the regulation of business. The education is also closely linked with knowledge of business economics.

Our students of business law have been well employed as specialists or consultants in tasks commonly related to financial administration, accounting and auditing. The wide range of work tasks of MSc's in Business Law includes also contracting, marketing, financing operations and many other fields of business.

#### Sample courses

32E29000 European and International Tax Law

ABL-E2610 Kirianpito-oikeus

ABL-E2612 Entrepreneurship in Practice

ABL-E2603 Liikesopimukset

ABL-E2602 Kilpailuoikeus ja digitaaliset markkinat

#### Typical job titles

Specialist Consultant

# Programmes with separate admission processes

#### **General information**

The School of Business offers three Master's Programmes that have a separate admission process:

- · Creative Sustainability
- · Global Management (including CEMS)
- International Design Business Management

A student graduating from Mikkeli can apply to one of these. If a student accepts a study place from one of these three programmes, the student will then start in the new programme instead of the one to which they transferred from Mikkeli. The old study right will be forfeited when the new study right begins (i.e. in the beginning of August).

This has several implications for international students who have studied in Mikkeli with or without a scholarship. Please see the section Tuition Fees (p.22) for more information.

#### How to apply

The programmes have different requirements, application documents and schedules.

#### Please check:

The Aalto University's Master's admissions website for more information on applying and deadlines: aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/applying-to-masters-programmes

Study option pages for the programme-specific requirements:

aalto.fi/en/study-options

### Joint programmes:

# **Creative Sustainability and International Design Business Management**

The Master's Programmes in Creative Sustainability (CS) and International Design Business Management (IDBM) are joint, multidisciplinary programmes of Aalto University schools from all Aalto study fields (Art and Design; Science and Technology; and Business and Economics).

School of Business students graduate with a Master of Science (MSc) in Economics and Business Administration.

#### **CEMS MIM**

## (Global Management Master's programme or Add-on CEMS MIM)

CEMS is a global alliance of academic and corporate institutions that jointly offer the CEMS Master's in International Management (MIM) programme. CEMS MIM equips students with the skills and know-how needed to thrive in tomorrow's global business environment. After completing their studies, students in the programme are awarded a CEMS diploma in addition to their Aalto University Master's degree.

The Aalto University School of Business offers two options for students interested in the prestigious CEMS MIM:

- A) Add-on model CEMS MIM (66 ECTS)
- B) 2-year Global Management (incl. CEMS MIM) (120 ECTS)



# Creative Sustainability

#### **Programme description**

The Master's Programme in Creative Sustainability (CS) provides you with the skills and knowledge to promote sustainable development through business – a highly important topic in contemporary organizations.

Sustainability challenges related to issues such as climate change, loss of biodiversity, or poverty and inequality are at the heart of our society. The multidisciplinary Creative Sustainability Master's programme prepares you to respond to these challenges through its international and multidisciplinary learning platform in the fields of business, design, and material science.

As a Master's student at the School of Business you will enhance your competences in multidisciplinarity, systems thinking, project management, and business management. Upon graduation from the CS programme, you will have a unique and competative professional profile which combines focused knowledge on sustainability with widely applicable general skills in management, design, and communications.

Pedagogically the CS programme emphasizes challenge-based learning, the integration of teaching and research, and a strong connection to practical outcomes. Teaching methods range from interactive classroom lessons to group assignments and practical projects carried out for partner organizations that can be e.g. business enterprises, NGOs or other associations or public organizations.

## What makes Creative Sustainability a good major for International Business students?

The Creative Sustainability programme offers you the possibility to broaden the multicultural and international perspectives of your studies towards increased multidisciplinarity and a special window towards global and local sustainability challenges.

The CS programme combines business aspects with design thinking, built environment with global technologies, and practical project work with solid theoretical discussions on sustainability. It allows you to study and develop solutions for and business opportunities for sustainability problems in human, urban, industrial and business environments. During your studies you may collaborate with research projects, companies and other organizations, and students from

other disciplines and schools. The CS programme has been awarded the EIT Climate-KIC programme label, and if you want to specialize in issues relating to climate innovation and receive an additional certificate for this, you can apply for Climate-KIC studies once accepted in the CS programme.

#### What skills are needed in the program?

CS programme is looking for students who are willing to analyze complex problems, develop systemic solutions, work in multidisciplinary teams, and challenge themselves with practical learning tasks.

#### **Comments from students**

"This programme is perfect for you if you are interested in looking at difficult and pressing issues from many different (and sometimes opposing) perspectives, if you want to have your thoughts challenged and if you want to be surrounded by passionate people with different educational backgrounds."

#### **Career prospects**

Sustainability considerations arise in every organization and thus there are several possible career options for someone with expertise on sustainability in business. As a sustainability specialist you can work in multinational companies and other large organizations, as a consultant, in start-ups and as an entrepreneur, or you may deal with sustainability issues in business from positions in NGOs or the public sector.

#### Typical job titles

Consultant Specialist Entrepreneur Manager

#### Sample courses

Design Approaches to Sustainable Consumption State of the World and Development Accounting for Sustainability Sustainability Politics Sustainability in Business

Are you interested in building a successful international career? The Global Management programme (GM) with CEMS MIM prepares students to operate responsibly and successfully in influential decision-maker positions in tomorrow's global business environment.

The programme offers students two highly prestigious qualifications: MSc in Economics and Business Administration granted by the Aalto University School of Business and the consistently high-ranking CEMS Master's in International Management (MIM) granted by CEMS, the Global Alliance in Management Education.

In the first year of studies, students will develop a solid foundation in e.g. political economy, business analytics, strategy, and financial management. Students also write their 20 ECTS Master's thesis in the first year. The second year of the programme focuses on CEMS MIM studies. Students spend either fall or spring term of the second year in another CEMS school.

#### **Comments from faculty**

The GM programme with CEMS MIM has a fixed, carefully designed curriculum, and it calls for ambitious, internationally minded students interested in growing professionally as well as personally to assume ethical and responsible leadership roles in the future.

You learn to solve interdisciplinary problems in an international context and are encouraged to adopt an analytical and critical approach in lectures, discussions and project works. The CEMS Corporate and Social Partners actively contribute to numerous curricular activities, such as real-life course cases, business projects and seminars on practical skills.

#### The CEMS experience

The majority of the CEMS elements in the Global Management programme are completed during the second year of studies, the 'MIM year'. Please see the CEMS MIM section on the next page.

#### **Career prospects**

The career prospects of CEMS MIM graduates are excellent. According to the 2018 survey, 96% of CEMS

graduates were employed or continuing their studies within 3 months of graduation. Almost half of them work outside of their home country and 75 % work for a multinational company. The most popular sectors are Consulting, Finance, Technology and Consumer Goods.

#### Comments from students/alumni

"In CEMS you get an opportunity to learn how to build both economically and environmentally sustainable businesses in a multicultural world."

"Through CEMS I have gained a broader perspective on strategic issues, rather than just a deep-dive in only one field."

"CEMS has enabled me to work effectively in an international multicultural environment and to make decisions and take responsibility for them in an uncertain world, and most of all, learn more about and gain respect for social diversity."

#### **Admissions**

Everyone applies to this programme during the annual Master's admissions process. The list of the eligibility criteria as well as information about application and admission for the Global Management programme can be found on the programme website. Please also check the general Aalto MSc admissions process and instructions. Students graduating from the Aalto University Mikkeli Bachelor's programme belong to the admissions group 1, and they are not required to submit additional proof of English proficiency.

#### Sample courses

Global Political Economy
Data Analytics for Managers
Strategic Marketing in Global Context

#### Typical job titles

Business Analyst Consultant Marketing/Operations Manager Specialist



Consistently ranked among the top in the world by the Financial Times and the Economics, the CEMS Master's in International Management (MIM) unites multinational companies and international-caliber professors from business schools. The global CEMS alliance of 34 academic and close to 80 corporate institutions and NGOs combines forces to jointly offer the MIM programme to ca. 1300 students annually.

CEMS MIM experience equips students with the skills and know-how needed to thrive in tomorrow's global business environment. The 'MIM year' includes CEMS courses, an extensive business project, an exchange semester at another CEMS university, international internship, and seminars familiarizing the students with skills required in working life.

Students enrolled in one of Aalto University's study programmes can apply for the 1-year Add-on CEMS MIM (66 ECTS) to be completed in parallel with their regular Aalto MSc studies. For Aalto University School of Business students, the CEMS exchange forms the MSc minor studies module. Usually, many other MIM elements can also be simultaneously used towards the regular Aalto MSc. Thus, the MIM year helps advance both degrees.

#### **Comments from faculty**

CEMS studies are characterised by intensive collaboration among the diverse members of the CEMS network: bright students, active alumni, international companies, accomplished academics and more. CEMS MIM challenges students to actively put their skills into practice by providing them valuable opportunities to solve real-life business problems and discuss their solutions with specialists from multinational corporations. For example business projects, real-life cases, company visits and skill seminars are organised in intensive collaboration with the CEMS Corporate and Social partners.

#### Comments from students/alumni

In addition to acquiring knowledge and a wide skill set, you can build a lifelong network of contacts with your

fellow students at Aalto and around the world, which helps you to build a successful career. Outside the academic activities, your student life is enriched by the activities of the CEMS Club. The CEMS experience continues even beyond graduation in the global alumni network with close to 17 000 alumni with 108 nationalities working in 75+ countries.

"The programme is unique as it focuses on both excellent academic education and a wide range of soft skills, a combination that is extremely helpful for my future career."

-Anh Phuong Huynh, CEMS Student 2016-2017

"Getting an opportunity to study in CEMS means getting an opportunity to learn how to build both economically and environmentally sustainable businesses in a multicultural and dynamic world."

-Linda Tenho, CEMS Student 2016-2017

"The combination of an opportunity to develop new skills, get practical experience, and experience living abroad, and interacting with other CEMS MIM students and corporate partners is unique."

-Janne Aartolahti, CEMS Student 2016-2017

#### **Admissions**

To be eligible for this option, the applicant must be either a Master's level student or in the last year of their Bachelor's studies at Aalto University, continuing directly to Master's level studies (any programme) before 1 August.

The list of other eligibility criteria as well as information about application and admission for the Add-on CEMS MIM can be found on the programme website. Students graduating from the Aalto University Mikkeli Bachelor's programme are not required to submit additional proof of English proficiency.

#### Sample courses

CEMS Global Strategy CEMS Global Leadership CEMS Global Citizenship

**CEMS Business Project** 

# International Design Business Management

#### **Programme description**

The International Design Business Management (IDBM) programme is a unique teaching and research platform of all Aalto University schools that produces drivers of change and innovation to lead initiatives and undertake new business ventures within global environments. The programme embraces design broadly as a method, mind-set and competitive advantage by focusing on product, service and business design, technology and innovation management. At the core of the programme is one semester Industry Project where multidisciplinary student teams work together on real-life challenges provided by industry partners.

## What skills and competencies are needed in the program?

IDBM welcomes students with varying backgrounds to join the programme. The students are expected to have a passion for design and strong interest to work in multicultural and multidisciplinary environment. Qualities we are looking for: open-mindedness, growth mindset, can do -attitude!

#### **Career prospects**

IDBM studies prepare you for a career in the creative industries and in organizations that draw on creativity, design and technology as key components of their competitive positioning. These career opportunities exist both in large multinationals and in small start-ups, in a variety of fields. These businesses typically leverage design to create new products and services, often involving the latest technology and business venturing and entrepreneurship. These activities have been further supported by the vibrant start-up communities in Aalto University.

#### Comments from students/alumni

"The BScBA programme in Mikkeli helped me to develop a knowledge base and a set of professional skills in business. However, in my Master's studies I wanted to expand my business competences by bringing in design and technology perspectives – something that has later proved to be highly useful in my career. If you think about the best products or services, they are in essence the trifecta of desirability, feasibility and viability. The IDBM

programme provided me with a skillset to address and lead these fundamentals and initiatives - and as a bonus I gained killer project management skills!"

"In IDBM I became equipped with skills and tools in design and innovation management, as well as business model, brand and product development. The programme provided me with know-how to assess market opportunities – something that's a key part of my role as a brand manager."

"As a brand manager you have to be able to see and analyze things holistically and outside your own box, because something that is great from a marketing or design perspective might not be feasible. IDBM studies have been invaluable experience for this. Moreover, IDBM program is taught with challenge-based learning which is a great way to develop your thinking and way of working. At work I aim to address brand and business challenges and opportunities, so the methodologies I applied in school are useful at work too."

"I have been part of quite a few projects, ranging from being a freelancer for workshop facilitation in Japan hosting Slush Shanghai, to service design in the public sector."

"Ever since I was a kid I've had a serious crush on consumer brands. After graduation I joined The Coca-Cola Company and currently work as a Brand Manager responsible for the Coca-Cola portfolio in Finland."

#### Sample courses

JOIN-E7006 IDBM Challenge JOIN-E7005 IDBM Industry Project 26E04350 Business Model Design

MUO-E9009 Corporate Entrepreneurship and

Design

ELEC-E9900 Networked Partnering and

Product Innovation

#### Typical job titles

Business Designer Service Designer Product Manager Project Manager

# Prerequisites and recommended courses for MSc programmes

Some Master's programmes require students transferring from Mikkeli to have completed certain courses as part of the BSc degree.

The student is allowed to follow the criteria on force at the time when the student's study right begins in the School of Business.

For more details on the criteria, go to Into: into.aalto.fi/display/enbscba/
Continuing+to+Master%27s+programs

#### **Electives available in Mikkeli**

Some of the required prerequisite courses can be completed in Mikkeli. It is recommended to start planning on which Master's programme to transfer to as early as possible and to choose electives accordingly during the second year of studies.

# Courses available during study abroad

It recommended to try taking all the required prerequisite courses during the studies in Mikkeli if possible, since there are no guarantees that equivalent courses will be offered at the exchange destination. However, in some cases the courses completed during the exchange can be used to substitute the ones listed on the prerequisite list. You should get approval for these courses beforehand from Mari Syväoja.

#### Graduation

Students who have completed the requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree, can order the diploma on Sisu. Before you do that, make sure that your primary study plan in Sisu is up-to-date and it includes all the courses you wish to include to the degree. The degree certificate will be done based on the approved study plan. Check that all the modules have been approved i.e. you can see "selections done" or "selections approved" next to the titles.

More information on the graduation process: <a href="mailto:into.aalto.fi/display/enbscba/Graduation">into.aalto.fi/display/enbscba/Graduation</a>

In all the questions related to graduation from the Mikkeli program, contact:

graduation-mikkeli@aalto.fi.

When you graduate and continue your studies in Aalto University, your user account and email address remain the same. In cases when the graduate is not continuing studies in Aalto University, the user account and e-mail address remain in effect four months after your graduation day.

#### From BScBA to MSc degree

The BScBA students who have been admitted to study for the BSc degree in 2015 or after, have an automatic right to continue to the School of Business MSc degree programmes. However, they will be granted a study right to a MSc programme only after completing the BScBA degree and graduating from the BScBA program in Mikkeli.

As part of the graduation process, the student informs the Mikkeli study office of the Master's programme in which the student would like to continue their studies. The decision and instructions how to start planning the MSc studies will be sent to the graduate by email.



# MSc studies before and after graduating from Mikkeli

# Information Technology Program (ITP)

Aalto ITP is a multidisciplinary summer program, where industry meets students through project work. Focusing widely on digital issues, Aalto ITP is truly a combination of technology, design and business. Aalto ITP is a great opportunity for Mikkeli students to start their studies in the Master's programme.

In the Aalto ITP there are three tracks for the students to choose from: Information & Service Business (ISB), Strategy & Experience Design (SED) and Digital & Interactive Entertainment (DIE). Individual modules of the program are taught by visiting faculty. Visitors from other universities and from the business community are invited to teach for a short period in the field of their expertise.

#### Information & Service Business (ISB)

The courses and business projects students are working on during the summer focus on the current ICT trends, big data, IoT, data driven decision making, mobile business, disrupting technologies and usability.

#### Strategy & Experience Design (SED)

The courses and business projects conducted during the summer focus on strategic design processes, user experience design and visual prototyping in digital services.

#### **Digital & Interactive Entertainment (DIE)**

This concentration area focuses on digital marketing platforms, content marketing, digitalization, monetization business models, hands-on-work using a variety of digital marketing and analytics tools and strategic decision making related to digital marketing strategies.

All courses are run in the form of intensive modules. Passionate participation and collaboration encourages students to set ambitious goals to realize their full potential personally and professionally. All tracks are worth 24 ECTS and count as Minor studies in the MSc program.

The application for Aalto ITP in the next summer starts in January. Aalto ITP inspires, equips and supports you in a world where innovation drives disruption.

#### Internship

Aalto University offers students the opportunity to apply for various grants for internships. Internship may be included in the elective studies of the MSc degree.

The internships that are supported financially by the School of Business are:

- BIZ supported internship programme in Finland and in Finnish embassies abroad
- BIZ grants for internships carried out abroad (internship grant and travel grant, Erasmus grant)
- BIZ Foreign degree student's internship support programme for internship in Finland

# Master's studies during spring after the exchange period

A student can start taking Master's courses after having informed the Mikkeli study office of which Master's programme they are continuing in and the study right for the MSc degree has been opened. This requires that the student has completed the study abroad during the fall semester as well as all courses required for the Bachelor's degree, and has applied for the Bachelor's diploma.

#### Additional electives in Mikkeli

A student has the option to include additional courses completed in Mikkeli to the electives (12 ECTS) of his or her Master's studies.

#### General

Master's level studies at Otaniemi campus differ quite dramatically from the studies in the BSc programme in International Business. In this section the major differences related to both practical matters, course content and style of studies are discussed.

#### **Registering for courses**

In most programmes students are given a lot of flexibility: students are quite free to choose which courses they want to complete and when. Before the beginning of each period, students register for the courses they plan to study. Typically, a student has 2-3 courses per period, although there are no limitations.

Sisu (sisu.aalto.fi) contains information on all courses at Aalto as well as the schedules for lectures, exams etc.

Registration for all courses is done in Sisu. Course registration usually starts 28 days before the teaching period begins, and ends 7 days before the teaching period begins.

#### **PSP - Personal Study Plan**

The personal study plan (PSP; also known as HOPS) is the plan of the student for completing the degree and it includes:

- · study modules included in the degree
- · courses included in the study module
- · schedule for completing the degree

Drafting the PSP is a mandatory part of studies in the MSc degree. MSc students make their PSP within the first semester of their MSc programme studies. Even though making the PSP is mandatory and it is used in many administrative processes, the PSP is first and foremost meant to be a tool for the students. Drafting your personal study plan helps you plan your studies and keep track of your progress.

It is always possible to update the personal study plan later on, so the first submitted PSP does not have to be the final plan.

#### **Exam practices**

Most courses have an exam during the exam week between the periods. There might also be retake exams, which have to be signed up for, in case the first exam was not passed or the student wishes to improve the grade.

# **Courses and minors from other Aalto schools**

Interested in studying art or technology? Business students can quite freely choose courses and minors in the field of technology and apply for courses and minors in the field of art and design. Please get familiar with the options you have in Into: into.aalto.fi/display/enopinnot

#### Study guidance

Each MSc programme has a planning officer who will help you with the study related matters e.g. drafting the personal study plan (PSP) and making timetables. If you have any guestions regarding your MSc studies, don't hesitate to contact the planning officer of the programme.

#### **Orientation week**

Every fall before the academic year begins the School of Business organizes an orientation week for the new Master's students. During the orientation week you will be given important information on studying in Aalto and you also get to know your fellow students and the key staff members of your programme. Please contact your planning officer well in advance to register for the orientation week.



#### **Tuition fees and scholarships**

Tuition in Bachelor's and Master's programmes taught in English from August 2017 onwards are subjected to annual fees for non-EU/EEA citizens. Programmes taught in Finnish or Swedish are free of charge for all students. The tuition fees are:

- €12 000 per academic year for the International Business BScBA degree programme and
- €15 000 per academic year for the Master's programmes

Aalto University has a scholarship programme to support non-EU/EEA citizens who study in a feecharging degree programme. The scholarships are granted in the form of a tuition fee waiver. The tuition fee at Aalto University for Bachelor's degree studies is EUR 12 000 per academic year.

Scholarship categories at Aalto University:

Category A: Covers 100% of the tuition fee.

Category B: Covers 50% of the tuition fee. Students admitted to this scholarship category are responsible for paying the remaining part of the tuition fee to Aalto University, which for Bachelor's degree students is EUR 6 000 per academic year.

# Scholarship of Bachelor's degree graduates continuing in the Master's programmes

The students graduating from the Bachelor's Program, will be granted a 100% scholarship (full tuition fee waiver) for their Master's degree if

- the Bachelor's program is completed in target time (i.e three academic years or six semesters) and
- the final GPA of the degree is 3.80 or higher.

However, if you

- have started in 2017 and 2018 as a tuition fee paying student (i.e. either without Aalto Scholarship or with 50% Aalto Scholarship) and
- do not meet the 3.80 requirement,

the university will honor the original terms of the scholarship regulations and offer you a chance to participate in a scholarship competition as part of Aalto Master's Admissions. This means that you may apply for a Category A (100%) scholarship for Master's studies at Aalto by submitting the required

appendices for Master's level academic evaluation through separate application procedure. If you are successful in the competition, you are granted a full tuition fee waiver for your Master's studies at Aalto. In case you are going to apply for this scholarship, please contact Mari Syväoja for more information on what appendices are required, as well as how and when to apply.

#### **Duration of a scholarship**

The scholarship is granted for one degree only at a time and for the normative duration of studies for the degree. The normative duration of Bachelor's degree studies is three academic years (180 ECTS). For a Master's degree the normative duration of studies is two academic years (120 ECTS credits). The scholarship is to be used for the completion of degree studies only.

The scholarship will be continued for the second and third academic years of the Bachelor's degree provided that the student has progressed in studies according to his or her approved personal study plan (PSP) during the previous academic year and if his or her goal oriented study plan for the second/third year is approved by the University.

# Tuition fees and the Master's programmes with separate admission

A student that applies and is admitted to one of the Master's programmes with a separate admission process has to reapply for a new scholarship.

The three programmes that have a separate admissions process are:

- · Global Management
- · International Design Business Management
- · Creative Sustainability

A student who accepts the admission offer in one of the above programmes, obtains a new study right for the new programme and the old study right is forfeited. It is possible to decline the admission offer, for example in case a scholarship is not granted for the new studyright. In that case the student continues in the Master's programme they transferred to from Mikkeli.

For more information about the tuition fees see: into.aalto.fi/display/enopisk/Tuition+fees+and+scholarship



Aalto University is a multidisciplinary community of bold thinkers where science and art meet technology and business. We educate game changers to solve grand challenges and create wellbeing in society. This requires disciplinary excellence combining creativity, collaboration and entrepreneurship. We are committed to identifying and solving grand societal challenges and building an innovative future.

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