# Study Abroad Info

17 April 2023 at 12.30-14.00 Auditorium



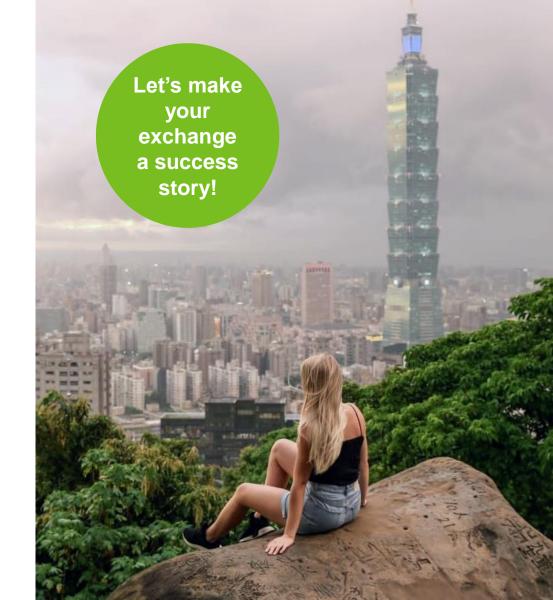
Mikkeli Campus



#### Today's agenda

#### Before the Exchange

- Annual enrolment
- Study plan for study abroad
- Master's programs
- Official documents
- Travel documents
- Health issues
- Insurances
- Security issues
- Financial aid and scholarships
- During the Exchange
- At the end of Exchange



### **Before the Exchange**



#### **Annual enrolment**

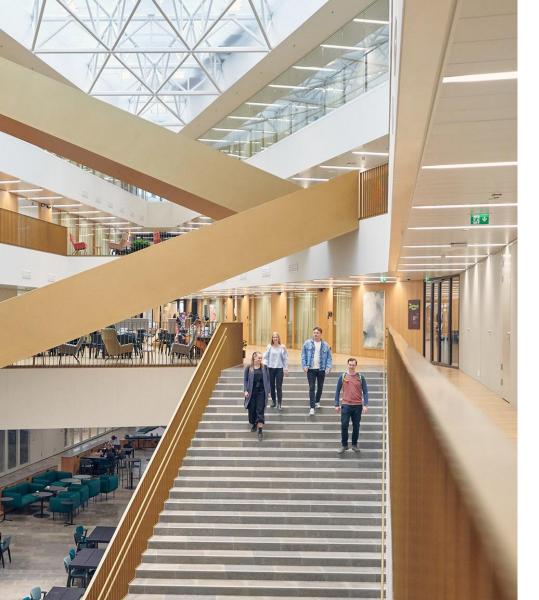
- Remember to enroll as attending student for the entire academic year 2023-2024.
- Only students enrolled as attending may complete studies (this includes also the exchange studies) and graduate.
- Instructions on the process can be found from <u>Student</u>
   <u>Guide.</u>
- The enrolment period for the academic year 2023-2024 is 2 May – 1 September 2023.



### Study plan for study abroad

- "Study Plan for Study Abroad" form can be found from Student Guide.
- Get the acceptance for the courses beforehand from Mari Syväoja.
  - Note! Give us at least one week time to check your study plan.
  - Study office summer vacations will also have effect on the process.
     The information on our vacations will be send to you later.
- Aalto Mikkeli requirement is 30 credits (ECTS). Check the credit conversions from study abroad guide.
- You are not allowed to take same courses in content you have done in Mikkeli.
- Please note the criteria for M.Sc. Programs
- Your courses will be included as a package of courses with the pass/fail grading to your Minor Subject Studies. Information on inclusion process on Sisu: <u>Credit Transfer</u>





#### Master's programs

- For all information, see **Student Guide**
- You can start your MSc studies already in spring after we have information that you have completed all required 180 credits for the degree.
- Decision on the MSc Program done at the time of graduation.

#### Official documents

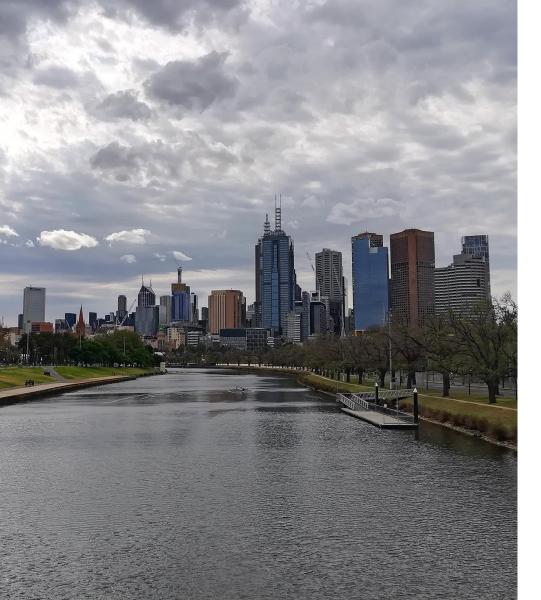
- Make the change of address notification via Posti:
   Mail delivery and change of address
- Check that you have all the documents that your host university requires and also some extra photos.
- Make sure your passport is valid at least 6 months after your returning.
- Remember to apply for financial aid from Kela:
   Financial aid for students



## Tickets and visa / residence permit (1/2)

- We recommend to wait for the acceptance letter from the host university before buying the tickets (use your own common sense in this issue).
- Normally the host universities send information and instructions how to handle the visa/residence permit issues, follow these carefully!
- Check the required documents from the embassies/immigration services:
  - EU citizens registration in the other EU country
  - Mobility notification: 3rd country students, who have the residence permit to Finland and are going to study in EU Member state.
  - Visa (single entry vs. multiple entry, student visa)
  - Residence permit
- Read the study reports from the previous years for tips.





### Tickets and visa / residence permit (2/2)

- Required documents for the residence permit process vary a lot between the countries:
  - Acceptance letter
  - Financial statements:
    - Kela's certificate for financial aid
    - certificate of Aalto Scholarship
    - bank statement on funds
  - · Health certificate, if needed
  - Photos
- Important documents are recommended to be scanned and sent to your personal e-mail (passport, visa / residence permit, insurance documents and acceptance letter).



#### **Health care**

 If you are going to Europe, order the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) from Kela:



European Health Insurance Card

- The card is not replacing the travel insurance!
- Check the vaccination requirement and recommendations:
  - Finnish Student Health Service
  - <u>Rokotustieto</u> (Pharmaceutical Information Centre)





#### Insurances

- Students are responsible for their insurances during their exchange (luggage, injury, sickness and liability insurances).
- Remember to ask for English documents from the insurance company.
- In some universities, they have their own insurances, which are required. Check the host university's information carefully and if needed take your own insurances to cover the other incidences.



#### **Security and crisis**

- Instructions from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs <u>Travelling abroad</u>:
  - When you are travelling or residing abroad
  - <u>Matkustustiedotteet</u>
     (Advice for travellers by country, only in FIN & SV)
  - Remember to file a travel notification: <u>matkustusilmoitus.fi</u> (EN, FIN & SV)
- Follow the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' and embassies' Facebook and Twitter accounts, you can find information on the issues in the destination country.
- Respect the local laws and rules as well as the university regulations.
- ICE → Add the emergency contacts to your mobile.
- Check the local emergency number!
- In case of a natural disaster, conflict or other crisis, we will do our best to help you in every way we can.
- The final decision to leave the country is always yours.



#### **Accommodation**

- The host university normally helps the incoming students with the accommodation issues.
- However, you might need to find the accommodation by yourself. Be active in this matter!
- In European destinations the accommodation situation is quite demanding. Be prepared for time consuming search for accommodation and be flexible with your wishes.
- Again, check the study abroad reports for tips!



## Financial aid during the exchange

- If you are entitled to student financial aid, you will receive it also during your exchange
  - Study grant 268,33 €/month (same as when studying in Finland)
  - Loan guarantee 650 €/month
     (same as when studying in Finland as the studying
     abroad is part of your studies in Finland)
  - Housing allowance 210 €/month
     >> except in low-cost countries
- Remember to inform Kela on your exchange period
- Scholarship for study abroad is not affecting the income limits.
- If you need a certificate of student financial aid, you can request it from Kela.





#### **Aalto University Scholarship for Study Abroad**

#### **Aalto Mikkeli requirements for the scholarship are:**

- 1. Given deadlines are met.
  - The last document with the deadline is "The Scholarship Commitment 2023-2024" and you will get it soon by e-mail. The deadline for the document is 9 June 2023.
- 2. Required amount of credits have been completed according to approved study plan.
- 3. The online study abroad questionnaire is completed and the study abroad report has been returned and approved.
- 4. For European Universities, all the Erasmus documents must be completed including the language tests and report.

- The scholarships are paid in two installments:
  - The first part of the scholarship is paid before departure.
  - The second is paid once the student has returned and submitted all the required documents.
- In 2023 2024 the first part of the scholarship is 1200 € and the second is 300 € (non-European exchanges).
  - Erasmus scholarships have a different payments and information will be send to the Erasmus students separately.

### **During the Exchange**



#### **Promote Aalto Mikkeli**

- Most of our partner universities organize International Fair, promote Mikkeli there!
- Where can you find the information?
  - Ask the presentation slides from Annamari
  - Information for incoming students on <u>Student Guide</u>
  - Videos: <u>Aalto University's YouTube channel</u>, our exchange video can be found under business and economics
- Useful websites:
  - VisitMikkeli
  - The Official Travel Guide of Finland (visitfinland.com)



# BScBA Ambassador program

- Visit local high school(s) during your exchange to promote our program abroad.
- The main target is to visit IB schools, but you can also visit other local high schools.
- You will get a compensation for the presentations.
- How to be an Ambassador?
  - Information on <u>Student Guide</u>
- Let's spread the Mikkeli spirit and welcome new international degree students to our program!





# What to do if there are problems during the exchange?

- It is absolutely normal that there might be some bad days during the exchange.
- Do not stay alone, ask for help.
- The emotions and situations can change rapidly during the exchange.
  - In those moments, stop for a moment and think what is the problem.
  - Contact the host university's international office and ask help and guidance. Also the student organizations can help.
  - Contact also us!



### After the Exchange



### All the good things come to an end

- Prepare yourself for the end of the semester!
- Remember to check the rental agreement, mobile connection and bank account. What is needed to end and close them?
- Keep the course syllabus, it might be useful in the future.
- Remember to ask the university to send your transcript directly to Aalto Mikkeli!
- Erasmus students will have to remember to complete the required paperwork.



#### After the exchange

#### The second part of the study abroad scholarship will be paid after

- We have received the transcript and you have completed required amount of credits during your study abroad
  - You need to complete the request for inclusion.
     Information on the process can be found from Student Guide: Credit Transfer
- 2. You have completed the online feedback questionnaire, and
- 3. You have returned your study abroad report.

#### Erasmus students have also the following parts to be completed:

- 1. Certificate of Attendance
- 2. Online Learning Agreement
- 3. OLS language tests done
- 4. Erasmus+ participant report

#### **Graduation**

- You can start the graduation process after you have completed all the requirements for the degree.
- Information on the graduation process can be found from Student Guide: <u>Graduation</u>
- We will inform you about the Graduation Ceremony later.



#### **Contact person in Mikkeli**

#### Ms. Annamari Vahvaselkä

Student Exchange Coordinator Lönnrotinkatu 5, 50100 Mikkeli, FINLAND E-mail:

annamari.vahvaselka@aalto.fi exchange-mikkeli@aalto.fi

Mobile: +358 44 2927623









Enjoy your exchange!



