Aalto University Summer School

Experience arts, business and technology all at one campus

— Get to know our courses for 2024
Are you ready for the summer of your life?

Aalto University Summer School offers two-week multidisciplinary academic courses and programs for the summer teaching period.

Choose between various cutting-edge courses, experience future-led learning, expand your international networks and make next summer an unforgettable experience at Aalto University in Finland.
In Greece, Finnish schools and universities are always used as the positive paradigm and example [..] After I spent two weeks at Aalto University, I can confirm that the university’s excellent function and organization, its facilities and location surrounded by beautiful nature, and the teachers’ and students’ mentality of ‘openness’ and willingness to help us and make us feel comfortable are some of the reasons why Finnish universities are famous worldwide.

Christina Malikiosi
Summer School Alumna ‘23

Taking skills beyond the classroom

Preparing students for work-life and making an impact for society is at the heart of Aalto University Summer School.

Disciplinary competencies are accompanied by learning future skills, co-creation, and multidisciplinary approaches to current global challenges.
Aalto University’s campus in Otaniemi is a beautiful mix of original buildings from the 1950s and new world-class spaces for learning and working. Summer School students benefit from modern classrooms, comfortable teamwork spaces and a lively campus environment.

State-of-the-art campus

Studying on campus allows participants to immerse themselves into a new culture as well as focus entirely on the course topics without the hassle of everyday life at home. At Aalto University, we nurture a welcoming culture of inclusion, curiosity, well-being and collaboration.

Experience real student-life

The Aalto University campus is surrounded by the sea and beautiful nature trails, but only a short 10-minute from the Helsinki city centre. The Aalto University metro station is situated in the heart of the campus, ensuring easy access to all the services and the bustle of the city.

Nature and city life combined
Undergraduate courses

Application period:
1.2. - 31.5.2024
Introduction to Virtual Reality

Virtual reality lets us create environments fit for any simulated interaction. During this course, students learn how software applications and game engines are used to build immersive multisensory experiences. Click for more info.

Leading Transformation

During this course, you will learn how to deal with uncertainty, influence others, develop creative thinking skills and create value. Click for more info.

Game Design

This multidisciplinary course brings together the technical and artistic aspects of game design. The students will learn different approaches to game development, prototyping skills and practices from the industry. Click for more info.
Circular Economy

Sustainable development requires a fundamental shift in how resources are used. Students will learn how circular business models are designed and how they provide value to the customer. 

Click for more info.

Nordic Product Design

This course explores the Nordic aspect of design, emphasising sustainability and ecological thinking, as well as functionalism and critical design. Click for more info.
Introduction to Creativity

Thinking creatively and approaching challenges with new perspectives and out-of-the-box thinking is a critical asset in today’s society and working life. This interdisciplinary course explores the creative process with examples from the creative industries and art. Click here for more info.

Self-Leadership

Self-Leadership is a hands-on routine and time management summer course that creates a framework for personal growth by providing a toolkit for structuring time, your habits and how to work smarter, not harder. Click for more info.
Graduate courses

Application period:
1.2. - 31.5.2024
Explore our selection of graduate courses

Digital Business

Join a challenge-based course this summer with a focus on digital technologies as tools for building businesses. Students work in international teams to plan digital solutions for partnering companies. Click for more info.

Credits: 6 ECTS  
Price: 1690€  
Course Dates: 5.8 - 16.8.24

Nordic Biomaterials

The use of materials today is not sustainable for the environment and our future. Take action and learn how to create new concepts for sustainable material development by combining design, technology and natural materials science in the context of circular economy. Click for more info.

Credits: 6 ECTS  
Price: 1690€  
Course Dates: 5.8 - 16.8.24

Data Visualisation

Communicating data-driven insights in ways that are quick and easy to grasp is an essential part of many professions today. This summer course allows students to critically analyse data visualisations and use them as part of storytelling in presentations and argumentations. Click for more info.

Credits: 5 ECTS  
Price: 1490€  
Course Dates: 5.8 - 16.8.24
Explore our selection of graduate courses

**Entrepreneurship for Engineers**

- Credits: 5 ECTS
- Price: 1490€
- Course Dates: 8.7 - 19.7.24

This summer course is designed to equip aspiring scientists, engineers or working professionals with the essential knowledge and skills of business and entrepreneurship in the age of digitalisation and artificial intelligence. [Click for more info.](#)

**Human-Centered UX Design**

- Credits: 5 ECTS
- Price: 1490€
- Course Dates: 1.7-12.7.24

The course offers students the core concepts of the human-centred design process in digital services development while designing prototypes of software applications. [Click for more info.](#)
Learning experience

In addition to high-quality teaching, we focus on multicultural and multidisciplinary interaction. Letting students work together in applying their new skills leads to the best learning experiences.

Challenge-based learning

Challenge-based learning offers students the opportunity to collaborate with local and global partners. The real-life challenges and teaching and learning practices aligned with work-life environments increase students’ employability. Relevant projects provide authentic learning experiences and allow students to explore, discuss, and meaningfully construct concepts and relationships.

‘The Nordic way of teaching and learning appeals to me – it’s all about collective well-being.’
Margo Camus
Summer School Alumni ’19
Experience Helsinki and the surrounding nature

Whether you are into design and architecture, history, sports, outdoor activities or culture, the Finnish capital region has something to offer for everyone.

Experience the Nuuksio national park, explore hidden pathways at Suomenlinna sea fortress or indulge in Nordic cuisine in central Helsinki.

What I particularly like with Summer School at Aalto University is the opportunity to meet such a diverse group of students from various backgrounds and nationalities; it is truly eye-opening.’
Tomas Nordström
Summer School Alumni ’22
Studying in the summer is all about the overall experience of learning, travelling to a new country and making new friends.

Besides excursions and deep dives into Finnish culture, Summer School also organises a fun, social program with the aim for participants to get to know each other in a more relaxed setting while sharing the summer school experience at Aalto.
Aalto University Summer School is open for everyone. This includes visiting students from universities from all over the world, working professionals and lifewide learners as well as degree students from Aalto University and Aalto University partner schools.

Who can apply?

To qualify for admission, applicants need to fill out the application form on the Aalto University Summer School website along with a short motivation letter or video.

How to apply?
Ready to experience Aalto University?

Click here to read more and apply and make this summer the best yet.

Summer School Team
General inquiries
summer@aalto.fi