

## **Degree Programme in Information and Communications Technology, PINFOS21**

Welcome to Finland and to Turku University of Applied Sciences (TUAS)!

Congratulations on being accepted to study Information and Communications Technology. It is always a delight to welcome new students to our ICT campus. We look forward to meeting you in Turku. Please read carefully through the following information.

### **Beginning of your studies**

Your orientation to studies at TUAS starts on Wednesday the 25th of August 2021 at 9 am in ICT City Campus, Joukahaisenkatu 3 C. [See the campus website.](#)

Additionally, you can join the Orientation through Zoom. [Link to Zoom meeting.](#)

#### **Date: Wed 25 August 2021**

Auditorium Myy C1042

Time: 9:00 – 15:00 (registration, introduction to TUAS & Staff, Getting to know each other)

#### **Date: Thu 26 August 2021**

This day is reserved for some tutor-led informal activities, as well as time to sort out some formal paperwork (e.g., getting a bus card, Registry Office, opening a bank account, getting a phone SIM card - See 3.1 Official Stuff).

#### **Date: Fri 27 August 2021**

Room: B1038, B1039

Time: 9:00 – 11:00 (IT rules, Web Programs)

Room. Lambda

Time: 12 – 16 (Study Culture at TUAS, Study-Related Matters)

## 2. Things to do before coming to Finland

### 2.1 Accommodation

Before arriving to Finland, **the most important** thing is to have a place to live. Here are a couple of alternatives:

**SATO** – is a company on the private market. <https://www.sato.fi/en/>

**TVT** – similar to SATO <http://tvt.fi/english/>

#### [Turku Students' accommodation Facebook Group](#)

Turun omatoiminen asuntovälitys : [A Facebook group](#) providing information about privately rented accommodation – mainly in Finnish but you can always ask your question in English and the group members can reply in English

Many people sublet their apartments or look for flat mates in this group, so check it out.

For **temporary** accommodation, check [Omenahotelli](#) and [Laivahostel Bore](#), for example.

## 2.2 Documents

Take all documents that you have, such as:

- Passport
- ID
- School certificates (including higher education certificates you might already have completed)
- Other documents that can be beneficial for you because in most cases you will need them here.

## 2.3 Transportation

From Helsinki to Turku, your easiest choice is [Onnibus](#).

If you are arriving straight from Helsinki Vantaa airport, you could take the Express Bus to Turku. Check all options here: <https://www.matkahuolto.fi/>

You can also take the train from Vantaa airport, if you buy your ticket in advance, it will be the cheapest way to get to Turku, you will need to change once from commuter train to Intercity train, but it's not hard at all. Check the times on [VR](#) website. The fastest way is to take the train from Vantaa airport to Pasila and change there to the train to Turku. In Turku there are two main stops, the Kupittaa stop is next to our school, while the Turku railway station stop is close to the city center (keskusta).

Once you're in Turku, [Föli](#) handles all the local transportation.

You can check the bus timetables on the website, so you won't get lost on your first day.

A single bus ticket costs 3 €, and you can get a one-week pass (25 €) before you can get your student discount seasonal card. See more: <https://www.foli.fi/en>

## 2.4 Clothes

Yes, it gets cold in Finland in winter. You can expect ample rain in summer and heavy rain showers in spring. With all this in mind, you'll have to come prepared. Take some warm clothes and socks with you because that is the secret to surviving the winter and some of the spring weather.

## 2.5 Acquire a Laptop

Turku University of Applied Sciences is increasingly moving towards the utilization of students' own computers. Starting next semester, a lot of used-to-be computer classrooms have been transformed into "Bring Your Own Devices" (BYOD) - classrooms to be used with students' personal laptops. You need a laptop because this is where you will be doing your studying and your assignments.

### 3. Fun Stuff

#### **Parties**

During the year, there are **usually under normal circumstances** a lot of student parties and events for everyone. The student parties and events usually take place on Thursdays, because most students work over the weekend. There are many pub crawls, or scavenger hunt type events around the city. For students who do not like to drink, the parties are a fun way of meeting new people even if you don't drink alcohol. Also, there are events such as Sport Appro which is basically a pub crawl but instead of bars you go and do different sports.

#### **Overalls**

Students in Finland have a tradition of buying and wearing [student overalls](#) in parties. Students have different colors for their overalls depending on what they study. Engineers in Turku have purple overalls with yellow linings. The overalls are a great way for finding people who study the same subjects as you or it's just a great way of breaking the ice by asking "What degree does your overalls color represent?"

#### **Other fun stuff to do in Turku**

We have a lot of fun stuff to do in Turku besides studying Math and Physics. All the movies screening in Turku you can find at <http://www.finnkino.fi/movies/turku> .

Turku is a relatively large city by Finnish standards so we do have a lot of activities for everyone to enjoy. If you enjoy a fancy dinner every now and then, our restaurant scene is among the best in the country. If you like different sports, we have a lot of possibilities for different sports. Also, there are many events that aren't just for students but can be real fun. We'll try and inform you on Facebook whenever there are such events. In short: if you get bored just sitting at home there are a lot of things to do in your spare time.

### 4. Student Tutors' Greetings

We are your student tutors, which means that we get to provide you with the necessary information and help for the duration of your studies here at TUAS.

Feel free to ask us about whatever you need: accommodation, Finnish culture, information on visas and study-related matters. We will try to answer all your inquiries as clearly and as informative as we can.

For easier distribution of information, we have created a Facebook group page for your class of 2021.

**Please, join the TUAS PINFOS21 group by following this link:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/492942791834512>

#### 4.1 Tutor Introductions



**Filipe Lopes** [filipe.lopes@edu.turkuamk.fi](mailto:filipe.lopes@edu.turkuamk.fi)

Moi! Congratulations and welcome to TUAS. I'm Filipe and I'll be one of your tutors for this year! I moved from Portugal to Finland two years ago and so far it has been a beautiful experience. I'm excited for all of you! Besides English and Portuguese, I can also speak Spanish and can get around with French and Finnish. In my free time I'm usually making games or composing music. I also enjoy walking and hiking in nature. If you have any questions, don't be afraid to hit me up. Good luck!



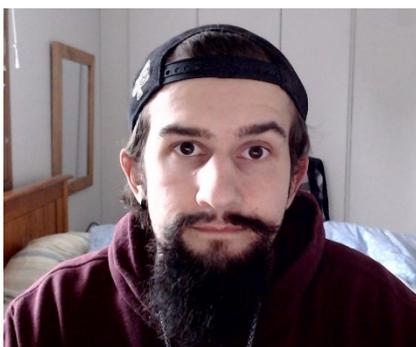
**Ayush Pradhan** [ayush.pradhan@edu.turkuamk.fi](mailto:ayush.pradhan@edu.turkuamk.fi)

Namaste everyone! A hearty congratulation on getting selected. I am a second-year student in TUAS, currently doing embedded systems and IoT. I am from India but moved from Oman which I consider as my second home. Like you all, I also started my journey from Finland as an international student in the year 2018. I love making new friends understanding different cultures and going for sudden adventures, during pass time I usually go for cycling, swimming or jogging. I took up this position of Tutor to get to know you guys and be a good guide so feel free to message me if you have any doubt, and I will try to reply with an appropriate answer within a short while. You can contact me via Gmail - [ayushpradhan1@gmail.com](mailto:ayushpradhan1@gmail.com) or Instagram ([the\\_mysterious\\_ayush\\_](https://www.instagram.com/the_mysterious_ayush_)). Lastly, I hope you have carried sufficient winter clothes cause tervetuloa suomeen {Welcome to Finland}.



**Verna Holmalahti** [verna.holmalahti@edu.turkuamk.fi](mailto:verna.holmalahti@edu.turkuamk.fi)

Hey and congrats on getting accepted to study at TUAS! My name is Verna and I will be here to support and help you on your exciting journey this year, as one of your tutors. I am just about to start my second year as a student in TUAS. I am half Finnish and half Dutch, so I speak both languages fluently, as well as English, and maybe you can also squeeze some Swedish out of me, if you try. I love doing yoga and acrobatics, and artsy stuff, like painting and making music, is also very close to my heart. My previous profession is a kindergarten teacher, so I love to be around people and get inspired easily. Anyways, see you soon and don't be afraid to contact me if you have any questions!



**Artturi Lunnas** [artturi.lunnas@edu.turkuamk.fi](mailto:artturi.lunnas@edu.turkuamk.fi)

Heyah and welcome to TUAS! I'm Artturi and I'm a second-year student who's here to help you out! A bit information of myself: I recently moved back from Malta, am a total metal head and spend about 90% of my time in front of a computer. Other hobbies include bouldering and attempting to make a sound from my bass guitar. Just as the rest of the Tutor's, I am here to answer any questions that might trouble you and help you along the way. So do not be afraid to ask any questions. If I don't know the answer, I'll find out where to get that information. Let's have a wicked good first year and see each other this autumn!

### Further Contact Information

Mr. Janne Ahtinen, Student Counsellor  
Mrs. Poppy Skarli, Tutor Teacher  
Student Office

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