

# Degree Programme in Information and Communication Technology, PINFOS19

Welcome to Finland and to Turku University of Applied Sciences (TUAS)! Congratulations on being accepted to study Information and Communication 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.**

## 1. Beginning of your studies

Your orientation to studies at TUAS starts on Wednesday the 28th of August 2019 at 9 am in ICT City Campus, Joukahaisenkatu 3 C. <http://www.tuas.fi/en/about-us/faculties-and-campuses/ict-building-joukahaisenkatu/>

**Date: Wed 28 August 2019**

**Auditorium Myy**

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

**Date: Thu 29 August**

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

**Date: Fri 30 August**

**Room: B1038, B1039**

Time: 9:00 – 15:00 (IT rules, Web Programs, Finnish Culture, 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:

**TYS** – Turun Ylioppilaskylä, Turku Student Village. The cheapest alternative for students. You need to provide your acceptance letter in order to apply. There are multiple choices. You can live alone or with someone else. <http://www.tys.fi/en>. **APPLY FOR TYS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

The tricky thing about TYS is that there are a lot of applicants and NOT everyone is getting a place. So here are some solutions to the problem. The following two are companies on the private market. You can apply to them as well. It is a bit more expensive, but you can always find someone else to share accommodation with. It is quite cheaper in that way.

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

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

**Turku Students' accommodation Facebook Group:**

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

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

For **temporary** accommodation, check Omenahotelli and Laivahostel Borea, for example.

<https://www.omenahotels.com/en/hotels/turku-en/>

<http://www.hostelborea.fi/>

## 2.2 Documents

Take all documents that you have, such as:

- Passport
- ID
- TUAS Acceptance letter
- 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.

**If you are arriving from outside the EU, bring:**

- All your health certificates or a statement from a licensed physician in English.
- Chest x-rays results in English.

The healthcare system in Finland requires these certificates to ensure that you do not suffer from any contagious respiratory diseases, such as tuberculosis, "TB". It's better if you bring certificates or at least evidence that you didn't have an infectious disease such as smallpox or measles.

## 2.3 Local 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

Yep, 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 weathers.

## 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.

Attached with this letter is a document that will help you determine what specifications you need from your laptop, or if your current one is compatible to TUAS' recommendations.

# 3. Things to do AFTER coming to Finland!

## 3.1 Official Arrangements

In order to stay here, you need to get a Social Security Number (the Finnish ID number). You need this for literally everything. You must obtain it from Maistraatti (Registry Office) and you need to book an appointment for this. Address to registry office is: **Itsenäisyydenaukio 2, 20800 Turku (Valtion Virastotalo)**. See here more info and possible contact info: <https://www.maistraatti.fi/en/Services/Registration-of-a-foreigner/>.

**EU-students:** You **must** register first in the **Finnish Immigration Office** (address: [Nallikatu 8, 21200 Raisio](#)), before you are able to obtain the Social Security Number. After registration you will be able to get the number from Registry Office. See the registration process here: <https://migri.fi/en/eu-citizen>

**If you are arriving outside EU, you already have the Social Security Number in your residence permit, but you still need to register it in Registry Office.**

**For renewing your visa,** you need to visit the **Finnish Immigration Office**, in [Nallikatu 8, 21200 Raisio](#).

**Get a phone number.** You need a Social Security Number for a permanent data plan. You can still get a prepaid data plan without the Social Security Number.

**Open a bank account.** In order to open a bank account, you need a social security number. Tutors provide assistance if necessary.

**Banks in Finland:** Säästöpankki, Osuuspankki, Danske Bank, Nordea Bank  
**Documents required:** Study certificate, Residence permit, Passport

**Säästöpankki:** If you are under 27 years old, you will have free access to internet banking and no monthly payments. If you are older than 26, the fee will be 4€/month for the card and 1€/month for internet banking services.

**Osuuspankki:** If you are under 26 years old, you will have free access to internet banking and no monthly payments. If you are older than 26, the fee will be 2€/month for the card and 2,70€/month for internet banking services.

## 3.2 Fun Stuff

### **Parties**

During the year, there are 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 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. 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 really 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

Greetings from TUAS Student Tutors!

Congratulations on being accepted to Turku University of Applied Sciences (TUAS). It is always a delight to welcome new students to our modern ICT campus.

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 2019. **Please, join the TUAS PINFOS19 group by following this link:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/PINFOS19/>

### 4.1 Tutor Introductions



#### **Haisum Jehangir**

Hey everyone, I'm a second year student here in TUAS. I am originally from Pakistan but I consider myself Spanish too because I have lived all my life there and came to Finland to study. I consider myself as an outgoing person who loves to do every type of physical and outdoor activities, such as gym, football, volleyball etc. If you have any questions or you need any kind of help, feel free to contact me and I will try to help you as much as I can. You can follow me on Instagram ( @haisum7 ) as well if it's easy for you guys. Wish you guys a great time here.



#### **Riku Lindblom**

Hello everyone! I'm a second-year student at TUAS and interested in Networks and Network Security. I am from Finland and I've lived my whole life here at Turku. I think myself as a person that's positive and easy to approach. My hobbies are playing video games, going for walks and to the gym. I'm not really into parties, but I still try to partake in some events. If you have any problems don't be afraid to contact me, I will try to help in anyway I can. I hope you will have wonderful time here in Finland and TUAS, and I wish you the best years ahead!



### **Manoj Thavayogarajah**

First of all, Welcome to Tuas. I am from Sri Lanka. Have been living in Finland for 8 years. 2nd year student interested in Game Dev. Basically I am a Cricketer, Nature/Sports photographer, Designer. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me, I will try to answer ASAP. You can find me on Instagram @mano\_santhan.



### **Filipe Lopes**

Olá! Congratulations and welcome to TUAS. I'll be one of your tutors for this year. I'm Filipe, a 2nd year student here at Tuas. I moved from Portugal to Turku last year and it has been a beautiful ride. I'm excited for all of you! Besides English, I speak Portuguese and Spanish. I can also get around with French and Finnish. In my free time I'm generally making or playing games. I also enjoy running, hiking and playing the guitar. If you have any questions about your future studies don't be afraid to hit me up. Good luck!



### **Katri Paananen**

Hey everybody! I'm third year student in TUAS. I also study in Turku University, where I'm doing my master's degree at the moment. I'm native Finnish, but I'm not originally from Turku area, but I have been living in here almost 6 years. On my free time, when I'm not at school, doing homework or working part-time I like to read and be on my PC, which usually means videogames. I'm outgoing person and don't be afraid to ask whatever you like from me. I have lot of knowledge about studying, unions and such, if I don't know answer of the top of my head, I usually know how to get the info needed. Last but not least, Welcome to TUAS!

Below are the contact details of your Student Tutors. Please feel free to email or message us with your questions.

Name:	Email:
Haisum Jehangir	<a href="mailto:haisum.jehangir@edu.turkuamk.fi">haisum.jehangir@edu.turkuamk.fi</a>
Riku Lindblom	<a href="mailto:riku.lindblom@edu.turkuamk.fi">riku.lindblom@edu.turkuamk.fi</a>
Manoj Thavayogarajah	<a href="mailto:manoj.thavayogarajah@edu.turkuamk.fi">manoj.thavayogarajah@edu.turkuamk.fi</a>
Filipe Lopes	<a href="mailto:filipe.lopes@edu.turkuamk.fi">filipe.lopes@edu.turkuamk.fi</a>
Katri Paananen	<a href="mailto:katri.paananen@edu.turkuamk.fi">katri.paananen@edu.turkuamk.fi</a>

## 5. Further Contact Information

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

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poppy.skarli@turkuamk.fi  
studentoffice@turkuamk.fi