

TURKU UNIVERSITY

Address:

Turku University
Law Faculty
Vänrikinkatu 2
SF- 20500 Turku
Finland

Tel: 358 (9)21 - 6335502
Fax: 358 (9)21 - 6336570

The City

The south-west region of Finland has been the cultural heartland of the country for a very long time. Turku is the oldest town in Finland. The number of inhabitants is 160,000, which makes it the fourth largest city in Finland.

The town centre is concentrated around the market place and a shopping centre converted from old buildings next to it. The river Aura flows through Turku giving a special atmosphere to the town. A walk towards the harbour along the banks is a good way to see the town. The beautiful banks of the river Aura provide a perfect venue for a number of museums and institutions.

A unique archipelago lies just outside town, adding to the maritime feeling of Turku. It provides a perfect setting for sailing, fishing or simply enjoying the scenery of the thousands of small islands and the sea.

Turku is an important port on the Baltic Sea both for goods and passengers. It is also one of the centres for shipbuilding in Finland. Other major industries in Turku include food, medicine, electronics and high tech.

The University

The first university in Finland was established in Turku in 1640. In 1828 the university was transferred to Helsinki, the new capital of the country. Both students and teachers left the city, which for 90 years was without any university. In 1922 the new university of Turku was founded. The original location of the university was in a former hotel building on the market square in the centre of the city. Since the 1950s and 1960s the University has expanded with new buildings on the existing campus. Between 1950 and 1960, student enrolment rose from 500 to 2700, and has now reached over 11,000 in altogether six faculties (Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Social Sciences and Faculty of Education).

The Law Faculty

The Law Faculty was established in 1960. In the beginning it was situated in the University buildings, but in 1986 the Faculty moved into new purpose-built premises, which have been named Calonia after the professor Matthias Calonius (1738-1817), who taught and studied in Turku.

The number of students is about 1000, post-graduate students 110 and the teaching staff 40. The strong fields of research include the history of law, theoretical jurisprudence and European law.

The Degree Structure

In Finland the LLM degree (Master of Laws) is awarded on the credit weeks basis (177 credit weeks in total), following the completion of a four and half years of study programme consisting of seven terms during which 16 compulsory subjects are studied, and a final year (terms 8 and 9) when the student can choose one subject (major subject) and is required to submit a compulsory dissertation.

Erasmus Students

During their academic year in Turku, Erasmus students are able to study the following subjects (in English):

I International Law

- General Course
- International Trade Law
- Advanced Course on the International Protection of Human Rights
- International Environmental Law
- International Protection of Human Rights

II Contract/Commercial/Maritime Law

- International Maritime and Transport Law
- International Commercial and Maritime Law
- Course in Company and Fiscal Law
- Banking Business and Banking regulation in Europe and in the USA
- Taxation Planning on National and Cross-Border Company Reorganisations

III Comparative Law and Private International Law

- Comparative Law
- Comparative Civil Rights Law
- Private International and Comparative Law

- IV EC and Integration Law
 - European Institutions
 - competition Law of the EC
- V Aspects of Finnish and Scandinavian Law
 - Securities Regulation in the Nordic Countries
 - Introduction to Finnish and Scandinavian Criminal Law

Language Skills and Language Training

It is assumed that non-English speaking Erasmus students have sufficient knowledge of English, which has to be demonstrated by a TOEFL or a comparable test.

Turku University can offer Finnish for foreign students, free of charge. The course is taught by a separate body, called Centre of Languages (kielikeskus).

Each year is divided into two terms (Autumn, Spring) of 20 weeks each. Teaching is given from September to December, and January to May. Vacations during the year are:

Christmas - 3 weeks
Easter - 1 week
Summer - 3 months

Accommodation

Student housing in Turku is provided by the Student Village Foundation. The student residences are situated in different areas of the town, but all are within easy reach of the university. The rent for a single room is around 900 FIM/month which includes furniture, central heating and electricity. Guest students can also borrow bed linen, crockery, pots and pans etc.

Methods of Application for Erasmus Students

Students are selected by their home institutions and their names are sent to foreign student officer, who will ensure that each student receives all necessary information.

Contact for Erasmus Students

Irinja Paakkanen
Foreign Student Officer
International Office
University of Turku
SF-20500 Turku

Tel: 358 (9)21 6335612
Fax: 358 (9)21 6336370

Professor Kari Joutsamo
University of Turku
Law Faculty
Vänrikinkatu 2
SF-20500 Turku

Tel: 358 (9)21 6335517
Fax: 358 (9)21 6336570