

University of Helsinki, Finland



Cross-Cultural Journalism - a term from September to December at the Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki, Finland—>

INFORMATION ON HELSINKI

1. SWEDISH SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, HELSINKI AND SURROUNDINGS FOR THE STUDIES

The Swedish School of Social Science (Soc&kom, 500 students) is an autonomous unit at the University of Helsinki (38 400 students), linked to the Faculty of Social Sciences. Studying at our School gives the benefits both of the cosy atmosphere of a small unit and of being part of the biggest university in Finland. The School offers Bachelor's degree programmes in the fields of Journalism, Social Work and Social Policy, Social Psychology and Psychology, Political Science and Law as well as some courses on Master's level. Our School is going through a strong internationalisation at the moment and we have every year about 30 incoming as well as outgoing exchange students.

Swedish School of Social Science moved 2009 in to a new built building in the core of Helsinki (570 000 inhabitants, of which app 6 % have Swedish as their first language), just in the middle of the Central Campus with libraries, university cafeterias (special rates for students) as well as sport facilities with students rates.

Helsinki is the capital of Finland (5,3 million inhabitants) and is situated on a peninsula with the Baltic Sea on three sides of downtown. The public transportation is very user friendly with fast connections with trams, metro as well as busses.

For the students at the University of Helsinki there are some 150 different associations, among which Erasmus Student Network (ESN – open for all exchange students) is very active arranging for the visiting students trips to among other places St-Petersburg (the second biggest town in Russia), daytrips by boat to Tallinn (capital of Estonia) and boat trips to Stockholm (capital in Sweden).

Applications for studying at the University of Helsinki should be made on-line between March and the middle of May (more information at <http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange> or later in this information package). See also our homepage <http://sockom.helsinki.fi> for additional orientation and information. Interested students are advised to contact AnneSophie Hokkanen anne-sophie.hokkanen@helsinki.fi in advance.

2. COURSES WE OFFER FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS WITHIN THE GEJI-PROJECT

The Foreign Reporting module consists of three courses and is a theoretical and practical module aimed at providing students with the conceptual framework and the practical skills needed to work as a foreign reporter on assignment. From the fall of 2012 the module is offered together with a minor in Foreign Reporting and Political Communication. More information will be posted on this website in the beginning of 2012.

Feedback from course participants in Spring 2007 and 2009:

"Many guest lectures were truly inspiring, and it's a very good idea that there is a real reporting trip."

"I really liked the dynamism of the course and the constant search for perspectives and angles of approaching the topic."

"It taught me a lot about how various groups of people are depicted in the media and the consequences thereof."

"the reporting trip in particular was a fantastic opportunity to put the theory of parachute journalism into practice"

"[t]he course ... brought people from various parts of the world together"

"Best course I've ever taken. Great, interesting experience I can recommend to everyone with foreign interests."

'I really appreciated the effort the Finns and StudOrg put into including the foreign students in these kind of events, they made the course so much more enjoyable and made for some very fond memories. Tack!'

The participants in the module are Journalism/Communication students at advanced bachelor's / master's level who have been accepted to the module, based on their applications. The students are usually coming from app 8-10 different countries.

3. PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

On-line Application Form

- The Application Form for Exchange Students is an on-line form in two steps.
- Register first according to the information [here](#)
- You will get an email confirmation and go with this link into the database again and fill in the rest of the information needed
 - Your stay in Helsinki should be indicated as 1.9-31.5
 - Your Learning agreement should state Foreign Reporting and additional courses up to 30ECTS

- Print both application form and Learning Agreement, sign them (both you and the local coordinator) and either scan + upload them in the database or fax them to +358-9-191 22176 together with your Transcript of Records and a CV
- You will receive by e-mail a confirmation on the reception of the application.

For further information, please, visit <http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/>

Housing

The International Student Mobility Services arranges together with HOAS (Foundation for Student Housing in Helsinki Region) housing for exchange students who have applied at the latest on the deadline. You can apply for housing on the Application Form for Exchange Students. Applications should be made directly via www.hoas.fi.

The flats are partly furnished with a bed, table, chair as well as a kitchen to be shared with usually two other students. The rents (180-550 €) are in comparison to those on the private market very moderate and the flats are situated over the whole city.

Arrival Dates and Pick-up Service from the airport in September

To make your start as smooth as possible we are arranging a pick-up service from the airport during two days just before the start of the introduction week. A student has your key with him/her and will bring you to your lodging place. This service is free of charge.

Links:

Information on Swedish School of Social Science:
<http://sockom.helsinki.fi/>

Information on the course Foreign Reporting:
<http://sockom.helsinki.fi/forrep/>

Information on applying:

<http://www.helsinki.fi/exchange/>

Orientation Handbook:

http://www.helsinki.fi/admissions/materials/orientation_handbook.pdf

Erasmus Student Network (trips & parties):

<http://www.esnhyy.eu/>

City of Helsinki:

<http://www.helsinki.fi>

Helsinki tourism:

<http://www.hel2.fi/tourism/EN/matko.asp>

Virtual Finland:

<http://virtual.finland.fi/>

Discover Finland:

<http://finland.cimo.fi/>

Visit Estonia (for the Foreign Correspondence in Practice course):

<http://www.visitestonia.com/>

Contact and information:

If you have questions on the whole term in Finland and Norway, please, contact AnneSophie Hokkanen, International Planning Officer at Swedish School of Social Science

E-mail: anne-sophie.hokkanen@helsinki.fi or

Phone: +358 9 19128406

<http://sockom.helsinki.fi>