

## Another perspective

**The multidisciplinary experts at the School of Arts, Design and Architecture create better living environments and change the world through artistic means**

Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture (Aalto ARTS) educates towards the future with a focus on fostering a more innovative society. Our programs prepare students to be global citizens; providing graduates who contribute to their communities focusing on collaborative, compassionate, and unconventional solutions to some challenges facing the world today. As new generations are faced with constant reinvention we must embrace more imaginative, intuitive, and aware ways of working. Aalto ARTS advocates for this what if approach at all levels. Through our multidisciplinary studies we move beyond academic silos, bridging the fields of art, technology, and business to forge something anew.

At Aalto ARTS societal challenges and wicked problems are tackled with a human approach highlighting personal, emotional, and embodied experiences. Design in all scales of human environment and everyday life builds on our design tradition over many fields and embraces the expanding role of design in the development of products (large and small), the built environment, and services. Here also the power of stories - meanings and expressions; storytelling - is understood and applied within diverse contexts, such as images, films, games, texts, and multi-sensory productions.

Research is core to Aalto ARTS' identity. We develop our research practice as a strategic long-term, experimental, and academic activity paving the way for future art and cultural activities through insight and understanding in multicultural and multidisciplinary contexts. We model a culture of sharing by embracing new ways of planning, producing, and distributing. The relationship between consumers and designers is ever-changing, and so a newly co-created notion of design must become accessible and necessary as new service fields and industries emerge.

Aalto ARTS is very well respected in our field of studies in Finland and internationally, and ranks among the top in international surveys, year for year. Art and design studies were ranked 6th at the international QS University Ranking in 2022. Architecture studies are ranked highest in Finland and among the top fifty (#42) in the world (QS 2022).

[www.aalto.fi/aalto-university-stories](http://www.aalto.fi/aalto-university-stories)

[www.aalto.fi/en/collaboration](http://www.aalto.fi/en/collaboration)

[www.virtualtour.aalto.fi/](http://www.virtualtour.aalto.fi/)

Instagram: [aaltoarts](https://www.instagram.com/aaltoarts)

## Departments

**Department of Architecture**  
*Professor Pirjo Sanaksenaho*

**Department of Design**  
*Professor Tuuli Mattelmäki*

**Department of Film (ELO)**  
*Lecturer Anna Heiskanen*

**Department of Art and Media**  
*Professor Harri Laakso*

**For more information  
on departments:**  
[www.aalto.fi/en/school-of-arts-design-and-architecture/departments](http://www.aalto.fi/en/school-of-arts-design-and-architecture/departments)

### Contact Information

**Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture**

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FI-00076 AALTO (Mailing address)

**ERASMUS code:** SF ESPOO12

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**Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture:** [www.aalto.fi/en/school-of-arts-design-and-architecture](http://www.aalto.fi/en/school-of-arts-design-and-architecture)

**Aalto University:** [www.aalto.fi](http://www.aalto.fi)

**Information for Incoming Students:**

[www.aalto.fi/en/international-students/exchange-students](http://www.aalto.fi/en/international-students/exchange-students)

**International Collaboration Agreements,**

**General Inquiries:**

[arts-international@aalto.fi](mailto:arts-international@aalto.fi)

**Incoming Students:**

[in-exchange-arts@aalto.fi](mailto:in-exchange-arts@aalto.fi)

Suvi Lähteenmäki, Coordinator

**Outgoing Students:**

[out-exchange-arts@aalto.fi](mailto:out-exchange-arts@aalto.fi)

Johanna Virta, Planning Officer

**Collaboration Agreements, Visiting**

**Delegations:**

[iina.ekholm@aalto.fi](mailto:iina.ekholm@aalto.fi)

Iina Ekholm, International Relations Manager

**Educational Projects, Staff Mobility and**

**Visitors:**

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Hanna Karkku, Planning Officer

**Dean's Office:**

Tuomas Auvinen, Dean

Heli Rekula, Vice Dean, Art & Creative Practices

Tuukka Keinonen, Vice Dean, Research

Rasmus Vuori, Vice Dean, Education

# Academic information

## Degree Programmes and Majors in English

### Master's programmes and majors (M.Sc. & M.A.)

Animation, Architecture, Collaborative and Industrial Design, Contemporary Design, Film and Television, Fashion, Clothing and Textile Design, Game Design and Development, Interior Architecture, New Media, Sound in New Media, Photography, Visual Communication Design, Visual Cultures, Curating and Contemporary Art.

### Multidisciplinary programmes (M.Sc. & M.A.)

Creative Sustainability, International Design Business Management, Urban Studies and Planning (with School of Engineering and University of Helsinki).

### Bachelor's programmes (B.A. )

Design

## Application information

Students interested in an exchange are first to contact the study abroad coordinator at their home universities. The School of Arts, Design and Architecture accepts exchange students nominated by its partner universities only. After being nominated by the home universities the students will receive a link to an online application form. Once the application is completed and if approved, the students will receive an official letter of acceptance. More information at [www.aalto.fi/en/international-students/exchange-students](http://www.aalto.fi/en/international-students/exchange-students)

### Application dates

March 15 - April 15 and September 15 - October 15

### Language requirements

Although no official test records of English like TOEFL or IELTS are required, we expect nominated students to be proficient in English both in writing and in communicating in the classroom in order to fulfill the course assignments. The home institution verifies students' proficiency prior to nominating them to Aalto. The expected level of English proficiency is equivalent to B2 (CEFR).

### Visa requirements

Depending on the nationality and the length of stay, the student may need a visa or a residence permit. Students should immediately proceed with the visa/residence permit application after receiving the letter of acceptance as the process takes up to 8 weeks. Travel arrangements should only be made once the visa/residence permit has been issued. Information about Finnish consulates and embassies can be found at [www.um.fi/entering-finland](http://www.um.fi/entering-finland). For information on the residence permit application process, see the website of Finnish Immigration Service at [www.migri.fi/en/residence-permit-application-for-studies](http://www.migri.fi/en/residence-permit-application-for-studies).

### Housing

In the Helsinki region there are two large student housing organizations that Aalto works with: HOAS (Foundation for Student Housing in the Helsinki Region) and AYY (Aalto University Student Union). Student apartments typically consist of 3-5 bedrooms, a shared living room, kitchen and bathroom. Student apartments are situated around the Helsinki metropolitan area. Students apply for housing directly through the above organizations.

### Health insurance

Exchange students are expected to have a medical insurance of their own. For some international students it is mandatory to have a medical insurance in order to get a residence permit in Finland. If you are entitled to European Health Insurance Card, EHIC, please get one before your stay.

### On campus services

Group training and gym are offered by Unisport. There is a campus wide wireless network available.

### Useful Links

[www.myhelsinki.fi/en](http://www.myhelsinki.fi/en)

[www.espoo.fi/en](http://www.espoo.fi/en)

[www.hsl.fi/en](http://www.hsl.fi/en)

Exchange Studies at Aalto University

Workshop tour of the School of Arts, Design and Architecture

