

# SURVIVAL GUIDE

2023



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Survival Guide 2023

Pictures: Joonas Lipponen, Emma Maliniemi, Guild Photo Gallery

Edited: Daniel Guzman Monet

Special thanks to the School of Engineering and everyone who was involved in providing the content for the guide!

## Greetings

Hi there and welcome to Aalto University! You are now reading the Survival Guide which hopefully answers your questions regarding student life and surviving in Otaniemi.

We are very excited about the autumn and can't wait to see you soon!

ENG International Team: *Aino, Daniel, Varpu*

## Checklist

- Enrol as attending
- Set up your Aalto IT account [salasana.aalto.fi](https://salasana.aalto.fi)
- Pay the AYY and Guild's membership fees
- Get an apartment! Emergency accommodation is available in Otaniemi
- Arrive on time on Monday 28.8., the whole week is full of useful and fun events! If you can't make it, send a message to your fuksi captains!
- Order a student card from [www.myfrank.fi](https://www.myfrank.fi)
- Get an HSL travel card and register your student discount
- Download Telegram and join the course chat



## Aalto University - where science and art meet technology and business

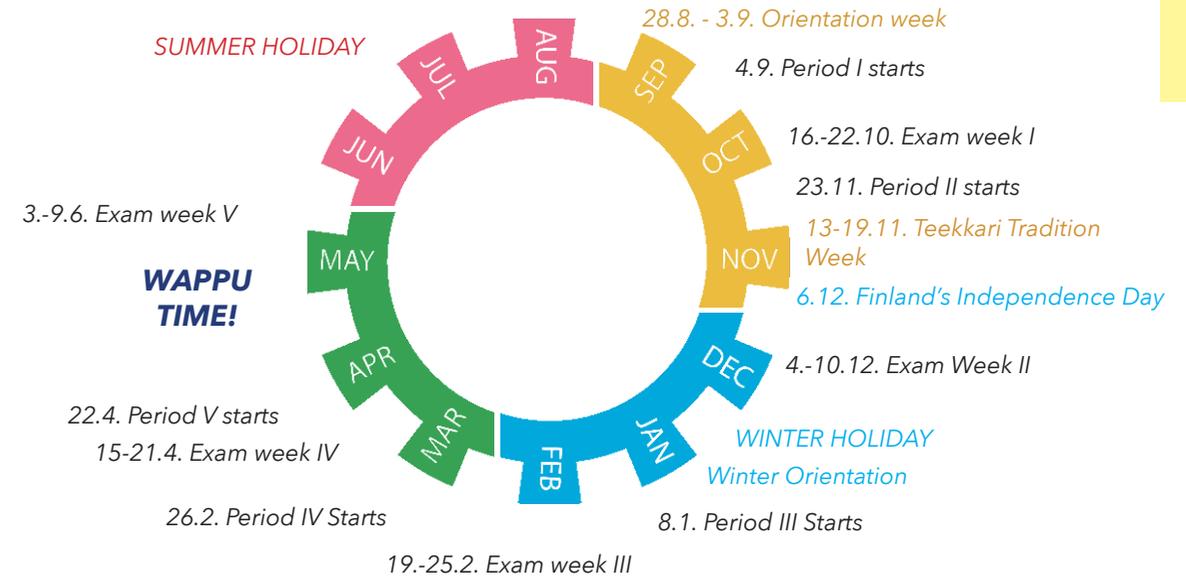
Aalto University was established in 2010 as three leading Finnish universities, the Helsinki School of Economics, Helsinki University of Technology and the University of Art and Design Helsinki, were merged.

Today, Aalto University consists of six schools with around 12 000 students, and 4 000 members of faculty and staff, of which nearly 400 are professors. University's campus is in Otaniemi, home of the lively community that supports learning, innovation and fun. (aalto.fi)

### School of Engineering

The School of Engineering (ENG) is one of the six schools in Aalto University. It offers studies in mechanical and structural engineering, energy and environmental engineering and the built environment.

The School of Engineering has gained excellent results in research on the fields of arctic technology, sustainable built environments, mechanics and materials, multidisciplinary energy technologies and systems design and production. The Dean of the school is Kari Tammi.



The teekkari student year starts with the orientation week carnivals in the late August, following with multiple student events week after week. The autumn period goes really fast. For christmas holidays most of the students spread around Finland to see their family members, coming back on the beginning of January for another study term.

The cold and dark Finnish winter time with schedule full of courses might feel silent and melancholic, but it soon starts to get more lively with the emerging spring time. All sorts of student events start to cumulate again leading to the crazy Wappu celebration time that last the whole April and finally culminates to Wappu Day on the First of May - the biggest celebration in the year for any student!

**A!**  
Aalto University

**A''**  
Aalto University

**A?**  
Aalto University

## Student Year

# Guilds of ENG

What is a guild?

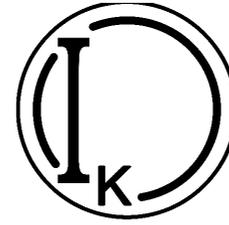
'Guild' is a general name for a subject association. A guild's main purpose is to bring together students studying in the same field. Many guilds have a long history. In total, there are 16 guilds in Otaniemi, all working under Aalto University Student Union (AYY). Guilds are a very important aspect of teekkari culture and are in charge of tutoring new students, fuksis. In general, a guild is a link between their respective degree program and the students.

What do guilds offer?

Guilds organize parties, sauna afternoons, sitsis, company excursions and other fun events! Members of a guild can have the overalls of their own guild and wear them in student events. All the services and events provided by guilds can be found from their websites. Remember to visit the guild rooms in Otakaari 4!

Which Guild should I join?

See the guilds of ENG on the next page. Don't be confused by the names of the guilds. In 2013 and 2022 there was a reform of the guilds, when the majors studied in the guilds changed a bit. The guild names remained the same as always, and that's why the name of the guild is not always the same as the subject students are mainly studying.



AAE  
GEO  
GIS  
WAT  
EIT EMMEP  
NMEE  
NMISEE

**IK: The Guild of Civil Engineers** (Rakennusinsinööri-ilta) was established in 1913 with the name Insinööriklubi, hence the abbreviation, IK. Members of the guild can be recognized from their dark blue overalls with an environment green sleeve and a back pocket.

Advanced Energy Solutions  
Geoengineering  
Geoinformatics  
Water and Environmental Engineering  
  
Nordic Master in Environmental Engineering  
Nordic Master in Innovative Sustainable Energy Engineering



CIV  
MEC  
NMME  
NMCCE  
EIT Manufacturing

**KIK: The Guild of Mechanical Engineers** (Koneinsinööri-ilta) was founded in 1915, and even with 107 years of history, it is the youngest guild in the School of Engineering. However, it is one of the biggest guild's with over 1000 members. Members of KIK are known for their light pink overalls.

Building Engineering  
Mechanical Engineering  
Nordic Master in Maritime Engineering  
Nordic Master in Cold Climate Engineering



REC  
SPT  
USP  
EIT Urban Mobility

**MK: The Guild of Surveying Engineers** (Maanmittarikilta), founded in 1901, is the second oldest guild in Finland and one of the smallest ones in Otaniemi. You can recognize a surveyor from their matte black overalls with a fuchsia coloured sleeve.

Real Estate Economics  
Spatial Planning and Transportation Engineering  
Urban studies and Planning in Real Estate Economics



# IK - The Guild of Civil Engineers

Moro!

I'm Aino, the Master's captain of the Guild of Civil Engineering, more commonly known as IK or "Raksa." If you found your line of study within the guild of IK, I will be your captain, ready to guide you around Aalto, Otaniemi, and Teekkarius, whether you'll be here for a full degree, a year, or only a semester. I'll be heading into my third year of studies here at Aalto.

Me and our lovely tutors will organize all sorts of events and activities during your time here. While many international events will be held in collaboration with the guilds of MK and KIK, I'd love to see you all at our own guild's events too. At Aalto, our student culture is super lively and vibrant, with almost 200 different clubs and associations to choose from. So, trust me, you'll definitely find something that catches your eye!

I hope this guide helps ease some of your confusion and answers at least some of your questions, but don't worry if it leaves you with more questions - that's totally okay too. All options are valid. One important tip: download Telegram! Your tutors will be in touch soon, but you can always reach out to me with messages and questions - I'm here for it.

I can't wait to meet you all <3

Aino Juvakka  
aino.juvakka@aalto.fi  
tg: @ainojuvakka



Greetings!

Congratulations on starting your studies and welcome aboard! You are now part of the Guild of Civil Engineers, also known as Raksa and IK (initials of the Guild's old Finnish name) as a master's student of one of our majors.

Our 110-year-old Guild congregates students from Aalto University's master students of Energy, Geo-, Water and Environmental Engineering and Geoinformatics. Additionally, the Guild is also for students from the Computational Engineering and Building Engineering bachelor programmes who have started their studies in 2022 as well as Energy and Environmental Engineering bachelor students who have started their studies in 2021 or earlier. Although there are many different fields of study under our Guild, we have an excellent community spirit, namely the builder spirit!

The Board, consisting of 12 people, has the main responsibility of the Guild's operation. Together with active Guild members, we take

care that your integration into the Guild community goes swimmingly. As the Board, our mission is to act as your support in all situations, organize fun and intriguing events, as well as take care that your best interests are considered in the university. Feel free to ask us anything that's on your mind! We'll try our best to answer and if we don't know, we'll find an answer. Also feel free to just come talk to us, I promise we don't bite (hopefully)!

I sincerely recommend participating in the Guild's activities. Let's make this year our lives' best one! See you on the orientation week at the latest!

On behalf of the Board of the Guild of Civil Engineers,

Aino Tornivaara  
Chairperson 2022  
The Guild of Civil Engineers

# MK - The Guild of Surveying Engineers

Hey everyone, and welcome to Aalto University and the mittari family!

I'm Daniel, the master's captain for the Guild of Surveying Engineers also more commonly known as Maanmittarikilta or MK. If you're starting in the programme of Real Estate Economics or Spatial Planning and Transportation Engineering or maybe in the collaborative programmes (USP or Urban Mobility), I will be your guide to Finland, teekkari culture in Otaniemi and our lovely guild!

I'm 22 years old, and actually will be a master's fuksi as well as I'll be starting my master's in Urban Studies and Planning in Real Estate Economics this fall. I would describe myself as a curious person, always looking for new experiences. I love travelling and meeting new interesting people, and I actually just spent a half a year on exchange in Taiwan. Thus, I know how frightening it can be to start studying in a new school, program or even new country, but don't worry we'll get through it together!

In our guild I'm a member of the board with 12 other lovely members, who you will probably meet in different events coming up throughout the year. In addition to the board we have over 100 officials in the guild, which include the international tutors you will be seeing a lot during the coming fall.

I'm extremely excited for the next fall and beyond and looking forward to getting to know you. Our lovely tutors will be in contact soon, but do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions in mind!

Daniel Guzman Monet  
daniel.guzmanmonet@aalto.fi  
Telegram: @danmonet



Howdy! Welcome to the Guild of Surveying Engineering and congratulations on your place at Aalto University! I can reveal that you got into a great guild. My name is Riina and I am the Chairperson of the Guild of Surveying Engineering (aka Maanmittarikilta). This autumn I will start my 4th year of studies and first year of my Master's degree in Real Estate Economics - an exciting situation for me too! I will also be one of your tutors.

In addition to the Master's programs, our guild also has bachelor students from the bachelor programmes of Real Estate Economics and Geoinformation, Sustainable Communities, and students from the old bachelor programme of Built Environment.

The aim of the Guild of Surveying Engineering is to bring students of the same field of study together. This is done by organizing different kinds of events such as business excursions, journeys in Finland and abroad, sitsit (an academic table party), sport and culture events and much more! Our guild also has its own magazine Geometres which is published 4 times a year.

In addition, our guild room is a place where you can relax between lectures, meet fellow guild members or just chill out. In the guild room you'll find the popular Nintendo Switch, board games and a very comfortable sofa. It is also worth mentioning the free coffee and tea, which you can sip freely.

The guild is run by a 13-member board and a large number of officials. If you have questions about anything, don't hesitate to contact us - we're here to help! The Guild of Surveying Engineering has given me great experiences and great people in my life, so I can only encourage all of you to get involved!

Hope you will love your time in our association! See you on fall, we are excited to meet you! <3

On the behalf of the board of the Guild of Surveying

Riina Timonen Chair 2023  
The Guild of Surveying Engineers

# KIK - The Guild of Mechanical Engineers

Hello all!

My name is Varpu and I'm a 4th year student studying mechanical engineering here at Aalto. Next year I'll be Master's Captain of the Guild of Mechanical Engineering, in Finland also known as Koneinsinööriklita (or shortly as KIK). Your tutors and I are excited to welcome you all to Finland and especially to Aalto University.

There will be a lot of collaboration with Aino from IK and with Daniel from MK, and you'll get to meet people from other majors. We'll try to give you the best experience of Finnish student culture. At Aalto you'll have great opportunities to make student life suitable for you. We have over 200 associations operating within AYY so if you have a hobby or interest, there just might be an association for it! Our guild also provides various kinds of events, and you are more than welcome to join them even if they are held in Finnish. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me! Your tutors will be in contact with you later about orientation week.

Just remember to read this guide carefully through and download Telegram!

Varpu Soini  
varpu.soini@aalto.fi  
Telegram: @Varpu



Dear New Guild Members and Students of Mechanical Engineering,

On behalf of our community, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new guild members and foreigners who have recently arrived in Finland. We are delighted to have you join us and hope that your time here will be filled with memorable experiences.

As you embark on your journey, I encourage you to fully immerse yourself in the beauty of Finland. Take your time to explore and appreciate the captivating landscapes, interact with the friendly locals, and delve into the rich culture. While it may sound like a cliché, I assure you that the experiences awaiting you are truly worth your while.

Have you ever wondered which capital in Europe provides such proximity to nature? Helsinki, with its breathtaking landscapes, offers an abundance of natural wonders. I invite you to take a bus to the enchanting Nuuksio National Park, where you can lose yourself amidst the tranquil surroundings. Feel the thrill of picking berries, savor the tranquility of the forests, and, if you're up for it, take a refreshing swim in one of the pristine lakes. Few places in Europe can match the accessibility and beauty of Finland's natural wonders.

Furthermore, I encourage you to explore the world of volunteer work that surrounds you within our university and campus. Otaniemi is a place where you can experience much more than just studying. And that is mainly what being a TEEKKARI is all about. Engage in hobbies, attend events, and join associations that align with your interests. It's important to note that these endeavors are primarily led by passionate volunteers, individuals who dedicate their time and efforts purely out of love for what they do. By actively participating in the vibrant community life here, you not only enrich your university experience but also create valuable connections with people who can provide support and guidance in your academic pursuits.

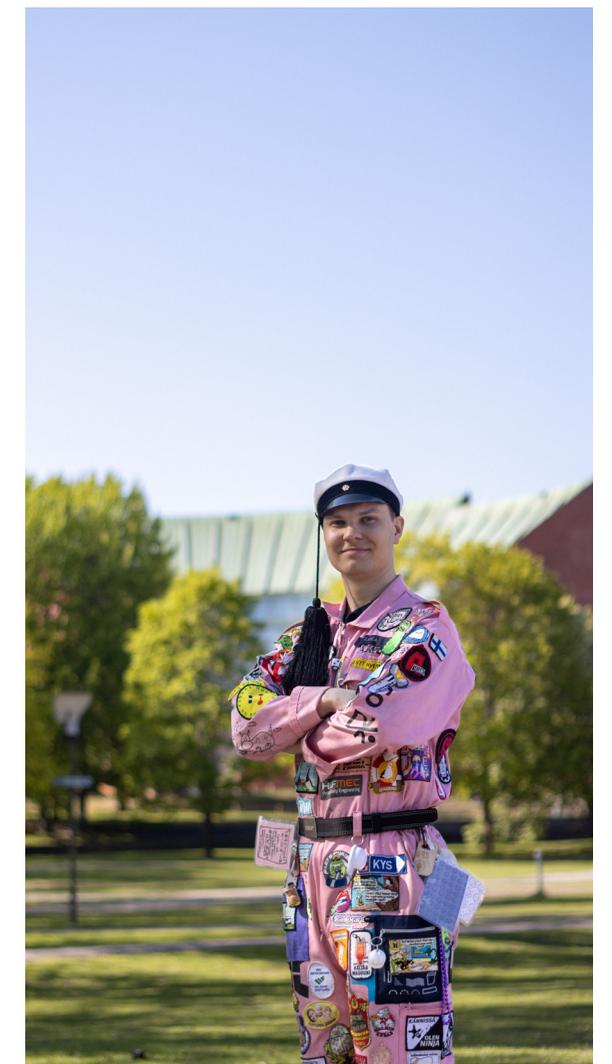
As you progress through the year, semester, or your studies, my sincere hope is that you

will gain much more than academic knowledge. May you become intimately acquainted with the Finnish way of life and embracing traditions such as sauna. Let the once-exotic elements of Finnish culture become a part of your everyday life.

By carrying the TEEKKARI spirit with you, you contribute to spreading the joy and understanding that make us the happiest nation on Earth, truly a unique university and on of a kind campus!

With warm regards,

The Chair of the Guild of Mechanical Engineers



# Telegram

Telegram is an instant messaging service (like Whatsapp) and is the preferred means of communication in Otaniemi because it can host large groupchats and has many other useful features. We strongly recommend that you install Telegram to join the important chat groups in Otaniemi. Most (almost all) information about Guild's events will be informed about via telegram and you should join at least your own Guild's chats which are listed below. You can ask others to add you to groups or join open groups by searching for them in the Telegram app. Under are listed a few useful groups:

Join your guild's fuksi group and info channel

Master fuksis



KIK

Captain's info



MK



IK

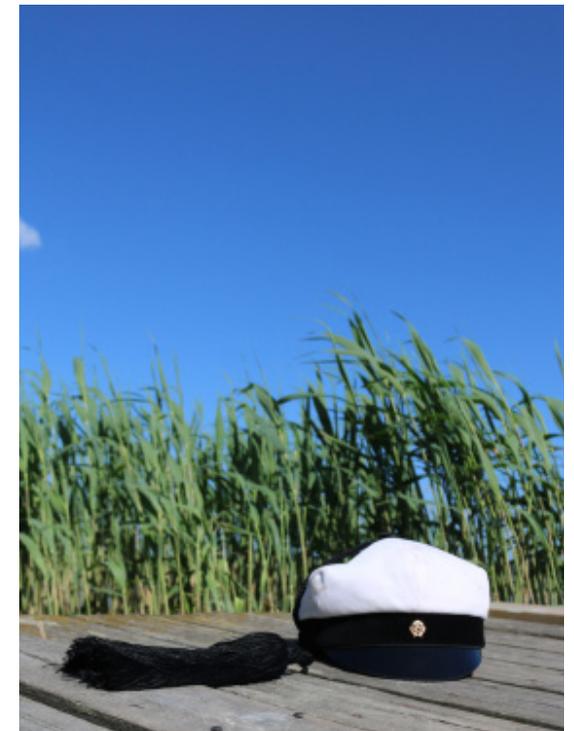


# What is a tekkari?

Officially the word tekkari means a university student of technology in the Finnish language but in reality it is much more than just that. You can recognize a tekkari from wearing the tekkari cap and student overalls (seen in several pictures).

Throughout their history, tekkaris have always made things their own way with a twinkle in their eyes. The tekkari culture of Otaniemi dates all the way back to 1872, when the school was still situated in Helsinki (thus, the old name of the school was Helsinki University of Technology), and is a point of pride for all tekkaris alike. Tekkaris also built the first apartments in Otaniemi before the school came here, so we all consider Otaniemi our home.

People know tekkaris from their tricks and from their cap. In tekkari culture we do have many interesting things that can't be seen if you are not a tekkari. Our traditional and redeveloping culture will surely have a place in your heart. Even the oldest students can be surprised with our new things. It can be weird and confusing in the beginning, but it is sure that we will make memories that will last forever. Being a part of the tekkari culture in Finland holds a lot of emotion and pride formed over time, which is why we take such good care of our freshmen, to ensure they get the chance to become fully a part of the tekkari culture.



## Teekkari Cap

An important part of being a tekkari is the cap. The cap in its current form has been in use since 1893 and is trademark protected so that only those who earn it may wear it. The cap is earned in your first year by completing a point card (which you will get from your International officer in the fall) and you receive it on First of May (Wappu) which is the biggest celebration for students all over Finland.

You collect points from nearly every event and other activities, so it is not necessary to do all the things that come up. It is not mandatory to complete the point card if you are not interested, you can still do all the things available for students in Otaniemi as tekkari culture is all about having fun and doing things that you want to do.

## Overalls

Overalls together with the teekkari cap are a signature combination by which you can recognize a teekkari. People wear their overalls with great pride. Everyone has the freedom to modify their overalls in any way they wish, and you can see some very unique things among the students. The most common things you see are sewn patches and all kinds of items hanging on the side. Some people change sleeves with friends, or couples change hems with each other. Overalls came to Finland in the early 1980s from Sweden. The first overalls were used by teekkaris. The tradition has stayed alive ever since, and now nearly every field of study in universities and universities of applied sciences have their own version of overalls.

## Sitsi parties

Sitsit is an academic table party, where you get to enjoy good food, drinks and singing. Singing skills or lack thereof is not an issue, it is said that a teekkari sings rather than well! Dresscode for sitsis varies from dark suit and cocktail dress to overalls or a theme costume depending on the sitsit! Leading the sitsit are toastmasters, who usually tell a story or a joke to introduce the next song. Sitsi partys are very common in teekkari culture and surely you will get a chance to try them out here in Otaniemi.



# JÄYNNÄ

## JOIN THE COMPETITION!

[WWW.JAYNA.FI](http://WWW.JAYNA.FI)





Greetings from Teknologföreningen!

Teknologföreningen (or TF) is the Swedish speaking students' union at Aalto University founded in 1872. TF organizes great parties, provides access to its clubhouse as well as to unique student experiences and opportunities for its members. Teknologföreningen has over 800 members from different branches of Aalto and involves over 100 students in its everyday functions - all on a voluntary basis. Any student at Aalto University with an interest in the Swedish language can become a member of Teknologföreningen. The membership is completely free and comes with many privileges. TF enriches its members' lives with everything a diverse students' union can offer. TF's activities and services include organizing events ranging from culture and sport to dinners and

parties, but we also offer opportunities to practice and develop skills in enterprising and creativity. And I, the Integratör (International officer of TF), am here to help you and to make sure that everybody feels welcome at TF.

Questions? Ask us anything!

Integratör  
Carl-Victor "Calle" Schauman  
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Phuxivator  
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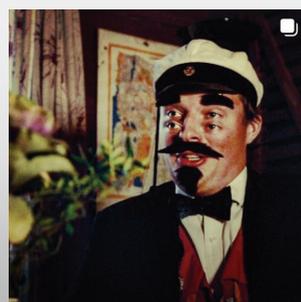
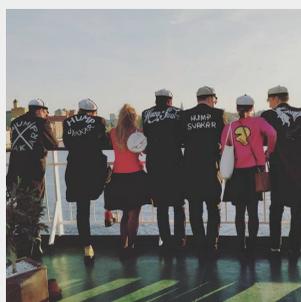
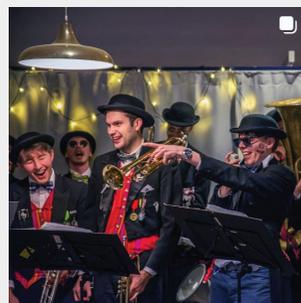


## humpsvakar

### Teknologorkestern Humpsvakar

Den finlandssvenska teknologorkestern i Otnäs! Vi gillar ljuv hornmusik, vacker dans och typerää viihdettä!

[shop.humps.fi](http://shop.humps.fi)



# dissonanssi

Dissonanssi is a mixed choir from Otaniemi singing diverse music all the way from renaissance to glam metal — without forgetting to have fun!

More info on auditions will be posted later, follow us so you don't miss it!



<https://dissonanssi.fi/en/>



@dissonanssi



dissonanssikuoro

ayy

## Aalto University Student Union

# Greetings from Aalto University Student Union!

Welcome to Aalto University and its student union, AYY! Here at the Student Union we aim to ensure that you can truly experience the best student's life in the world here at Aalto. Our wish is that every student feels good and safe in our student community, and that every one of us receives all the help and support they need for the entire duration of their studies.

You are stepping into a world of endless opportunities. We urge you to be curious, try new things, to learn and most of all to enjoy your time at Aalto. Don't be afraid even though finding your own passion and place in the world might seem like a big task and never fear mistakes. We are here to support you with all of your problems.

See you around!

**Mantė Žygelytė**

Board Member (New Students,  
Internationality and Equality)



# What is AYY?

As a student of Aalto, Aalto University Student Union, AYY, is your student union. AYY brings together about 17,000 students of arts, design, business and technology. We work to ensure the well-being of all our members and we want to develop teaching at Aalto and the best student life in the world.

As a member of AYY, you are entitled to numerous student union services and student benefits both locally and throughout Finland. AYY offers several services for its members, such as affordable student housing, rental facilities, and advocacy. As a student of Aalto, you can also participate in activities and events organised by AYY and over 200 associations within the Student Union.

## AYY in Figures

- Around 17,000 members
- Approximately 200 organisations and associations
- Approximately 2,700 student apartments
- Nearly 50 employees
- 10 full-time board members
- Approximately 500 volunteers

## Communication Channels

You can find comprehensive information about all AYY's services and opportunities at [aayy.fi](http://aayy.fi). We compile all current information concerning students in the weekly newsletter published by email on Mondays.

-  **Aalto-yliopiston ylioppilaskunta - AYY**  
AYY Housing
-  **@aayy\_fi**  
**@aayyhousing**
-  **AYY\_FI**
-  **Student Union AYY**
-  **Aalto University Student Union AYY**
-  **AYY Info**  
**AYY Events**

# Services

## Student housing

AYY owns approximately 2,700 affordable student apartments in Helsinki and Espoo and offers a home for over 3,400 residents. All degree and exchange students who are members of AYY have the right to apply for AYY's housing. You can apply for housing as soon as your admission is confirmed by the university.

First-year students and students moving from outside the Helsinki metropolitan area are given priority in the allocation of housing. First-year students receive an additional score when they apply for AYY's shared apartment queues. To receive the score, students must apply for housing no later than in July or December, depending on when their studies begin.

You can browse and search for AYY's housing through the Domo system: [domo.aayy.fi](http://domo.aayy.fi). As a student, you can also apply for housing from the Foundation for Student Housing in the Helsinki Region (HOAS).

## Advocacy and interest representation

AYY represents students' interests and rights on university level and national level, making sure students are being heard in the society! You can take advantage of AYY's advocacy services, for example, if your

exam results are late or you may get in touch with an equity officer if you encounter any type of harassment. As a member of AYY, you can apply for administration as a student representative and influence the decisions made at the university.

AYY's highest decision-making body is the Representative Council (Rep-Co), which is elected by vote. In the elections, all AYY members can vote and run as candidates. The next Representative Council elections will be held this autumn. Members of the Representative Council decide on the goals and policies of the Student Union.

## Student culture

Volunteering, association activities and diverse events are an essential part of Aalto student culture and the Aalto community. The highlights of the year include Wappu and Orientation week events, annual ball, Shrovetide celebrations and many other events.

In addition to the Student Union, events are organised by volunteers who work in sections and committees. AYY has five sections: Aava Community Section, Campus Section, Teekkari (Technical Student) Section, Museum Section and Advocacy Management Group (more commonly known as EduJory). The call for volunteers will open in late autumn. Information on the call will be published in AYY's communication channels.

In addition, AYY has more than 200 associations that organise activities in the fields of sports, music, games,

and other hobbies. New students are always welcome to join association activities, and AYY offers help, support, and advice for the establishment of associations and their activities. Keep an open mind for different opportunities and get to know the associations in upcoming events!

The Museum of Student Life has expanded its exhibition and activities to cover the student cultures of the entire Aalto community - technology, business and arts. In addition to engineering students' culture, the museum now also presents the history and present of KY - Aalto University Business Students and TOKYO, Students of Art, Design and Architecture. In addition, AYY's art collection will also be presented in the exhibition collections. The museum is located at Jämeräntaival 3A.

## Rental facilities

In addition to housing, AYY has numerous saunas, event venues and recreational facilities that members can rent. Some facilities are free of charge. AYY also rents a van.

## Scholarships and project grants

You can apply for a project grant from AYY or the TTE-Fund for a project organised by a group of friends or an association. You can also apply for scholarships awarded by AYY.

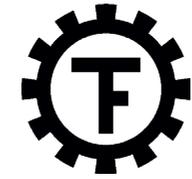
## Student benefits

You will receive a digital or plastic student card to prove your student status (card delivered by Frank). By showing your student status, you are entitled to hundreds of benefits from 1 Aug onwards, including Kela, Matkahuolto and VR, as well as to student lunch discount in student restaurants. You are also entitled to student discount in public transport in the metropolitan area if you live in the HSL area and have updated your student status in your travel card at the HSL service point. You can find the list of all benefits and discounts available with the student card on Frank's website at frank.fi.

The digital student card Frank App is an official student ID, which you can download and activate starting on 1 Aug once you have enrolled for attendance at the university and paid AYY's membership fee. You can check the prices of other card options on Frank's website. You can also add an ISIC license to both digital and plastic student cards. More information on different student cards can be found on Frank's website at frank.fi.

Once you have received the plastic student card, please remember to pick up the academic year tag for your card from AYY's service point! At the same time, you can also pick up a free Design Notebook and a badge.

## Teekkari Guilds and Associations of Otaniemi



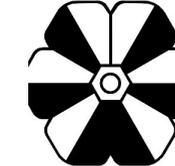
TF  
Teknologföreningen  
Association for swedish-speaking students



FK  
Fysikkokilta  
Guild of Physics  
Aalto SCI



KK  
Kemistikilta  
Chemistry Guild  
Aalto CHEM



VK  
Vuorimieskilta  
Guild of Materials and Metallurgy  
Aalto CHEM



MK  
Maanmittarikilta  
Guild of Surveying Engineers  
Aalto ENG



Prodeko  
Guild of Industrial Engineering and management  
Aalto SCI



AK  
Arkkitehtikilta  
Guild of Architecture  
Aalto ARTS



TiK  
Tietokilta  
Guild of Knowledge  
Aalto SCI



IK  
Rakennusinsinöörilikta  
Guild of Civil Engineers  
Aalto ENG



AS  
Automaatio- ja systeemitekniikan kilta  
Guild of Automation and Systems technology  
Aalto ELEC



KIK  
Koneinsinöörilikta  
Guild of Mechanical Engineers  
Aalto ENG



Athene  
Guild of Information Networks  
Aalto SCI



SIK  
Sähköinsinöörilikta  
Guild of Electrical Engineering  
Aalto ELEC



Inkubio  
Guild of Bioinformation Technology  
Aalto ELEC

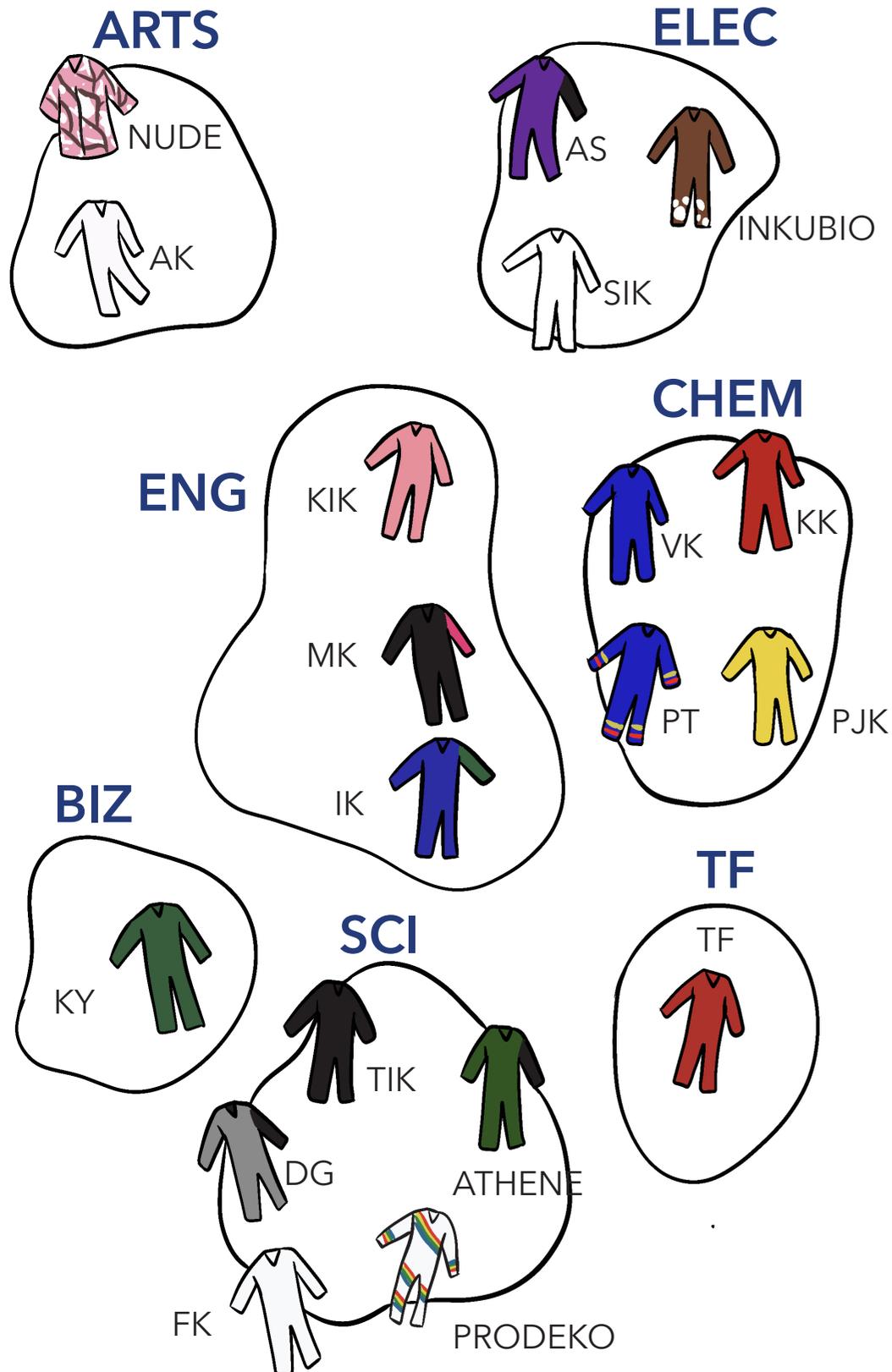


PJK  
Puunjalostajakilta  
Forest Products Guild  
Aalto CHEM



PT  
Prosessiteekkarit  
Association of Process Engineering students  
Aalto CHEM

## Overalls



## International committee

The International Committee, also known as KvTMK (short for the Finnish kansainvälisyystoimikunta), brings together the people in charge of international students and matters in the Teekkari guilds. KvTMK is led by the International Director, and its purpose is to promote internationality and the role of foreign students at Aalto University and the Teekkari associations. The committee participates in tutoring and orientation for the international fuksis (new master's and exchange students), takes care of other fuksi matters, and organises events. KvTMK's events are meant to serve the international students, so they're always held in English and open to all Aalto students.

KvTMK is one of the underlying committees of the Teekkari section, also known as TJ (short for the Finnish Teekkarijaosto). TJ itself is part of the Aalto Student Union volunteer sector. TJ is responsible for upholding the Teekkari spirit through numerous traditions. Therefore, the different committees of TJ organise a wide range of Teekkari-minded events for the whole Aalto community. TJ's opinions also have a great impact on the future of Teekkari traditions, due to Aalto being home to the oldest and original technical university students in Finland.

KvTMK events and other events organised by TJ's committees are a great way to experience the Teekkari traditions and student culture of Aalto over discipline borders. Your International Captains will keep you updated on everything that's happening around Otaniemi, but the best way to stay updated on the biggest Teekkari events in Aalto is to follow our social media: you can find KvTMK on Facebook and TJ on Instagram!

Facebook



Instagram





## International director's Greetings

Greetings, new fuksi!

Congratulations on your admission to Aalto University! You made a marvelous decision applying here. I wish to warmly welcome you to our university and the unique community of technology students, Teekkaris!

My name is Veera Fristadius, and I am the International Director of the Aalto University Student Union, or AYY. My responsibility is to lead the International Committee, called KvT-MK, which consists of all International Captains, Officers, and Master's Captains from associations, which admit new engineering and architecture students. Our goal, together with the mentioned International Captains of the Teekkari guilds and your tutors, also known as ISOs or BIGs, is to make your first year or semester here in Aalto unforgettable.

The Teekkari culture is a truly unique student culture and something that you can experience only in Finland. The community, the International Committee and your own International Captains will provide you with events, in which you can explore the Teekkari culture, get to know Otaniemi and the rest of Finland, and meet your fellow students. The activities are a great chance to uplift your stay in Aalto and to turn your time here into one of the best periods of your life.

The Teekkari culture has a long history and Teekkaris have been present throughout Finland for over 150 years, starting in Helsinki. There have been Teekkaris in Otaniemi since 1966, when the Helsinki campus moved there. The most prized distinction of a Teekkari is their tasseled cap (Teekkarilakki), which goes back to 1893. Outside of the community, Teekkaris are known, amongst other things, for pranks (jäynä), tempaus and singing culture. The tassel-capped community aims to evoke cheer and joy in the whole public, not just students. The Teekkari culture promotes a sense of community and tolerance - Teekkaris accept everyone exactly as they are and leave none behind.

Fuksi education and upbringing have a long tradition in Otaniemi. Me and your International Captains will be welcoming you to the Aalto community and guiding you through your first year or semester in Aalto. As a fuksi, you get to collect fuksi points from various events and activities, which will earn you your very own Teekkari cap. The fuksi points will introduce you to the Teekkari culture, the Aalto community, Finland, other students of Aalto, and work as a great way to make life-long memories! The fuksi year will culminate in the largest and most revered event for us Teekkaris: Wappu, provided that the Fuksi Major decides

to organize one for you. If you are an exchange student leaving after the Autumn term, I strongly suggest visiting Otaniemi again for the potential Wappu.

In addition to technology and architecture students, there are also art and business students studying in Otaniemi. The united and multidisciplinary university, as well as the Aalto community will provide you with a rich and abundant selection of student activities to complement your studies. Everyone is sure to find some activity that interests them with a like-minded group!

My most important advice for you is to participate with an open mind and heart. Get to know your International Captains, tutors, and fellow students. Beside studying, experiencing new things together and building friendships are some of the best opportunities our university can provide you with during your time here as a student. Your guild or association, the International Committee, and countless other people and organizations create the framework for the activities, but you get to decide how you want to shape your time as a student. A once-in-a-lifetime experience awaits you and I recommend that you make the most of it! I am grateful for the privilege of accompanying you and your fellow students on your wondrous journey to becoming Teekkaris.

Yours truly,

Veera Fristadius  
International Director '23



## Other organizations



### BEST Helsinki

BEST Helsinki is the local section of BEST (Board of European Students of technology) and a part of AYY. They organize different events in Otaniemi, as well as events where people from around Europe come to participate. They have Finnish and non-Finnish members and are one of Aalto's international organizations. Everyone in Aalto is welcomed to join.

See more information:  
[facebook.com/BESTHelsinki](https://facebook.com/BESTHelsinki)  
 Telegram: [t.me/BESTHelsinki](https://t.me/BESTHelsinki)



### ESN Aalto

ESN Aalto is the local section of ESN Finland and ESN International. They arrange events mainly for exchange and international students at Aalto University, but everyone from Aalto is welcome whether they are studying through Erasmus or not.

For more information:  
[esnaalto.org](https://esnaalto.org)  
[facebook.com/EsnAaltoOfficial](https://facebook.com/EsnAaltoOfficial)  
 Telegram: [t.me/ESNAalto](https://t.me/ESNAalto)



## Professional Subject Associations

Professional Subject Associations, often called "AA clubs" (short for ammattinekerho not anonymous alcoholics...), are for students who wish to deepen their connection to a specific subject. The Guilds are relatively large organizations catering to everyone, but in these clubs you can connect with like minded people and get more professional content on fascinating excursions, seminars and fun evening parties. Of course, nothing stops you from joining several of them if you are interested! Most of the activity is in Finnish, but just ask and you'll surely get help.



Akva  
 water and environmental engineering club  
[akva.ayy.fi](https://akva.ayy.fi)



LVK  
 Energy Engineering Club  
[lvk.ayy.fi](https://lvk.ayy.fi)



Fundi  
 Real estate economics students' association  
[fundi.fi](https://fundi.fi)



MKR  
 Geotechnical and Hydraulic Engineering club  
[mkr.ayy.fi](https://mkr.ayy.fi)



Linkki  
 Transportation and Highway Engineering Club  
[linkki.ayy.fi](https://linkki.ayy.fi)



Poligoni  
 Geoinformatics Club  
[poligoni.ayy.fi](https://poligoni.ayy.fi)



LRK  
 Shipbuilders' Club



ROPO  
 Construction Economics Club  
[ropo.ayy.fi](https://ropo.ayy.fi)



LVI  
 Architectural engineering and energy engineering Club  
[lvi.ayy.fi](https://lvi.ayy.fi)



VTK  
 Production and manufacturing engineering club  
[valmistustekniikankerho.com](https://valmistustekniikankerho.com)



Väöntö  
 Students interested in structural engineering  
[vaanto.ayy.fi](https://vaanto.ayy.fi)



# POLYTEKNIKKOJEN KUORO

The Polytech Choir



## Congratulations Fuksi!

Hello and welcome to your new studies also from Academic Engineers and Architects in Finland, TEK! We are the trade union for all academic engineers and architects, providing benefits and services to support our members, and lobbying for conditions that allow them to succeed.

As the TEK Student Liaisons, we represent TEK on the Otaniemi campus. Our job is to keep you connected to TEK, and to help make sure your student years are as amazing as possible, no matter your background.

Find out more about what we do at [tek.fi/en](https://tek.fi/en), or join using the QR code link! TEK membership is free for students!

See you soon on campus!

*Best regards,*

**Owain and Sara**  
owain.hopeaketo@tek.fi  
telegram kvtykki  
sara.siivola@tek.fi  
telegram sarasiivola



# AUDITION

( FOR FINNISH SPEAKERS ONLY )

11.9.2023

AT 17.00. JMT1



REGISTRATION AND MORE INFO:

[WWW.POLYTEKNIKKOJENKUORO.FI/KOELAULUT](https://www.polyteknikkojenkuoro.fi/koelaulut)

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**Meilahti**  
**Töölö**



[www.unisport.fi](http://www.unisport.fi)

# unisport

# TOKYO

**TOKYO RY IS THE ASSOCIATION THAT BRINGS TOGETHER STUDENTS OF THE SCHOOL OF ARTS, DESIGN, AND ARCHITECTURE.**



**TOKYO is the umbrella association open to all ARTS and art-inclined students.**

As a school-level association, TOKYO takes an active part in student advocacy and organizes events to gather together all the ARTS-minded students and alumni.

Our events include Lapland trip, Maskerad, and Christmas Sales, where ARTS students sell their art. TOKYO also owns Kipsari and Kipsari Studio - two great non-profit vegan restaurants- as well as Torso magazine, which is printed at least 4 times a year and showcases ARTS students works + discusses current events and topics.

## ◦◦ MORE INFO?

Insta: @tokyo\_aalto\_arts  
Telegram: aaltoarts  
tokyo.fi



# HELLO FUKSI AND WELCOME TO AALTO COMMUNITY!

## KY - AALTO UNIVERSITY BUSINESS STUDENTS

KY is a community of more than 3000 business students, "kyteris". Our purpose in the Aalto community is to cherish our 110-year-old traditions, uphold KY culture and advocate for our members. At the campus you can spot us in our dollar green overalls.

KY is home for hundreds of volunteers, who participate actively in KY's clubs, subject clubs, subcommittees and committees. They organize a wide selection of activities to make sure that everyone gets the most out of their time in the university. We have many traditional events that are also open for anyone in the Aalto community, such as the adventure competition Aalto City Challenge, Hukkaputki pub crawl and KY Wappu.

Website: [ky.fi](http://ky.fi)  
 Instagram @[ky\\_1911](https://www.instagram.com/ky_1911)  
 TikTok @[ky1911\\_](https://www.tiktok.com/@ky1911_)



## PROBBA RY

Probba is the Student Association of Aalto University School of Business, Mikkeli Campus. All students who study at Mikkeli campus are members of Probba, bringing their size to around 240 members.

Website: [probba.org](http://probba.org)  
 Instagram: [probbary](https://www.instagram.com/probbary)



✨ Discover the World with ESN Aalto! 🌍

Embark on an extraordinary journey that will ignite your wanderlust and awaken the adventurer within you. ESN Aalto, the ultimate gateway to unforgettable experiences, invites you to unlock a world of excitement, friendships, and lifelong memories.

Imagine diving headfirst into vibrant cultures, traversing breathtaking landscapes, and connecting with fellow explorers from every corner of the globe. With ESN Aalto, you'll have the opportunity to immerse yourself in an international community that embraces diversity, fosters personal growth, and celebrates the beauty of multiculturalism.

Whether you're an aspiring globetrotter or a seasoned traveler, our dedicated team of passionate students is here to guide you every step of the way. From organizing mind-blowing trips to arranging language tandems and cultural events, ESN Aalto is your key to unlocking a world of endless possibilities.

Expand your horizons, step outside your comfort zone, and make memories that will last a lifetime. Join ESN Aalto today and let the world become your playground. Don't just dream it, live it!

For more information:

- [esnaalto.org](http://esnaalto.org)
- [facebook.com/EsnAaltoOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/EsnAaltoOfficial)
- Telegram: [t.me/ESNAalto](https://t.me/ESNAalto)





# MAIK HEADSTART

Fuksi! Come to MAIK head start!

It's the starting bang before orientation week where freshmen have the opportunity to meet their new classmates. On top of new students, the board members of Guild of Surveying Engineering, Architecture and Civil Engineering, tutors and the board of MAIK will be joining the fun.

At the head start you get to experience the funniest aspects of student life for the first time in a relaxed cottage environment, with food, drink and good company. You already get familiar faces for the orientation week. So go ahead and join in, you won't regret it!

The MAIK head start will be organized at the Kavalahiti camp center on August 19 - 20, 2023. There will be a bus ride from Otaniemi on Saturday and a return ride on Sunday.

See you at the MAIK head start!

Noora Permi  
Chair 2023  
MAIK ry



## MAIK HEAD START 2023

**WHAT** Having a great time with new friends and enjoying the Finnish summer by chilling, going to sauna, eating and drinking!

**WHERE** Kavalahiti camp center, Inkoo, There will be a bus ride from Otaniemi on Saturday and return ride on Sunday.

**WHEN** Sat - Sun 19. - 20.8.2023

**PRICE** 16€ for a member of MAIK, 20€ for others. Both prices include bus rides, lodging, dinner and breakfast!

**ENROLLMENT** MAIK ry's website. The link will be published later also in Telegram and on our instagram.

ig: @maik-yhdistys  
maik.ayy.fi

## Survival in Otaniemi

### Housing

Need to find a student apartment?



Make an application right away to both HOAS, (Foundation for Student Housing in the Helsinki Region) and AYY (Aalto University Student Union). Apply for all possible student apartments and accept the first offer you get to secure a flat!



### Health Services



The Finnish Student Health Service (FSHS) provides student health care services that are available to those who have paid the health care fee. FSHS offers general health, oral health, and mental health services.

Students who have enrolled for attendance must pay the student health care fee to Kela at their own initiative. The fee is paid twice a year: the autumn term fee by the end of September and the spring term fee by the end of January. International exchange students, doctoral students, students in continuing education or tailor-made education are not covered by the FSHS student health care. Additional information can be found at [yths.fi](http://yths.fi)

### Transport



Public transportation is easy to use and you should be able to go from any place to another in Helsinki metropolitan area (Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa and Kauniainen) easily by bus, train, underground or tram. To get a student discount you need a travelling card called matkakortti from HSL. More information at [hsl.fi](http://hsl.fi)

### Eating



There are many restaurants in Otaniemi in which you can get lunch at a student friendly price. To see the menu of the week in all restaurants check [kanttiinit.fi](http://kanttiinit.fi)

### Student card

Members of AYY are entitled to apply for student card, which gives you many discounts and other benefits. Digital student card is free. Application and information: [frank.fi/en](http://frank.fi/en)

### Sports

Exercise at campus with Unisport, that offers both gym practise and group training with student friendly prices. You can also join ENG teams in ball game series or register your own team.



# Otaniemi - English

Here is a collection of some of the words that don't necessarily carry much meaning outside of Otaniemi, but are useful to know while you are studying/living here. Of course, you don't have to remember all of these and can always ask an older student if you are unsure of anything

**Aava:** Aalto University Student Union's Community section, bringing all Aalto students together  
**A-bloc:** a small shopping centre above the Otaniemi metro station  
**AK:** The Guild of Architects  
**Alvari:** The square behind the main building (Undergraduate Centre); the cafeteria in Otakaari 1  
**Amfi:** Amphitheatre outside the main building  
**AS:** The Guild of Automation and Systems Technology  
**Assari:** A course assistant, often an older student who runs exercise sessions  
**Athene:** The Guild of Information Networks Athene  
**AYY:** The student union of Aalto University; oversees the interests of the students and organizes events  
**DI:** Master of Science in Technology  
**Dipoli:** The main building of Aalto University, the centre of administration  
**Domo:** AYY's student housing application system  
**ENG:** Aalto University's School of Engineering  
**Excu:** A company visit in Finland or abroad  
**FK:** The guild of Physics  
**FSHS:** Finnish student health care service; YTHS in Finnish  
**FTMK:** The Fuksi Committee; a committee consisting of the Fuksi Captains of all the guilds and the chairman of the committee, the Fuksi major  
**Fuksi:** a first year technical student  
**Fresher:** a first-year Aalto University student  
**Fuksi Captain:** Responsible for all fuksis of a guild, knows everything  
**Gravitaatio:** An event organized by AYY that takes place the Tuesday of the Easter week

**Guild:** An association bringing together students studying in the same field  
**HOAS:** Helsinki region student housing foundation  
**Hymni / Teekkarihymni:** A traditional teekkari song that is sung at midnight (see back)  
**IK:** The Guild of Civil Engineers (your guild!)  
**Inkubio:** The Guild of Bioinformation Technology  
**JMT:** Jämeräntaival; a street in Otaniemi with a lot of student housing, the "party street"  
**Julkku:** A Wappu magazine that is published every other year, all the even years  
**Jäynä:** A friendly prank or practical joke that aims to lift the spirits of everyone involved. Jäynä should never be mean or leave a bad feeling  
**Keto or keskustoimisto:** AYY Central Office, Otakaari 11  
**KIK:** The Guild of Mechanical Engineers  
**Kilta:** A guild  
**Kiltis:** A guild room, a place for guild members to hang out, drink coffee and play Playstation  
**KK:** The Chemistry Guild  
**Konelainen:** A member of the Guild of Mechanical Engineers  
**Kylteri:** A business student  
**Lafka:** A slang word for University building  
**Lakinlaskijaiset:** A big event on the 30.9. where the teekkari caps are taken off for the winter  
**Laskari:** A study exercise  
**Lukkari:** A song leader in sitsit. Tells bad jokes and tries to stay in tune  
**Maari:** A building in Otaniemi with computers, study spaces etc. Open 24/7  
**Mittari:** A member of the Guild of Surveying Engineers  
**MK:** The Guild of Surveying Engineers



**MyCourses:** An online system where you can follow your studies and hand in assignments  
**Niemi:** Otaniemi; a headland in Finnish  
**Noppa:** A study credit, a die  
**OK:** Otakaari, the road that goes through Otaniemi  
**OK20:** A building on Otakaari, often used for parties, Otakaari 20  
**Oltermanni:** The guild's connection to school's staff and departments; also cheese  
**Ossinlampi:** A small pond in Otaniemi  
**Ossinlinna:** A building in Otakaari 18, student residences and a sauna owned by AYY  
**Overalls:** A common attire for students, indicates the guild or association of the wearer  
**Palju:** A hot tub, the best place to be at a sillis  
**PJK:** The Forest Products Guild  
**Polyteekkarimuseo:** The museum of teekkari culture  
**Prodeko:** The Guild of Industrial Engineering and Management  
**PT:** Process technology students  
**Päälafka:** Another name for the Undergraduate Centre, Otakaari 1  
**Raksalainen:** A member of the Guild of Civil Engineers  
**Rantsu:** or Rantasauna, a Sauna on the sea shore behind JMT  
**SIK:** The Guild of Electrical Engineering  
**Sillis:** A brunch event after a big party like an annual ball, usually lasts the whole day  
**Sitsit:** An academic dinner party with a three-course meal, drinks and singing  
**SMT:** Servin Maijan tie, the other road in Otaniemi  
**Smökki:** Servin Maijan mökki, a building at the beginning of JMT, a common place for events  
**Speksi:** An interactive and humoristic musical made by students

**Teekkari:** A student of technology who has studied for at least one year and has the right to wear the cap  
**Teekkarijaosto (TJ):** The Teekkari Section; a section of AYY, the highest authority when it comes to all the teekkari things  
**Teekkarikylä:** The Teekkari Village; home to many students  
**Teekkarilakki:** The teekkari cap  
**TEK:** Union of Engineers  
**Telegram:** An instant messaging app widely used in Otaniemi, without it life in Aalto could be hard  
**Tempaus:** A major event that aims to direct the attention of the public to a chosen aspect of the society  
**Teknologföreningen (TF):** The Swedish speaking nation of Aalto  
**TiK:** The Guild of Computer Science  
**Täffä:** A building and cafeteria owned by TF, serves spaghetti on Wednesdays  
**Tupsufuksi:** A first-year student who has earned and received their teekkari cap  
**Ullis / Ullanlänämäki:** A part of Kaivopuisto where students gather to celebrate on the 1st of May  
**VK:** The Guild of Materials and Metallurgy Students  
**Väre:** A New building for ARTS located above the metro station  
**Wappu:** A Teekkari's Christmas, New Year and Birthday combined, organized if the Fuksi Major allows so  
**Äpy:** Wappu publication published every other year, the uneven years





*Yö kuin sielu teekkarin on pimiä,  
takajoukko nukkuu vain, nukkuu vain  
Tarhapöllön ääni kimiä,  
kuuluu pappilasta päin, kuuluu päin  
Ja taas ja siis,  
ja 1,2,3,4,5.*