



2x4 REASONS WHY

Finland

Number 1 in Student Satisfaction

International students have ranked Finland as the best country to study in Europe. Reasons include: the high level of academics, social life and university services.

Unspoilt Nature

Finland is the country of thousands of lakes and the midnight sun, urban landscapes and untouched wilderness.

Safety

Finland has repeatedly been ranked the safest and least corrupt country in the world.

World-Class Education

Finland's education system has been ranked top in PISA education rankings.

Oulu

The City in the North

Oulu is a youthful student city of comfortable size. Living in Oulu means easy access to both high technology and northern nature.

International Ambience

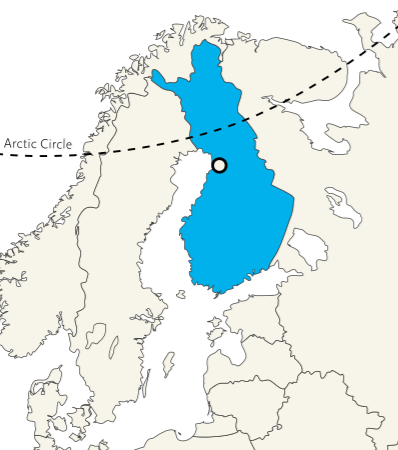
120 different nationalities, 190,000 inhabitants. Oulu is a multicultural city where almost everyone speaks English.

The Smart City

Oulu has repeatedly been ranked among the smartest cities in the world.

Lively Business Hub

Oulu is home to many high technology companies, from start-ups to international corporations.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will I have to learn Finnish to survive?

Learning Finnish is fun and useful, but almost everyone speaks English. Your modules will also be entirely in English.

Will I see the northern lights in Oulu?

On clear winter nights, it is highly probable that you will see the aurora borealis.

Will I find accommodation?

The student housing association PSOAS offers students affordable accommodation. You can choose to live near the campus or the city centre. Private housing costs in Oulu are low compared to the other major university cities. In Finland, students usually have their own rooms and access to shared facilities within the apartment.

Is it safe in Oulu?

Finland is one of the safest countries in the world.

What are the average living costs in Oulu?

700–900 euros per month. The university offers affordable lunches and free wifi.

Will I see the midnight sun in Oulu?

Oulu is below the Arctic Circle, so the sun sets below the horizon for some hours during the summer months. However, the nights are still bright.

Can I find part-time work in Oulu?

Many part-time jobs often require some knowledge of Finnish. Some foreign students take side jobs as language tutors in their mother tongue.

Will I have to dip into an icy lake?

Definitely not. But you definitely should! It's completely safe and has many health benefits.

Is Oulu hard to reach?

Oulu has an international airport with daily connections to Helsinki and other Scandinavian cities. Finland is the gateway between Europe and Asia.

What is the academic atmosphere like?

In Finland, the students are respected members of the scientific community. The university staff are welcoming and approachable.

Faculty of Information Technology
and Electrical Engineering
Information Processing Science



ALUMNI STORIES

Director, External R&D Collaboration, F-Secure
Janne Järvinen,
PhD, 51

Why did you study Information Processing Science?

I've always been interested in computers and programming.

Why did you choose the University of Oulu?

A teacher recommended it to me. I decided to move to Oulu where I ended up living for 15 years.

What was the best part of your studies?

The studies were connected to the industry. We had a lot of group work and project courses.

What is the best part of your job?

I've been working for F-Secure for ten years. I get to follow closely the growth of the Finnish software intensive industry. I'm also involved in international projects with large corporations and universities.

How do you benefit from your studies?

My studies gave me a comprehensive knowledge about information systems and how they serve people. The University of Oulu has always been a pioneer in people-centric software engineering. The studies underlined that fact that systems serve people and not the other way round.

Any words of encouragement for future students?

Studies in Information Processing Science open up amazing opportunities. Information and the Internet are always present and you can specialise in almost any field.

Technical Lead Manager, Google Sweden AB
Jarkko Oikarinen,
PhD, DSc, 48

Why did you study Information Processing Science?

I've been fascinated with computers ever since they became available in Finland.

Why did you choose the University of Oulu?

The University of Oulu is one of the best universities in Finland. It's very diverse academically. Living in Oulu is also more affordable than living in, say, Helsinki.

What was the best part of your studies?

Friends and the chance to apply your skills to practice. The studies are not all about theory.

What are the highlights of your career?

There are many highlights: developing IRC and seeing it spread globally, finishing my PhD thesis and working at Google.

What is the best part of your job?

No two days are the same. I get to work with diverse software and different people.

What are the challenges of your job?

Ensuring good communication and co-operation when you work in different countries and cities.

How do you benefit from your studies?

The basic principles of software development come up almost every day.

Winner of the Dvorak Award and the Millennium Technology Prize

SOFTWARE, SYSTEMS AND SERVICES DEVELOPMENT IN THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

GO FURTHER GET FAR



UNIVERSITY of OULU
OULUN YLIOPISTO

FINLAND



SOFTWARE, SYSTEMS AND SERVICES DEVELOPMENT IN THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT



AWARDED DEGREE

Master of Science

DURATION

Two years, 120 ECTS

LANGUAGE OF TEACHING

English

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GS³D is a Master's Programme in the field of Information Processing Science. It has four focus areas: software development, systems development, services development and the global environment. The programme is designed to give you the skills and knowledge you need to work as a specialist anywhere in the world.

Software development

GS³D gives you a solid foundation of SW engineering methods and technologies. Your studies include open source software development and user interface design.

Systems development

GS³D gives you the knowledge about information systems, their design methods and best practices in the field. You will also learn about information security.

Services development

GS³D gives you the skillset to work in IT services development and management. You will participate in projects and group work in a multicultural environment.

Global expertise

The programme gives you the skills to work in any environment where information technology is used or developed. You will learn to lead multicultural teams and projects and work as an expert in global ICT companies.



GS³D IN NUMBERS

- maximum intake of new students: 50
- percentage of applicants approved: c. 30%
- students usually from 12–15 nationalities

IDEAL CANDIDATE

Holds a Bachelor's degree in, for example:

- Information Technology
- Software Engineering
- Computer Science
- Information Systems

Characteristics:

- group work skills
- logical thinking
- an inquisitive mind
- self-reflection skills

BENEFITS OF GS³D

- Combination of theory and practice
- Close connections to the industry
- Clear programme structure, based on the ACM curriculum guidelines
- Diverse range of teaching practices
- Freedom to choose optional modules

GRADUATE OUTCOMES

Game Developer
Software Engineer
Interface Designer
IT Manager
Project Manager
Researcher
Senior Specialist
Various managerial positions



MODULE STRUCTURE

1st year, autumn

- Preparatory Module for MSc Studies
- System Design Methods for Information Systems
- Software Development in Global Environments
- Cross-Cultural Competence and Communication Skills
- Open Source Software Development
- Research Methods

1st year, spring

- Software Factory Project
- IT Infrastructure

2nd year, autumn

- Information Systems Theory OR Software Engineering Research
- ICT and Organisational Change
- Software Engineering Management, Measurement and Improvement
- Information Security Policy Management in Organisations
- Master's Thesis

2nd year, spring

- Software Business and IT Management OR Software Business Development
- Master's Thesis
- Master's Thesis Seminar

In addition, six optional modules. Including business-oriented modules.



APPLY TO STUDY WITH US

To apply for a Master's Degree Programme in the University of Oulu you are required to hold a Bachelor's degree or equivalent, from an institution of higher education, with good or excellent merits. The degree must be equivalent to at least three years of full-time studies (180 ECTS).

Minimum English language requirements:
TOEFL PBT580, iBT 92 or IELTS 6.5

The application process includes a language test, a motivation letter and interviews.

For more information:
www oulu.fi/degree/g3d
admissions.officer@oulu.fi



A DEGREE FOR THE FUTURE

Siqi Fu values her studies in the Master's Degree Programme in Software, Systems and Services in the Global Environment, or GS³D for short.

Siqi Fu, originally from China, appreciates the environment and atmosphere at the University of Oulu. Since coming to Finland, Siqi Fu has also fallen in love with the Finnish culture.

– Everything is well-organised, safe and the people are nice, she says.

– Because of the big university, there are many international, young people in Oulu. Every week we organise different activities. I feel so alive here, she continues.

Unique Expertise

The uniqueness of the GS³D programme is one of the main reasons why Siqi Fu chose to study at the University of Oulu. Siqi Fu looked at different Master's degree programmes after finishing her Bachelor's degree.

– I chose Oulu because I saw from the GS³D programme description that it fit me the best. Besides, Oulu is such a northern city and I wanted to see something different.

Collaboration with the Industry

The studies in GS³D have both a theoretical and a practical side.

The theory is covered in classes, which are often very interactive. The students contribute by giving presentations and asking questions.

Through collaboration with the industry, Siqi Fu has learned the most.

– We have been working with real companies in the projects. It's fantastic that we can experience that during our studies.

The GS³D programme has prepared Siqi Fu to work anywhere in the world. Her plans for the future include work with user interaction design. Her destination comes as no surprise.

– I plan to find a job in Finland, Siqi Fu says.