UNIVERSITY OF OULU

The University of Oulu was founded in 1958, and today it is one of the largest universities in Finland with 16,000 students and 2,900 staff members. The university has a large scientific base of nine educational areas, which are organised in nine faculties: Humanities, Education, Science, Technology, Medicine, Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, Information Technology and Electrical Engineering, Oulu Business School, and School of Architecture.

Seven of the nine faculties are located at the Linnanmaa campus, a vast complex of modern classrooms, libraries, restaurants, sport facilities, health care services and student housing. Many students live on-campus in student flats. More information about the housing matters can be found at the PSO AS (Student Housing Foundation of Northern Finland) website www.psoas.fi.

CITY OF OULU

The city of Oulu on the shore of the Gulf of Bothnia was founded in 1605 and is situated about 600 km north of the Finnish capital, Helsinki, and 200 km south of the Arctic Circle. The City of Oulu is the capital of northern Finland. The Oulu Region has over 200,000 inhabitants and it is one of the fastest growing regions in Finland. It is the cultural, commercial and administrative centre for central and northern Finland. Oulu is also one of Northern Europe’s most significant centres of technology and innovation. There are good opportunities for studying, working and research and development. The Oulu Region also has a lively cultural climate.

The well-developed infrastructure provides frequent connections to the capital and links to Europe, to North-West Russia and it is a gateway to the Arctic regions. Transport connections are direct and fast, regardless of the means of transport or direction. Oulu has an international airport and there are about 15 flights to and from Helsinki each day.

FINLAND

Finland (Finnish name Suomi), located in Northern Europe with a population of 5.4 million, is in many ways idyllic with a great deal of unspoilt nature. With an area of 338,424 km² Finland is the fifth-largest country in Western and Northern Europe.

The climate in Finland is temperate. The summers are sunny, warm and bright with temperatures in June-August varying from +15 to even +30 degree Celsius. During the midsummer period the sun is up almost 24 hours a day. During winter the temperature can drop to as low as -30 degree Celsius with the sun shining only for a few hours per day.

Finland is a modern welfare state with a high standard in education, social security and healthcare, all financed by the state. Finland has been a member of the European Union since 1995. There are two official languages, Finnish (spoken by 91 %) and Swedish (5.4 %). Saami, the language of the indigenous population in Finland, has an official status. English is widely used and understood.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF OULU, FINLAND

The Faculty of Education at Oulu has been showing the way in International Education for decades. Internationalisation, globalisation and cultural diversity have brought about many new challenges for the planning, implementation and evaluation of educational and social policies. To respond to these challenges, the Faculty of Education at Oulu is using its experience and expertise to offer an international two-year Master’s Degree Programme in Education and Globalisation 120 ECTS credits (www.oulu.fi/ktk/edglo).

FUTURE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The professional foundations of the EdGlo programme are related to tasks in research, planning, administration and teaching in the field of education, and also tasks in different organizations offering consultation and guidance. The EdGlo graduates are competent to work in national and international contexts in the public, private and civil society sectors, in occupations such as project leaders, coordinators, educational consultants, evaluators, researchers, teachers and administrators.

PREREQUISITES

A Bachelor’s degree or an equivalent higher education degree is expected from all applicants. Preference will be given to applicants with a background in education and/or social sciences.

Participation in the programme requires good English skills. The level of English language will be assessed during the interview in the second stage of the student selection.
CONTENTS

The EdGlo programme focuses on ethics, theory, policy, planning, curriculum, evaluation and comparative research in education. The central aim of the programme is to develop quality in education and to equip students to exercise socially responsible leadership in complex and diverse societies.

The programme emphasises North-South-East-West dialogue and includes studies in international education, multiculturalism, interculturalism, globalisation and their effects on various sectors of education.

Programme outline:

- Language and Orientation Studies 5 ECTS
- Advanced Studies in Educational Sciences 80 ECTS
  - Issues in Globalisation 5 credit
  - Nordic Education in the European and Global Context 5 credits
  - Current Trends in Educational Research 5 credits
  - Comparative Educational Research 5 credits
  - Ethics and Education 5 credits
  - Educational Policy, Planning and Leadership 5 credits
  - Internship 5 credits
  - Research Methodology 10 credits
    - Master’s Thesis 25 credits
- Minor Subject Studies 25 ECTS
- Elective Studies 10 ECTS

Members of our teaching team come from e.g. Finland, United Kingdom, Zimbabwe, Canada and Japan, and all of them have a lot of international experience.

COMPETENCES

After completing the programme, students are awarded a Master of Arts (Education) degree which enables them to continue their academic studies at doctoral level. This degree does not constitute a formal teaching qualification.

EdGlo graduates are able to:

- make informed and ethical decisions in complex and diverse education environments in local and global contexts
- exercise socially responsible leadership in the fields of policy, curriculum, planning and evaluation in educational contexts
- conduct and utilize research that is robust and relevant to national and international debates in education
- work ethically and productively in partnership with diverse individuals, groups and communities
- show cross-cultural competence, seeing linguistic/cultural/ethnic/gender/sexual/religious/ideological difference as a source of learning
- introduce multiple perspectives into their professional activities and research and engage with different knowledges/cultures in ethical ways
- relate to the constantly changing nature of education and society, recognizing professional development as a collaborative process of lifelong and lifewide learning
- use information technology to enhance professional development and practice in informed and critical ways

NOW TO APPLY

Stage 1: Written applications with references and copies of certificates. The deadline for written online applications is end of January annually. The links to the online application and the reference form are available at www.oulu.fi/degree/edglo_admissions. After completing the online application, it needs to be printed, signed and sent by post to University Admissions Finland.

Stage 2: Interviews. Maximum of 60 applicants will be invited for an interview on the basis of written applications and certificates. Interviews will take place in April. Applicants residing outside Finland can be interviewed via telephone or skype.

"First, the EdGlo programme has so far provided me with several totally new viewpoints on what is happening and how it is happening now in education. Those new perspectives come from the courses and readings, and also from our incredibly multinational and diverse group.

Second, the programme has opened up for me the world of up-to-date academic research in social sciences. During our time here I feel like I have read, discussed and written more academic work than during my whole first degree. I learn a lot here.

Third, thanks to numerous field visits and guest lectures we had the chance to closely observe the Finnish school education system, of which I knew little before coming here, but which is recognized as the best in Europe and one of the leading in the world. Reflecting on Finnish good practices gives a lot of ideas about what education can and should be, and what I can personally do in my future work.

Finally, I am very happy about my quality of life in Oulu. Accommodation, flexibility in studies, safety and health issues, conditions for families, - everything feels welcoming, easy and comfortable. And you do have a closer contact with nature here!"

- Galina from Russia