

# Master's Degree Programme in Drug Discovery and Development

UTU Virtual Open Week 2024  
19 Nov 2024

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DDD alumni  
Nora

DDD student  
Trinh



**UNIVERSITY  
OF TURKU**



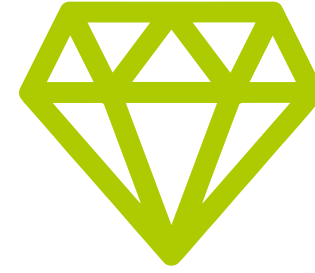
**Multidisciplinary.**

**International.**

**Research university.**

**The University of Turku is an active academic community of 25,000 students and employees which conducts groundbreaking and inter-disciplinary research. We engage in the development of Finnish and international education and innovations paving the way for a brighter future.**

> [utu.fi](https://utu.fi)



**The University  
of Turku is  
among the top  
1% in the world**

QS World University Rankings 2021

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# 100

**Years in 2020**

**Founded in 1920  
by the initiative of  
the Finnish people  
with the support of  
22,040 donors.**

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# 1<sup>st</sup>

**Finnish-  
language  
university**

**“From a free people  
to free science”**



**Academic  
heritage in  
Turku since  
1640**

**The first university in  
Finland, the Royal  
Academy of Turku,  
operated in the city  
1640–1828.**

# 8

Faculties



Faculty of Education  
Faculty of Humanities  
Faculty of Law  
Faculty of Medicine  
Faculty of Science  
Faculty of Social Sciences  
Faculty of Technology  
Turku School of Economics

A man and three children are using augmented reality (AR) glasses in a park. The man is standing and holding a large, glowing digital globe. The children are sitting on the grass, interacting with various digital elements like a DNA helix, a bar chart, and a globe. The background shows a city skyline and trees.

# Effective research

We study digital learning environments and develop new ways of learning and teaching by utilising gamification and other novel methods.

We conduct research and work towards a better future and well-being. We promote free, effective and open science. **Our research is multidisciplinary and international aiming towards new, interdisciplinary initiatives.**

> [utu.fi/research](https://utu.fi/research)



**6,200**

**Scientific  
publications  
annually**

**Our research  
is profiled  
through six  
thematic areas**



**Biodiversity and sustainability**

**Future technologies and digital society**

**Cultural memory and societal change**

**Children, young people and learning**

**Health, diagnostics and drug  
development**

**Sea and maritime studies**





# Compact campus in the city centre

The Turku campus is located near the city centre and Aura River and close to other higher education institutions, businesses at Science Park, and the University Hospital. Also at Pori and Rauma, the campus is situated in the city centre.

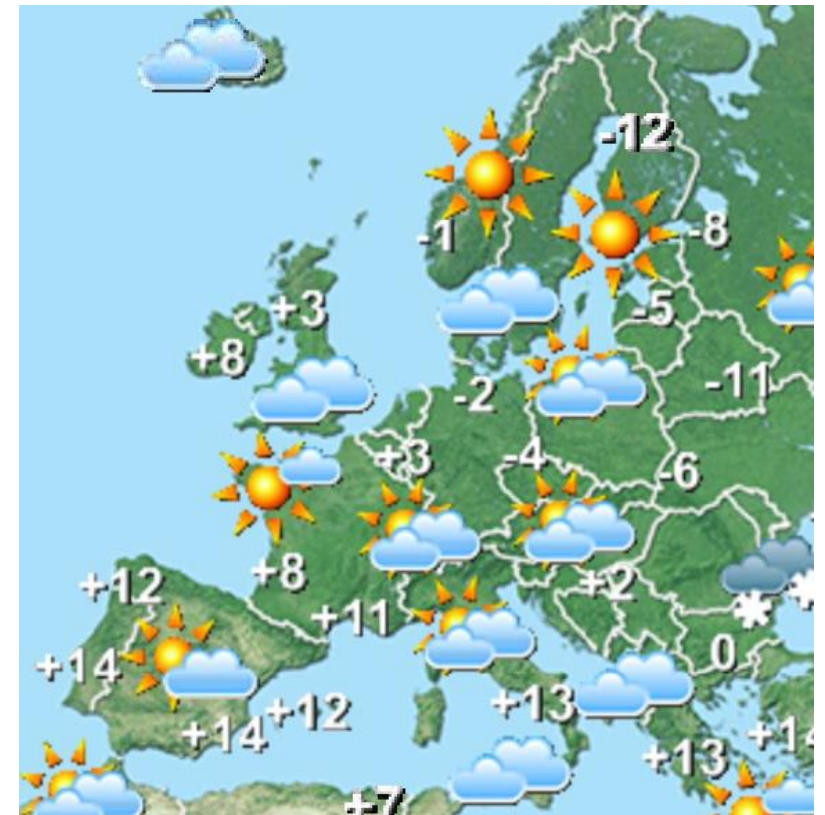
# 40,000

Students in higher  
education

Turku, located in the Southwest Finland and founded in 1229, is the oldest city in Finland. Turku is compact in size, perfect for exploring the exciting mixture of old and new.

Turku offers the best quality of life with reasonable living costs, many housing options, active academic community, vivid cultural life, and a variety of outdoor activities.

- > [turku.fi/en/study-turku](https://turku.fi/en/study-turku)
- > [visitturku.fi/en](https://visitturku.fi/en)





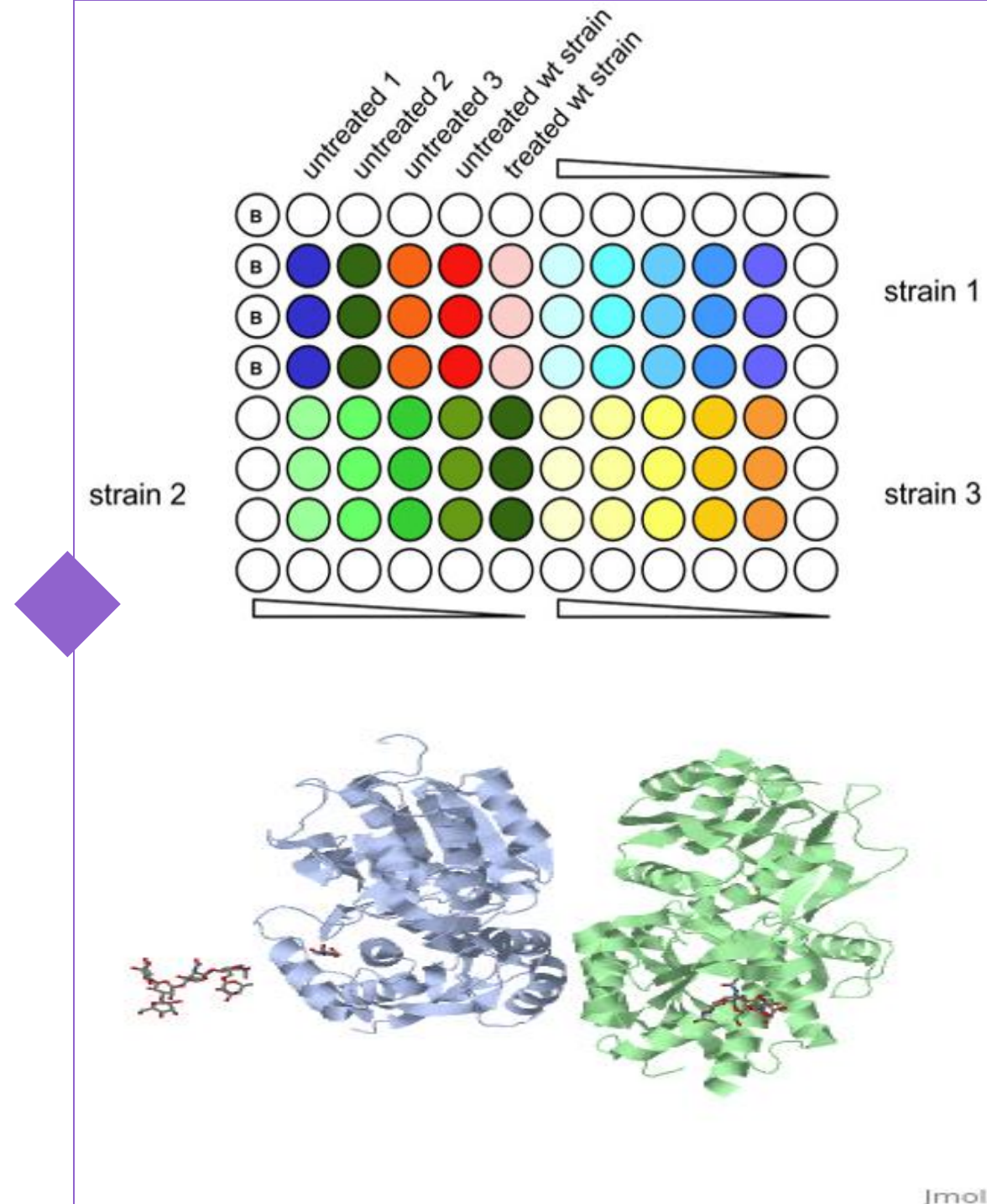
# MDP in Drug Discovery and Development

Based in the Institute of Biomedicine at the Faculty of Medicine

2/3 of the students continue directly from BSc studies in biomedicine in UTU, 1/3 of the students are international

Graduates might work for example as medical writers, regulatory consulting experts, project managers or university researchers

Degree gives eligibility to doctoral studies



# Major structure of MDP in Drug Discovery and Development (120 ECTS)

Major subject studies, mandatory courses  
61 ECTS

Master's Thesis 40 ECTS  
Including research plan, seminars, scientific research project,  
and writing the Thesis

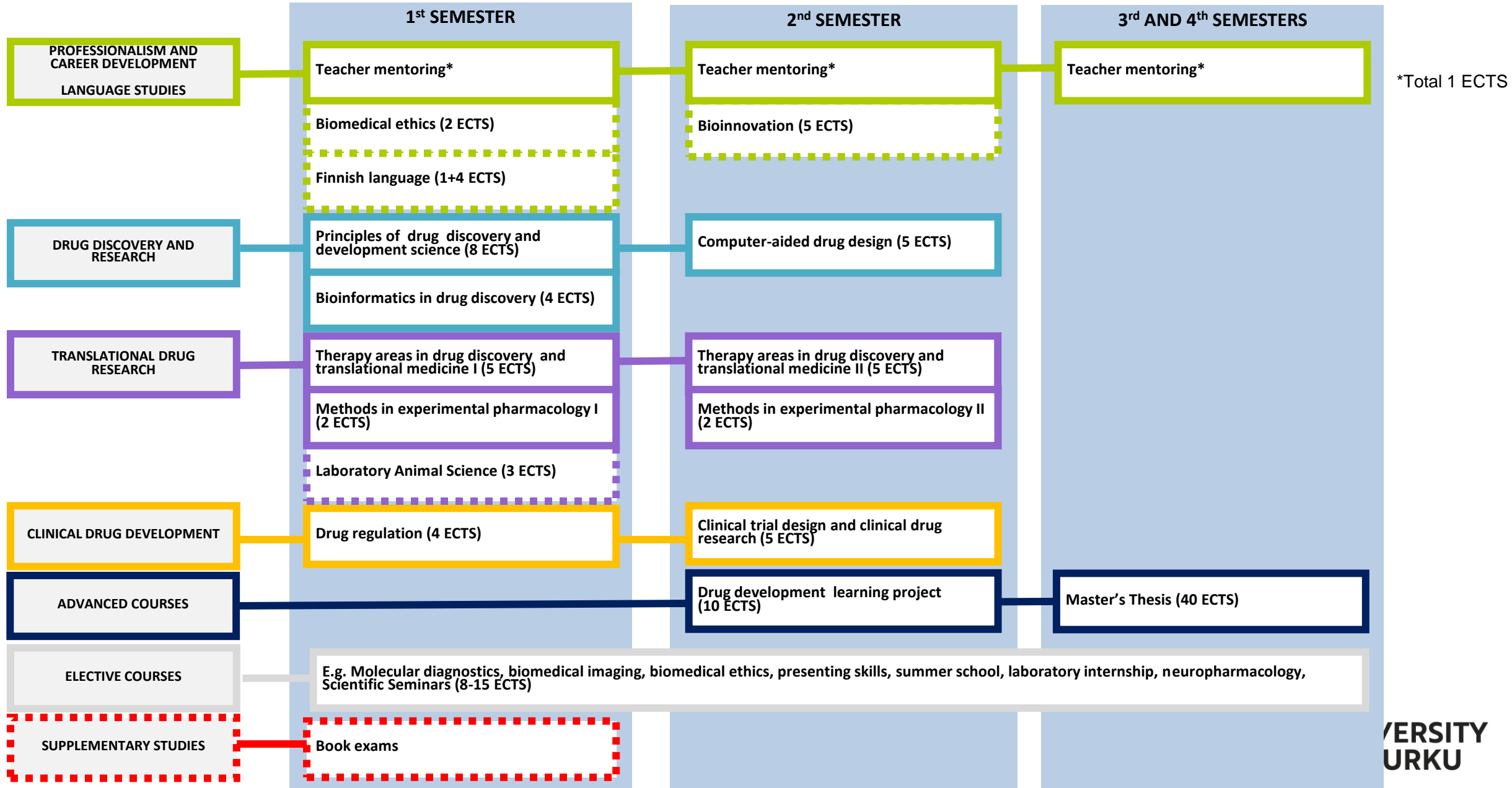
Elective studies  
~ 14 ECTS

Finnish Language studies 5  
ECTS

Possible Supplementary studies:

- 0 - 18 ECTS, not part of the Degree credits

# Path to MSc/DDD (120 ECTS;BIOMED1820)



# Learning outcomes in MDP in Drug Discovery and Development



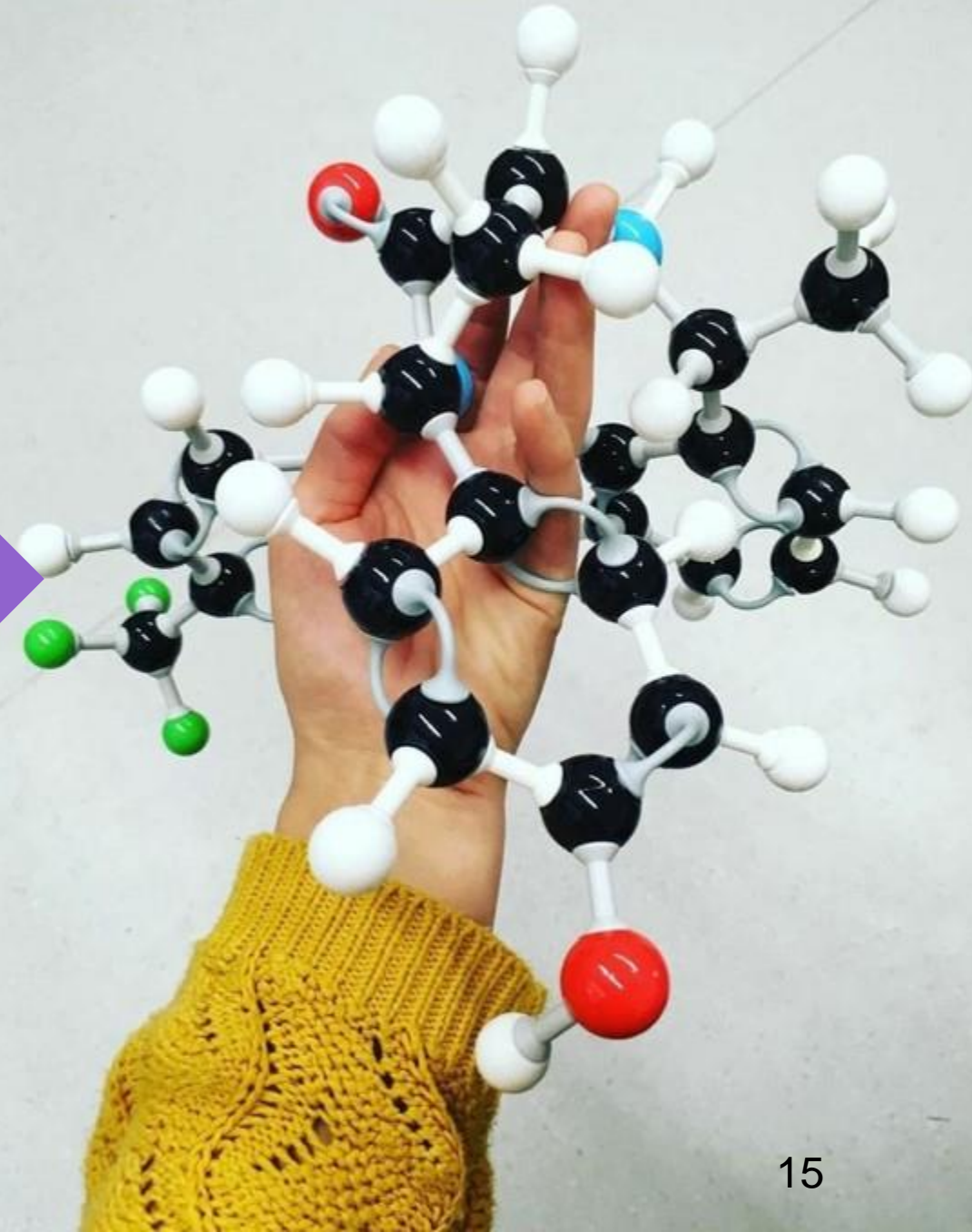
You will get a deep understanding of up-to-date methods applied to identify and validate new drug targets as well as screening novel molecules



Studies provide knowledge of technological innovations as well as methods of clinical drug research and development phases, clinical trial design, study planning and biostatistics



You will learn about drug regulatory science and pharmacovigilance



# Did you know?

- Over 50% of DDD graduates continue to **PhD** studies!
- Drug Discovery and Development track is a part of the **BalticSeaBioMed network**
  - Network has been established to develop biomedical education in Nordic and Baltic countries
- Over 90% of all drugs developed in Finland **originate** from Turku
- Turku hosts the **major cluster** of pharma industry, biotechs and diagnostic companies
- **National Drug Development Center** in Turku



**UNIVERSITY  
OF TURKU**



**Karolinska  
Institutet**



University of  
Southern Denmark



**UNIVERSITY OF  
EASTERN FINLAND**



Åbo Akademi



**UNIVERSITY  
OF TURKU**



# Studying in the UTU Medical Faculty MDP's

Studying is **fulltime and independent**

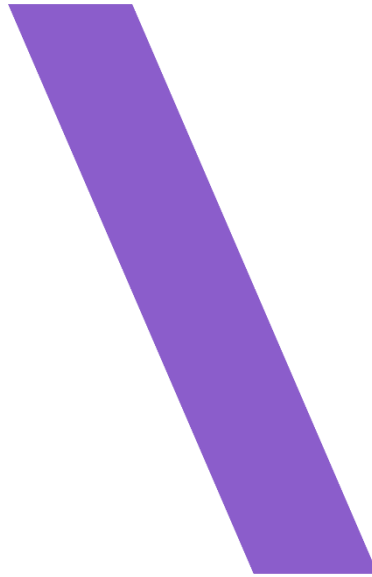
- Be active
- Question what you have learnt
- Take responsible of your studies and time management

Different learning methods are being used through the studies

- Seminars, workshops and lectures
- Projects, practice and group works
- Written assignments for example reports, article/blog writing, learning journal
- Oral presentations, podcasts, defending your own work



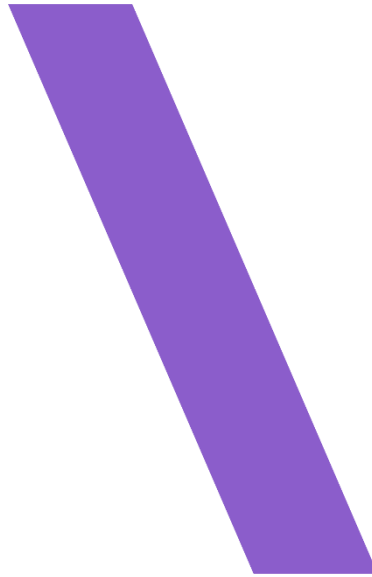
# Students



**UTU MDP/DDD is looking for students who are**

- **Academically incline**
- **Motivated**
- **Independent**
- **Diligent**
- **Best fit for our programme**

**Welcome to  
discover new  
drugs with us!!!**





**Welcome to**

**apply**

**8 – 22 January 2025**

> [utu.fi/degrees](https://utu.fi/degrees)

# Admission requirements

**A nationally recognized Bachelor's degree, corresponding to at least 180 ECTS or to three years of full-time study**

**Excellent English language skills and a certificate that proves those skills in the required level**

> [utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/](https://utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/)

**Programme specific admission requirements**

**The degree on basis of which you are applying to the programme must be in a relevant field of study**

> See the programme pages at [utu.fi/degrees](https://utu.fi/degrees)

# Admission requirements – background studies to MDP in DDD

## Relevant fields of background studies for applying for Drug Discovery and Development

- Bioengineering
- Biochemistry
- Bioinformatics
- Biology
- Biomedical sciences
- Chemistry
- Medical sciences
- Life sciences
- Pharmacology
- Pharmacy

## The applicants should also be familiar with the basics of

- Laboratory practice relevant to the programme
- Pharmacology
- Anatomy and physiology
- Histology and cell biology

In case the applicant gets admitted, they may need to conduct 0-18 ECTS **supplementary studies in above mentioned areas** in the beginning of the studies, depending on the admitted student's background.

# Scholarship and tuition fees

- Tuition fees will be charged from citizens of a country outside the European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland. **Tuition fee to Drug Discovery and Development is €12,000/academic year**
- UTU offers a scholarship programme for students who are subjected to the tuition fees. The scholarship covers either 100% or 50% of the tuition fee.
- Please note that UTU **scholarships do not cover living costs**. Students need to cover all living expenses (at least 800 euros per month) from their own financial resources.
- Scholarship can be granted to up to 30 % of the admitted students who are subject to tuition fees and have applied for a scholarship. Number of scholarships changes annually
- You can apply for a scholarship at the same time as applying for admission to one of our Master's degree programmes
- The criteria for the scholarship are the same as for admission in general: Scholarship holders are decided based on the success in previous studies, suitability of the previous degree and, in some cases, their motivation.

> [utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/scholarships-and-tuition-fees](https://utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/scholarships-and-tuition-fees)



### 8 JANUARY 2025

- Application time begins
- Prepare your application documents in advance!



### 22 JANUARY 2025

- Application time ends (at 3 PM Finnish time)
- Check once more that all required enclosures are submitted and application is correctly filled!



### 3-14 MARCH 2025 APPLICATION INTERVIEWS

- Invitations will be sent to selected applicants ~ couple of days / a week before (EMAIL)
- Practise your interview in advance!



### 2 APRIL 2025

- Admission results published and scholarships offered (EMAIL)
- Admitted students: Accept the study place and possible scholarship by the date and time given in the admission letter



# Tips on applying

- Read the instructions!
  - Check **How and when to apply** for help: [utu.fi/apply](https://utu.fi/apply)
  - Read carefully the instructions in the application form for programme-specific questions
- Know where you are applying to!
  - Get familiar with the programme and its admission criteria
- Learn to express your motivation!
  - Spend time writing your motivation letter well in advance!
  - Write the motivation letter in your own words – generic motivation letter does not show your individuality
- If you are invited to interview, practise your pre-assignment!
  - Check timing!



It is an opportunity to show the world what you and Turku have to offer. Be yourself and have fun.

Alexander Spicer  
MDP in Drug Development and  
Discovery  
United Kingdom



# Student Life at the University of Turku

Subscribe to our Future  
with UTU newsletter!

> [utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/newsletter](https://utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/newsletter)

[blogit.utu.fi/studentlife/blog/](https://blogit.utu.fi/studentlife/blog/)



June 28, 2023 Burgert Maree

## **The first few days in Turku – getting about and getting things done (map included!)**

The first few days in Turku can be overwhelming, least not due to the lack of sleep you might have experienced in the process of getting here. Getting your apartment furnished, buying groceries (and not paying a fortune to do so), getting around, and knowing where to get medical care are the first few steps to getting settled in. Here, I have tried to provide



August 29, 2024 Asanka Pathirana

## **Finding the perfect fit: my 7 reasons to study at the University of Turku**

Originally from Sri Lanka, Asanka came to Finland in 2022 and stayed in Tampere and Helsinki before deciding to study at the University of Turku. What are her reasons to choose UTU?



December 28, 2021 Hilyatushalihah K. Audah

## **Applying to UTU – Tips From a Current Student**

Come study in Finland! Get inside tips on how to apply to the international degree programmes at UTU

# Master's Degree Programme in Drug Discovery and Development

**Student Life**



DDD alumni Nora

DDD student Trinh



**TURKU  
FINLAND**



**IVA RY**

Student organization representing students from **biomedicine-related fields** (such as DDD) in the Faculty of Medicine

<https://tyyala.utu.fi/iva/iva-in-english/>



*The student ambassadors of the University are international students who are glad to help you with any questions regarding studies or student life in Turku.*

Discover tips on how to get settled in Turku and Finland, housing options, leisure activities, different degree programmes, and what to do after graduation. Find out more about the study experience and student life at the University of Turku!



[#utuambassador](#)  
[@uniturku](#)

[> Chat with the UTUambassadors](#)

# STUDY AND STAY in TURKU

> Check Study and Stay in Turku career event materials

# Q&A



# Get ready to apply at Virtual Open Week!

30+ live sessions in 5 days!



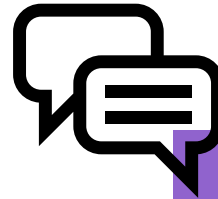
Get tips and  
guidance from  
admissions staff



Learn about available  
programmes from professors  
and study advisors



Gain insight from UTU  
alumni and current students



Chat with current students  
all week long



Recordings and presentations  
available until 6 December



[utu.fi/vow](https://utu.fi/vow)



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> [studyinturku.fi](http://studyinturku.fi)  
> [visitturku.fi/en](http://visitturku.fi/en)

Turku, located in the Southwest Finland and founded in 1229, is the oldest city in Finland.

# Welcome to the Student City of Turku

# 40,000

STUDENTS IN  
HIGHER  
EDUCATION







**UNIVERSITY  
OF TURKU**