

Intensive Course on Finnish Language, Culture and Society for Hungarian Erasmus Students

- Celebrating the 90th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Finland and Hungary (1920–2010)

Time August 2–24, 2012 Place Joensuu, Finland

Organizer University of Eastern Finland (UEF) Language Centre

The Helsinki-based Centre for International Mobility and Cooperation (CIMO) and University of Eastern Finland invite applications from Hungarian Erasmus exchange students who have been selected to spend the academic year 2012–2013 in Finland and who want to attend a three-week intensive course in the Finnish language and culture. Hungarian *Comenius* and *Grundtvig Assistants* may also participate, provided that there is a surplus of places on a course. Please note that neither Finnish culture and language majors or minors nor students from countries other than Hungary can apply.

This summer course will be taught in Joensuu, August 2 - 24, 2012, right before the exchange year in Finland begins.

Our intensive course is partially funded through the generous support of the Finnish government and the following Finnish companies operating in Hungary: *Nokia-Siemens Networks* and *Sanoma Media Budapest*.

Our classes

There is space for 16 Hungarian students. Our teachers are committed to inspiring the learners with plays, simulations, dialogues and authentic material thus helping them become independent language users who master basic practical, communicative language skills. Depending on the objectives of each class, the students will be divided into smaller groups. Our modern, versatile teaching methods contribute to a pleasant classroom atmosphere and make learning Finnish fun.

There will be four morning classes each weekday comprising 60 classes during the three-week course. Our specially tailored *Piimää ja pörköltiä* course packet has been designed keeping the needs of Hungarian introductory-level language learners in focus.

Due to the intensive and practice-oriented nature of our language classes, we expect regular attendance and have a strict latecomer policy. At the end of the course, the students will compile a course publication together with participants in two other groups of Erasmus students. There will also be a final exam with both oral and written sections.

Cultural component

As language instructors, we understand that our students don't necessarily regard the Finnish language as a subject itself but rather as a tool for communication. Even though it is important to learn the language, we also want to emphasize the role of Finnish culture, history, and society as well as the acquisition of basic cultural competence. Our afternoon lectures, weekend visits, excursions and bike trips serve for this purpose.

The tuition, all course material and our excursions are free of charge. However, each student has to pay personal travel costs to and from Joensuu, accommodation, and all meals.

Company visits

Apart from regular language courses, our intensive course is designed to give the participants an insight into business life in Finland. Therefore, we will visit 2 or 3 companies in Joensuu and/or North Karelia. This opportunity is made possible by cooperation with local enterprises and the North Karelian Chamber of Commerce.

Joensuu and North Karelia

Recognized as the European capital of forestry, Joensuu is also the capital of North-Karelia; it is a great university town, and the most dynamic center in its region. Joensuu was established in 1848 by Czar Nicholas I of Russia, and its current (2011) population is 73,305. The merger of the Universities of Kuopio and Joensuu in 2010 resulted in the University of Eastern Finland (UEF).

North Karelia's most important natural resource is its forests which cover 70 per cent of the area. The climate is somewhat more continental than in the rest of Finland.

How to apply

Contact the Erasmus coordinator in your home institution. You can apply by filling out the electronic form found on the course website **www.uef.fi/kielikeskus/palyazas**, or on the CIMO website as well as on the website of your home institution. **Fill out the application form and submit it to your home university** by the deadline they give you. Please note that every institution may have its own deadline.

Your university will then forward your application to the Finnish National Erasmus agency (CIMO) in Helsinki on **June 3, 2012 at the latest**. The final selection is carried out by CIMO and the University of Eastern Finland.

Each admitted student will be mailed a letter of confirmation by June 22, 2012. Follow the instructions in that letter and confirm your participation. The University of Eastern Finland will mail you an information package upon receiving your confirmation.

Further information

Contact your local Erasmus coordinator. Further details can also be obtained from CIMO and the University of Eastern Finland:

Center for International Mobility and Cooperation (CIMO)

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University of Eastern Finland Language Centre

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Enjoy Learning the Finnish Language and Culture with us!