

STARTING YOUR DESIGN STUDIES AT LAB

Congratulations on your admission! Your journey towards your design career is starting. You are now a part of the worldwide design community as a student. Welcome!

First year online

You can complete the first year of your design studies 100 % online. This means you can flexibly study from anywhere in the world as long as you have an internet connection. You also don't need to worry about changes due to the pandemic and there is no need to hurry to find accommodation in Lahti.

Though online, your studying will include a lot of interaction with the teachers and our fellow students. This takes online place during the Finnish office hours so it's good to orient yourself that schedule: Mondays to Fridays, between 8–16 hrs EET/EEST.

If you want to come to Lahti for the first year, you are welcome. You can use campus facilities to work on your studies and take part in student life. Most of your first-year courses will not have a campus version available though. So even if you live in Lahti, you will mostly be studying online – just like your course mates.

The second year of study will require your attendance on campus. There will be a lot of working together in teams and a lot of hands-on studying in the campus workshops. Basically, this means we expect you to move close enough to our Lahti campus before your second year of study begins: you'll be on-campus 4–5 days a week from September to May.

Equipment needed

To excel in your design studies, you will need a few things to get started. LAB has a BYOD policy (Bring Your Own Device) for all students and of course you will also need a computer to study. You should be getting something that can run CAD software and for example Adobe visual design software. We're using software that runs both on Windows machines and Macs. For online learning of software, it might be useful to have a second display. Either connected to your computer or a separate tablet computer. That way you can follow the teacher on one screen and work on the other. But this is not necessary, and a laptop is enough to study online.

During the first year you will need some arts supplies like pencils, gouache colors and brushes, good quality art paper etc.

Structure of your design studies at the Institute of Design and Fine Arts

Your degree studies will consist of four basic elements: core design studies, studio studies, practical training, and thesis work. You start with the core studies that include theoretical and

practical basic courses in design. You will also learn for example marketing and communication skills needed both in your studies and the working life.

Your studio studies are semester-long study modules that each have a theme. These four studios include a lot of real-life assignments and projects so you will gain experience and build networks into the working life. During practical training you work in the design profession as an intern, or as an entrepreneur building your own business.

The final step in your journey towards a design degree is your thesis work. During your final study year, you get to show your skill and express your professional knowledge in a thesis project.

Take a closer look at the curriculum online at opinto-opas.lab.fi/en/ for [Industrial Design](#) or [Packaging and Brand Design](#).

Welcome to orientation!

Orientation for the Bachelor's Degree programmes will be **in the end of August 2021 (week 35)**. You will be following the orientation programme for the Lahti campus students. Please find the detailed programme on the [LAB Orientation Programme page](#).