

Language and Communication Studies in Bachelor's Degree Programs at LAB University of Applied Sciences Spring 2024

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Expand your world

Enhance your creative thinking

Learn languages and about different cultures

What is the *Language Centre*?

- We are experts in teaching professional language use and communication skills needed in working life.
- We are responsible for designing language and communication courses at Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology (LUT) and LAB University of Applied Sciences.
- We are here to help you develop your language and communication skills.



You can study **nine languages** with us and include the courses in your **complementary competence** (=elective) studies.

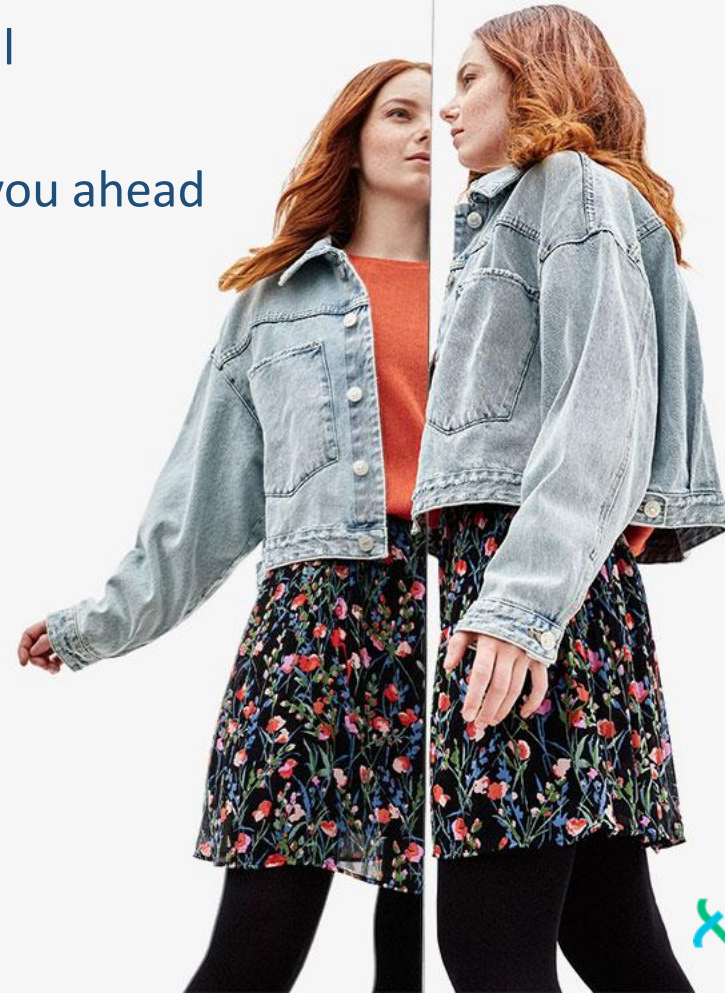


In addition, you can take courses in **intercultural communication**.



Why study languages?

- Good language and communication skills are in high demand in global business, now more than ever because of generative AI tools.
- Japanese, French, German, Spanish, Chinese, and Russian are all languages that are needed in business.
- Learning more than 1-2 languages is a trump card that can get you ahead in life.
- Learning more languages also develops your cognitive abilities.
- And more...



Our **Focus**: Professional Language Use



You will learn:

Reading and writing skills:

- Information retrieval and analysis
- Use of professionally reliable sources
- Writing for different audiences and purposes

Speaking and listening skills:

- Interaction and teamwork
- Customer service and public relations
- Presentations and conferences
- Meetings and negotiations
- Guidance and training at work

Expected **Proficiency** Level in English

CEFR B2.2 level ~ IELTS 6, TOEFL 80, Duolingo 95

At the B2.2 level, you can

- **discuss** fluently in most situations and **have good knowledge of culture**.
- **negotiate** fluently and precisely using the proper level of formality.
- **give prepared presentations** and describe complicated subjects fluently.
- **understand** long and complicated **professional texts** and arguments.
- **distinguish between** different **styles** (e.g., informal/formal/colloquial/professional).
- **convey professional messages** clearly and efficiently.
- **produce** cohesive, fluent, and **well-structured writing**.

Compulsory language and communication studies

All students:

- English for Professional Communication
- Intercultural Awareness



Finnish students:

- Swedish language
- Asiantuntijan viestintätaidot

International students:

- Finnish language

Note: The required language and communication courses may vary slightly based on the degree program. Please refer to your degree program's curriculum for the most up-to-date information.

Finnish Students: Swedish Language



Optional refresher course: *Prepkurs i svenska, 3 ECTS*

- Take the course if you think you should refresh your Swedish skills, especially if you have a vocational school background or your Swedish language grade was 6 or lower at school.
- Swedish language proficiency test:
 - Test your Swedish skills by taking the language proficiency test (Ruotsin tasokoe).
 - See the following video to take the test: [Tasokoe](#)
 - Visit the following link to take the test: [Ruotsin tasokoe](#)
 - If your test score is **49% or less**, it is recommended to take *Prepkurs i Svenska*.

Compulsory Swedish language courses:

Svenska i arbetslivet, muntlig 1 ECTS / Svenska i arbetslivet, skriftlig 1 ECTS

- This **qualifies you for public administration jobs in Finland**.
- Written and spoken Swedish skills are identified separately in the degree certificate.

Recognition of **Prior Learning**

Two options

Credit Transfer

= You have university-level studies

Criteria:

- Only university-level studies/credits accepted for credit transfer (university/university of applied sciences).
- Course content and objectives must be similar to those at LAB.
- Official documents (e.g., a transcript of records) + a description of course content is required.
- Studies/transferred credits cannot be older than **10 years**.

Demonstration of Language Skills

= You have professional experience

Criteria:

- You must have experience in using the language (English/Swedish) for professional purposes (=at work).
- No study package provided. Skills must be demonstrated based on your prior experience.
- In case your demonstration is graded fail, you must take the course later.
- For more information, contact the teacher responsible for teaching the course.

Exemption from Compulsory Language Studies

- **No exemption** from **English language** courses, but personal study plans may be discussed in some cases. Contact the teacher responsible for teaching the course.
- Finnish students may be exempt from the compulsory **Swedish language** courses by the Director of the Language Centre:
 - No prior studies in the language.
 - A severe reading and writing disability.
- In case of exemption, the student is required to take other (language) studies.



Information and help for learning Finnish!

- S2-klinikka is meant for all LAB/LUT students whose mother tongue is not Finnish. In S2-klinikka you can get **Finnish language** counseling for *written assignments, presentation material, job application texts, a specific question about Finnish language*.
- You can also get counseling for your Finnish studies, e.g. What is a suitable course for me? Where can I study Finnish?
- Please notice that S2-klinikka is not for text correction but you can receive help with your writing process.
- S2-klinikka is offered once or twice a week in Zoom. Please make an enrollment in Moodle before the appointment.
- <https://moodle.lut.fi/course/view.php?id=8188>



Further Information

1. Language and communication teachers

2. Language Centre managers:

- Heli Kamaja (Finnish, Swedish) heli.kamaja@lab.fi
- Ritva Kosonen (English, other) ritva.kosonen@lab.fi

3. Language Centre on eLAB:

- [Language Studies for LUT and LAB Students](#)



Welcome to study languages and professional and intercultural communication!



Tervetuloa
Välkommen
Willkommen
Bienvenue
Bienvenidos
добро пожаловать
欢迎
ようこそ