

IDEAS FOR YOUR HOPS

- 1. Find elective courses that are outside your department (or even school)**

One main advantage of studying at Aalto is that you can take courses from other disciplines, so try to make the best of that.
 - 2. Don't be afraid to browse from Master's courses either**

Some English-speaking MA elective courses allow for BA students to join, just inquire from the leading lecturer beforehand by email.
 - 3. Pick the brains of your colleagues and friends**

Often the best recommendations come from peers you share interests with, so check in before registration periods to see what others have found or taken before (and vice versa, be a good pal and share your knowledge on fascinating courses).
 - 4. Consider your safety (in pandemic times)**

Factors like contact teaching, or requirement of facility use for an assignment might still be part of certain courses, so if you're unsure about the conditions just email beforehand and check-in with yourself too.
 - 5. Don't rule out all options**

Exchange studies might best be reconsidered for now, but you can still do an internship, if you find a local organisations that operates remotely or in hybrid working mode (working part-time in a physical work place, and part-time from home).
 - 6. Consider your future employment and/or thesis**

If you already have an outstanding interest in certain profession or research topic, then try to also include elective courses that could inform that (for example, if you already know you want to evolve into an entrepreneur, then look at relevant courses offered by the School of Business).
 - 7. Student activism can also bring you credits**

If you are communally active, or interested in taking up a responsible role by joining the board of a student association or tutoring new students, there are relevant courses that can bring a couple extra credits to compensate for your work.
 - 8. Don't overwhelm yourself**

Avoid taking up too many courses at once, and use the HOPS meetings to get advice on how much is too much. If you feel overloaded though, try to quit the course that seems burdensome at the earliest stage possible, so that it's fair to the lecturer(s) and fellow students.
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