

FSD2318

**Interviews of Foreign Students in
Finland's Higher Education Institutions
2002**

Dataset guide



FINNISH SOCIAL SCIENCE DATA ARCHIVE

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To the reader

This dataset guide is part of the dataset FSD2318 archived at the FSD (Finnish Social Science Data Archive). The guide begins with information on data content, structure and collection. There is also a list of publications wholly or in part based on the data, according to publication information received by the FSD. The data guide may contain attached files, for instance, interview questions or themes, participation invitation, transcription guidelines, or stimulation material used in the study. In case of textual data, there is also a data example, demonstrating, for instance, the level of transcription.

If necessary, the documents mentioned above have been anonymised. When the dataset is downloaded for use, all the documents included in the guide are also delivered as separate files. The data and its creators shall be cited in all publications and presentations for which the data have been used. The bibliographic citation may be in the form suggested by the archive or in the form required by the publication

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Kinnunen, Taina (Student Research Foundation (Otus)): Interviews of Foreign Students in Finland's Higher Education Institutions 2002 [dataset]. Version 1 (2008-01-24). Finnish Social Science Data Archive [distributor]. <http://urn.fi/urn:nbn:fi:fsd:T-FSD2318>

The user shall notify the archive of all publications where she or he has used the data. The original data creators and the archive bear no responsibility for any results or interpretations arising from the reuse of the data.

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Chapter 1

Study description

1.1 Titles

Titles and data version: Interviews of Foreign Students in Finland's Higher Education Institutions 2002

Titles and data version in Finnish: Ulkomaalaisten korkeakouluopiskelijoiden teemahaastattelut 2002

The dataset guide is based on data version 1 (24.1.2008).

1.2 Subject description

Authoring entity

Kinnunen, Taina (Student Research Foundation (Otus))

Copyright statement for the data

According to the agreement between FSD and the depositor.

Depositor

Jauhiainen, Janne (Student Research Foundation)

Date of deposit

30.11.2007

Keywords

acculturation; foreigners; higher education; immigrants; social adjustment; social integration

Topic Classification

Fields of Science Classification: social sciences; tieteen humanities

CESSDA Classification: cultural and national identity; minorities

Series description

The data belong to the series:

Individual datasets

Individual datasets that do not belong to any series.

Abstract

This qualitative dataset is part of a survey charting the integration of foreign university and university of applied sciences students into Finnish society. In the individual semi-structured interviews, the interviewees were asked whether they had visited Finland before starting their studies and the reason for choosing Finland and their university. Satisfaction with teaching, guidance, services, and the progression of their studies were canvassed, as well as the funding of the studies and experiences in the Finnish labour market. In addition, the respondents answered questions on housing, leisure time, studies, work, and cultural differences. They were also asked whether they considered it possible to stay in Finland permanently, what were the advantages or disadvantages of being a foreigner in Finland, and how they experienced Finnish culture and society compared to their home country and other countries where they had lived in.

The archived data contain anonymised transcriptions of eight interviews, six in English and two in Finnish.

1.3 Structure and collection of the data

Country: Finland

Geographic coverage: Finland

Analysis or observation unit type: Individual

Universe: Foreign students living in Finland

Collection date: spring 2002 – autumn 2002

Data collector(s): Kinnunen, Taina (Student Research Foundation)

Data producer(s): Student Research Foundation; Centre for International Mobility

Mode of data collection: Face-to-face interview

Type of research instrument: Interview scheme and/or themes

Time period covered: 2002

Time method of the data collection: Cross-section

1.4 Use of data

Data appraisal

Altogether 16 interviews were conducted for the study, of which eight have been archived.

The researcher transcribed the interviews summarizing them. Direct and indirect identifiers were removed or replaced in anonymisation.

Related publications

Kinnunen, Taina (2003). If I can find a good job after graduation, I may stay. Ulkomaalaisten tutkinto-opiskelijoiden integroituminen Suomeen. Helsinki: Kansainvälisen henkilövaihdon keskus CIMO & Opiskelijajärjestöjen tutkimussäätiö Otus rs. Occasional Paper 2B/2003.

Pajunen, Pauliina (2016) Vieraalla maalla. Kansainvälisten työntekijöiden haasteet työyhteisöön sovittautumisessa Helsingin yliopiston matemaattis-luonnontieteellisessä tiedekunnassa. Pro gradu -tutkielma. Kasvatustieteiden ja psykologian osasto, Itä-Suomen yliopisto.

Updated list of publications in the study description at

https://services.fsd.uta.fi/catalogue/FSD2318?lang=en&study_language=en

Related studies

FSD1269 Foreign Students in Finland's Higher Education Institutions 2002

Location of the data collection

Finnish Social Science Data Archive

Restrictions

The dataset is (B) available for research, teaching and study.

Appendix A

Data example

FSD2318 ULKOMAALAISTEN KORKEAKOULUOPIKELIJOIDEN TEEMAHAASTATTELUT 2002
FSD2318 INTERVIEWS OF FOREIGN STUDENTS IN FINLAND'S HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS 2002

Tämä dokumentti on osa yllä mainittua Yhteiskuntatieteelliseen tietoaarkistoon arkistoitua tutkimusaineistoa.

Dokumenttia hyödyntävien tulee viitata siihen asianmukaisesti lähdeviitteellä.

Lisätiedot: <http://www.fsd.uta.fi/>

This document forms a part of the above mentioned dataset, archived at the Finnish Social Science Data Archive.

If the document is used or referred to in any way, the source must be acknowledged by means of an appropriate bibliographic citation.

More information: <http://www.fsd.uta.fi/>

Detta dokument utgör en del av den ovannämnda datamängden, arkiverad på Finlands samhällsvetenskapliga dataarkiv.

Om dokument är utnyttjat eller refererat till måste källan anges i form av bibliografisk referens.

Mer information: <http://www.fsd.uta.fi/>

? in what kind of situations do you clearly feel that you are not finnish, all these cultural and social?

j. first months i felt that [city] was not so different from paris or other european countries, except one thing: on friday, saturday and sundays a lot of people were in drunk. Only really few different things i noticed. I'm not saying that in other european countries nobody drinks but i mean the number of people, it's a lot of people. And the behavior of these people, because in france most of the time they are kind of aggressive, but in [city] in finland there is not so troubles about it. so this is the first thing i discovered. Because i was only with foreign students in the beginning and after when i stated to date my girlfriend i started to get inside the finnish society and got the other point of view and little by little i started to look around the streets and everything and just by walking in the street it was very easy to see a lot of differences. Just by looking at the people you can see different things, just looking at the people in the train i can see that i'm not finnish. Okey, the first thing is that i'm not looking like a typical finnish guy... just the fact that i'm kind of tint or blach hair and you can see that im'n not finnish... little things how people are behaing, people are respecting most of the time this red light and waiting for green light to cross the street. Okey there is one thing that i'm always thinking that.. the finnish woman has the different status than the french woman... they are more independent and finnish woman is more equal with the guy... i have seen little things that make me feel 'wau'! .it was in the train and there was a woman and the guy was just behind her and there were just two seat s they could not sit in the same bench, and the woman said to the guy 'okey, you sit here' and the guy just nodded and sit there. And then she asked him 'give me the newspaper' and the guy just give her, just no in a way like please, nothing, and i was just imagining that oh god, I would not like... on the contrary the guys never open the door for women and other thing, quite many people are quite rude in a way that they dump you and don't say sorry. This kind of little things, there are a lot of details... they don't say so nicely hello and sometimes they just keep it quite badly.... But in paris it's the same but in my home town they are more friendly. So maybe this alien thing i put to the size of the city. I don't put it in the finnish thing... but there are also things... respect of the older rules, like if you are queuing for the movie tickets, nobody is cheaking... so these kind of things make you think 'oh, i'm not in france, i'm in finland'.

? was it very shocking to you?

j. no, i appreciate it... okey, some of the respect is sometimes too much, like sometimes in the morning i have seen guys and girls waiting for the green light and there is no one in the street so just go on...but it's difficult also in the way that you are a foreigner and you have to think what ind of image you show to the other ones. I know that if i cross the street when it's red light and there are children...

? what about when you started to date your girlfriend, was it difficult (cultural differences)...

j. the first one was kind of difficult. She is really strong person and really independent... and really career oriented. Afetr three months she changed her job and she put everything in her job, and i was just finishing my degree so i took it odd in a way that... okey, i'm not putting the work first in way that i'm not going to sacrifice my relations... i'm not talking about my relationship with a woman but i'm talking with my friends also. I cannot sacrifice everything. I can work hard for few months, but i cannot work so much harder in a way... i'm going to lose my balance and give everything... i need to do activities, i need to see people. Otherwise i'm dying... (with my girlfriend) first i didn't care so much, in the first month i was feeling weel, it's normal, she is new, she has to work a lot, i understand it, but after six months i started to feel hey... she was spending more than ten hours in the work. After she wanted to go out with her colleagies because

she thought that she had to nice and i understand it, but when you spend more time with colleagues than with me, there start to be problems. And we didn't have the same point of view all the time because it was a new experience for her also. I mean it was the first really serious relation, we were thinking to move together and really do something together so, and we made a lot of mistakes, me too, in a way that i put a lot of pressure to her.