



Teaching during Covid-19

– Past, Present and Future

Hanken School of Economics closed all its classroom teaching in mid-March 2020 and over night we moved our courses online.

Our faculty and staff did an amazing job on short notice to get everything in place. Quite soon we decided that also our teaching during the autumn semester will be online. Some teachers have chosen a hybrid solution, combining online teaching with small groups in the classroom. For us it is important to provide every student with high quality education while at the same time focusing on minimizing the risk of Coronavirus exposure to either students and staff.

During the first period from September to mid-October our teaching will be mostly online. However, we will open our facilities to students, so they have a place to meet, borrow books, work with their assignments and eat affordable lunches at the student restaurant.

Everyone visiting Hanken must use their own key as our facilities are otherwise locked. During next period from mid-October to December we aim for more in-class teaching in combination with online teaching. We are upgrading our IT teaching equipment at the moment, so that it will be possible to teach online from every classroom.

For some students online teaching is a welcomed activity and helps them in getting their puzzle of family, work, studies at Hanken, and free time activities in order. For others it is very challenging, and the feeling of loneliness or lack of support is present. That's why we are now offering the services of a study coach who gives support with for example study motivation, study skills, time management, and balance between studies and leisure.

We need to keep on taking care of each other while still keeping a social distance.



Sören Kock
Dean of Education



Hanken During the Covid-19 Pandemic

Hanken was the first university in Finland to initiate working and studying from home at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic. All Hanken's operations for the final semester in spring 2020 were transferred online with a very tight schedule. In a survey conducted among students later on, the online arrangements and the teachers received a lot of praise. The students felt that the teachers switched to online arrangements very smoothly and that everything worked fine.

In order to support the Hanken spirit during these exceptional times, a social media campaign under the hashtag #hankenremote was launched. Hanken students and staff were able to share their remote routines and give tips on how to structure one's days when working and studying remotely.

Events such as doctoral defences, alumni events, panel discussions and webinars were also transferred online. The virtual events drew larger audiences and increased the flexibility in both organising events as well as their formats. The online events have been a success and will be a permanent feature also in the future.



Hanken Students **Awarded**

Hanken students Max Heino and Simon Karlsson each received a prestigious award this spring. Hanken's largest student award, the Fazer Award of EUR 15,000 went to Max Heino at Hanken's Partner Assembly in Helsinki on 6 February. Heino was awarded for his contribution towards developing a new business concept for circulating used furniture, thereby highlighting issues of responsibility and respect for the environment.

The Anders Wall scholarship went to Simon Karlsson. In addition to his studies at Hanken, Simon Karlsson has founded two companies on the Åland Islands. One of the companies is specialised in selling ice cream and food products on Åland. The company is growing fast and has around 25 young employees during the summer season.

The Anders Wall Foundation annually awards 2 MSEK in scholarships to young entrepreneurial talents in the fields of research, young entrepreneurship, international studies and culture.

Karen Spens Elected to the AACSB Board of Directors

Rector Karen Spens has been elected to the AACSB Board of Directors as the representative for Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Her three-year term will begin on 1 July 2020 and will end on 30 June 2023.

"I am extremely honoured to be elected to represent all accredited business schools in these regions. I see this as a sign that the work we do at Hanken is recognised in a wider international context", says Spens.

AACSB (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) is the longest-serving global accreditation body for business schools. The AACSB accreditation represents the highest distinction a business school can obtain. The accreditation is regarded as a hallmark of excellence in business education. Hanken has been accredited by AACSB since 2015.



New Model for **Teaching Awards**

Rewarding teaching has been taken to a new level at Hanken through a unique comprehensive model. The aim is to encourage, reward and acknowledge quality in teaching. The model consists of three levels: the lowest level is about promoting good teaching, the mid-level about rewarding merited teachers, and the top level about acknowledging excellent teachers. In addition to this, teachers can get a gold star in the student's guide for courses that get high-level evaluations from students.

If a teacher meets the top-level criteria, he or she gets a salary supplement for four years. After four years there is a re-evaluation of the teacher's work, to assess whether the requirements continue to be fulfilled.

Hanken has been using the new model for teacher awards since the autumn of 2019 and has recently accorded two teachers the highest reward.



Hanken Increases its **Admissions** in 2020

In order to carry out its social responsibility, Hanken decided to accept an additional 45 students in the admissions 2020. The reason for the need for expanded admissions is the Covid-19 pandemic, which is expected to increase unemployment and prevent young people from working or travelling abroad during a possible gap year.

“Social responsibility is one of Hanken’s fundamental values, which is why Hanken finds the increased admissions essential”, says Dean Minna Martikainen.

Hanken is also offering free Open University courses in autumn 2020. Anyone interested in these courses will be able to enrol free of charge and to earn study credits.



Hanken Offers **Four MOOCs** in Autumn 2020

Hanken has four MOOCs (Massive Online Open Course) available on FutureLearn this autumn.

On the online course Principles of Wealth Management, Björn Wahlroos is the lead educator. The course starts at the end of October, and it focuses on wealth management, including diversification, risk and return, and market efficiency. The course provides, furthermore, an introduction to the history of finance.

The three other courses themes are development goals, humanitarian logistics, and service management. The Organising for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) course that kicked off again in August has to date had over 3000 signed-up students from 131 countries.

The courses that are free of charge and open for all are offered on the platform futurelearn.com.

Covid-19 **Research Projects**

The impact of the global Covid-19 pandemic has been significant in many areas of life. Hanken has four on-going major research projects regarding the epidemic.

The *Health Emergency Response in Interconnected Systems* research (HERoS), is a three-year project funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 program. The aim of HERoS is to study and improve the effectiveness of societies in responding to the global pandemic.

The aim of the ‘*Cash and/or Carry: The challenges and modalities of delivery in COVID-19 crisis*’ research, is to analyse the aid delivery mechanisms in complex emergencies. The research is funded by the Academy of Finland.

‘*Innovative sustainable urban last mile: small vehicles and business models*’ (i-SMILE) is a Nordic research project with the aim of increasing sustainability in urban last mile



deliveries. The three-year project is partly funded by Nordic Innovation.

‘*The impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on financial reporting*’ is a project funded by the OP Bank Group Research Foundation to study the effects of the Coronavirus epidemic on corporate financial reporting.

Hanken's Summer Podcast

This summer Hanken School of Economics launched 15 exclusive episodes in a podcast series where researchers at Hanken talk about their research.

– It is important for us to reach out with our research and our results. With Hanken's summer podcast, we hope to be able to show that the research at a business school is relevant to society at large, both locally and globally, says rector Karen Spens.

The experts explain for example how the Covid-19 pandemic affects their area of expertise and how the economy and society might change after the crisis.

U-Multirank places Hanken among the top

In U-Multirank's yearly ranking, Hanken scores at the top of Finnish universities in terms of research citation rate and top cited publications, as well as international student mobility. For research citation rate, Hanken is number one among all universities in the Nordic countries.

Partner Programme

The Hanken Partner Programme builds long-lasting, mutually beneficial relationships that strengthen the connection between Hanken and the corporate world.

Hanken Partners



Hanken Branding Partners



Hanken Non-Profit Partners



THIS IS HANKEN

Hanken School of Economics is an internationally accredited Finnish university with operations in Helsinki and Vaasa, Finland. We are one of the oldest business schools in the Nordic countries, with over 100 years experience in education and research in economics and business administration. We combine tradition with a dynamic and innovative approach to research, teaching and learning.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Academic excellence is at the core of everything that we do. Cutting-edge research, effective research-based education and the development of global competences help our graduates manage global complexity.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- » Founded in Helsinki 1909
- » Operations in Vaasa since 1980
- » Research and teaching in Swedish and English in five departments
- » Students enrolled for Bachelor's and Master's degrees – 2431
- » Number PhD students – 127
- » Academic staff – 153

AREAS OF STRENGTH IN RESEARCH

- » Economics
- » Finance
- » Management and Organisation
- » Marketing

PROGRAMME PORTFOLIO

- » Bachelor of Science
- » Master of Science
- » PhD
- » Hanken Executive MBA

