



UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

# Competence in the language of the host country

**CEL/ELC**

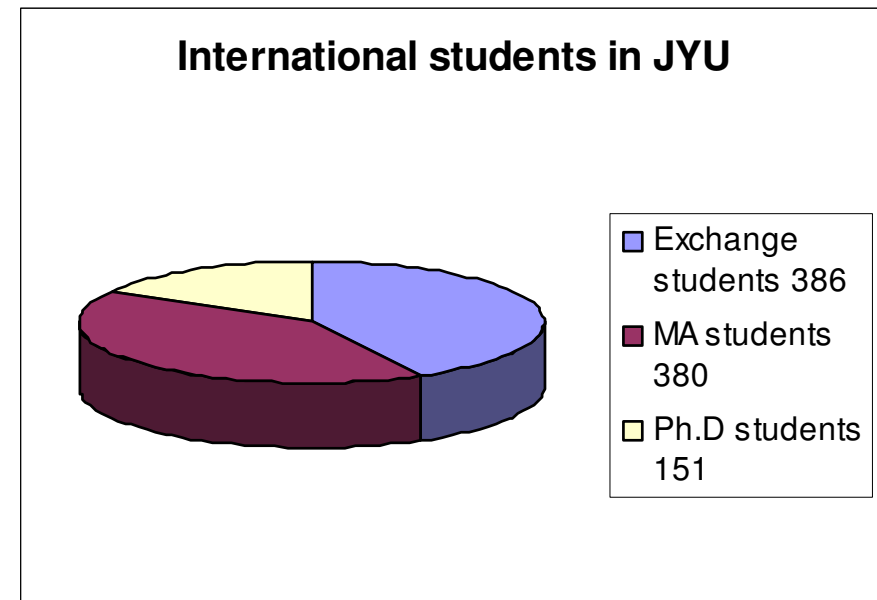
**Strategies for Innovation in higher education language  
teaching and learning**

**WORKSHOP**

Tuija Lehtonen  
University of Jyväskylä, Finland  
Language Centre

# International Students in JYU

- In JYU 2007-2008:
  - 917 international students
- Erasmus students
  - 280
  - from German, France, Spain, and Czech



## University Language Policy (1)

*The University is responsible for the education of experts for various functions in society who are communicatively competent and are aware of their responsibility for the way language is used.*

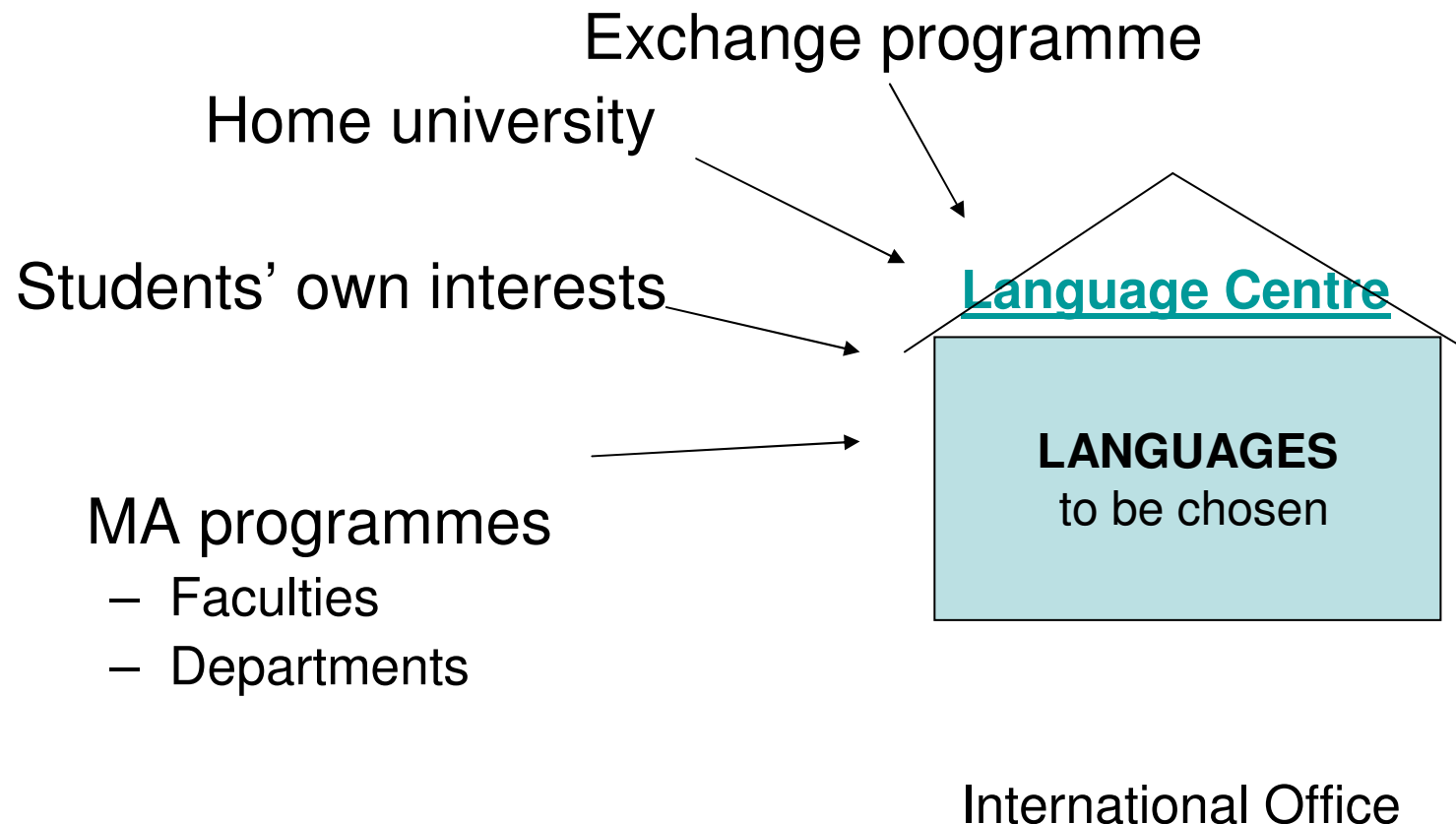


## University Language Policy (2)

The University is to provide its **foreign students** – both exchange students and degree students – **good opportunities to study the Finnish language** and to acquaint themselves with Finnish **culture**.

Similarly, the **language and cultural resources of foreign students will be tapped in teaching and the development of skills and competence required abroad**. Foreign students who are admitted to do full Finnish degrees will be given a chance to carry out studies of the Finnish language at the beginning of their studies to the extent that they will be able to attain a level of competence in Finnish necessary for participation in programmes taught in Finnish.

# Study Planning for International Students at JYU Language Centre



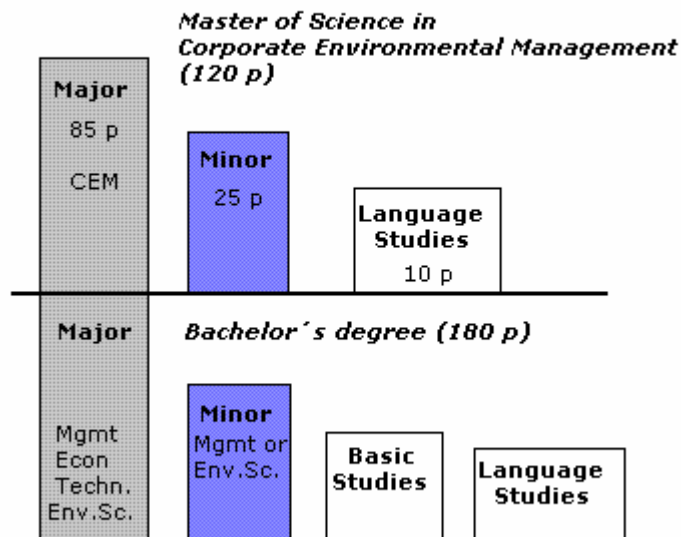
# Language Studies at JYU Language Centre

- Finnish as a Second Language
- English
- Swedish as a Second/Foreign Language
- Other languages (French, German, Spanish...)
- Independent language learning opportunities
  - Learning Centre
  - E-learning opportunities



# Example: Corporate Environmental Management

Structure of the Programme:



**All students:**

<b>English</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
Academic Reading	3
Communication Skills	3
Professional Reporting	4

**+ International students**

<b>Finnish</b>	
Finnish 1	5

**Native English speakers**

Other languages	10
Finnish	5

# Finnish as a Second Language

- Students and university staff members on the courses 470-500 (2007)
  - 2486 ECTS
  - 1785 teaching hours
  
- Learning
  - to learn Finnish
  - to communicate in Finnish
  - to study and work in Finnish
  - to know Finnish culture
  - to plan Finnish language studies

(Examples)

## Challenges

- The second language context is not obvious
  - Studies in English
  - International friends
  - English spoken widely in Finland
  
- Negative attitudes towards Finnish language studies (departments, working life)
  - Level of Finnish needed
  - Economic issues
  - Graduating

