



Teacher Education in Helsinki, the main ideas



Main cornerstones of the Finnish education policy in Teacher Education

- The following themes can be found in policy documents and educational publications

A. GENERAL

- Teacher Education is systematically developed in Finland, since all teacher education for general education (comprehensive school and upper senior secondary school teacher education) transferred from polytechnics to universities in the beginning of 1970's
- the teacher education has always been a special interest of the state; in general, the governments of the country have wanted to develop teacher education and gave their governmental perspective for teacher education
- We do not have common teacher education program for whole country, despite all universities has right to develop the program as they see suitable (so universities have a lot of autonomy in designing

TE program



- There is no inspecting system for TE. Universities make an interpretation of how teachers are trained on the basis of law and regulation

B. Finnish teachers are considered as educated professionals

qualifications for all school levels require a 5-years university programme including pedagogical studies (After Bologna process all university degrees consist of two phases: Bachelor's degree and Master degree Also University of Helsinki education reform (2016-2018)



Teachers in Finnish school education

A primary school teacher

- Grades 1 to 6 (ages 7 to 13)
- teaches typically qualified to teach all 13 school subjects at elementary school level

A subject teacher

- typically teaches Grades 7 to 12 (ages 13 to 19)
- is qualified to teach only in his/her major or minor subject
- typically teaches one major and one minor subjects (e.g., math and physics)

Almost all teachers in Finnish schools are qualified professionals (e.g. PISA 2016)



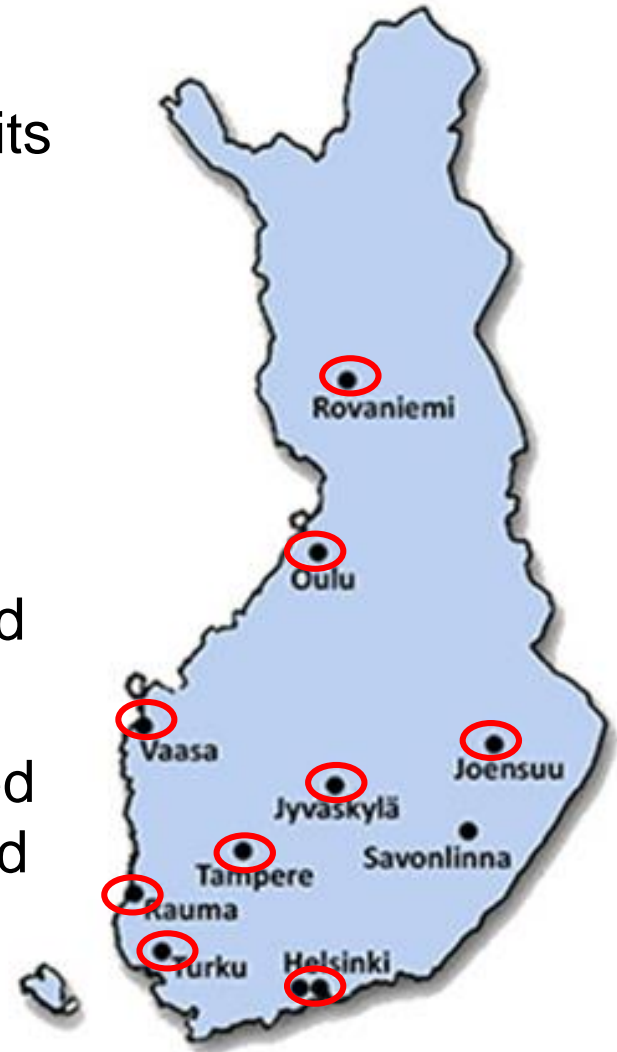
University level pre-service TE

Primary teacher education

- provided by nine university units
- Swedish Programme both in Vaasa and Helsinki (starting autumn 2017)

Subject teacher education

- pedagogical course is provided also by some polytechnics
- Swedish Programme organised by Åbo Akademi University and UH





Teacher education at the University of Helsinki

University of Helsinki (11 faculties, 38 000 students, 7 400 staff members)

Faculty of Educational Sciences

Dept. of Teacher Education

Teacher Training Schools

Faculty of Arts

Faculty of Science

Faculty of Biosciences

Faculty of Theology

Faculty of Social Sciences

Secondary teacher education:
pedagogical studies + **subject studies**

Primary teacher education

FACULTY OF EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOLS

Viikki teacher training school

- comprehensive school (Grades 1-9)
- upper secondary school

Helsingin normaalilyseo

- comprehensive school (Grades 7-9)
- upper secondary school

CICERO LEARNING

JustEd

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Fields of study and activities:

- teacher education
- educational sciences
- home economics
- craft science

CENTRE FOR EDUCATIONAL
ASSESSMENT

CENTRE FOR UNIVERSITY
TEACHING AND LEARNING
(HYPE)



Framework for designing teacher education at UH

Research orientation is seen in the planning of the programs

Research on teaching and learning, engagement, development and needs of learners, policy, history, ...

→ **Content of the program**

Research on teachers and teacher education

- teaching profession and teacher knowledge
- Teacher identity, agency, ...
- University pedagogy.

→ **Content and activities**

Teacher Education Program

EU and local strategies

- Teacher education strategy,
- National level curriculum; Forms and role of assessment.
- University level guidelines

Feedback

- Students' learning outcomes and evaluations,
- Staff members' self-evaluations of the programme,
- Municipality stakeholders' feedback.



Research-based teacher education

- All teaching is to be based on research
 - teacher educators are required to research
 - teaching is based on one's own or others' research
- Activities are organized so as to give students the opportunity to practise argumentation, decision making and justification when inquiring into and solving pedagogical problems.
- Students learn formal research skills during their studies when they move up to the M.A. thesis level.



Primary and subject teachers

Primary school teacher

- 5 year program (3 BA + 2 MA)
- Majoring in education
- Minor in school subjects (Finnish, math, biology, geography etc)
- Minor in one or two other subjects
- E.g. primary school teacher minor in Finnish and music
- Are eligible for doctoral studies!

Subject teacher

- 5 year program (3 BA + 2 MA)
- Majoring in one subject
- Minor in one or two other subjects
- Minor in education (= teacher's pedagogical studies)
- E.g. Math major, chemistry + physics minor
- Are eligible for doctoral studies!



The structure of the curriculum (Primary teacher education)

The Bachelor of Education degree (180 ECTS credits)

Language, communication Studies and Orienting Studies	
Basics of Curriculum	
Language studies	
Mother tongue: Speech Communication and Interaction Skills	
Scientific Writing	
Foreign Language	
Second National Language	
Information and Communication Studies	
Social Justice in Education	

Basic Studies in Education

Scientific thinking in teaching and learning	
Social, Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Education	
Introduction to Educational and Development Psychology I	5
Didactics	5
Evaluation of Teaching and Learning and Ethics	5

Main Subject Studies in Education

Research Methods I	5
Education for Diversities	5
Knowledge of Learner	5
Multidisciplinary oriented Practicum I	3
Multidisciplinary oriented Practicum II (including seminars)	5+2
Optional Minor Subject and Optional Studies	60

Optional Minor Subject and Optional Studies

	5
	7
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Optional Minor Subject and Optional Studies	40

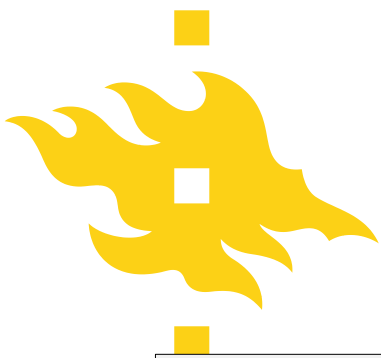
The Master of Education degree (120 ECTS credits)

Language, communication Studies and Orienting Studies	4
Basics of Curriculum	1
Language studies	3
Mother tongue: Speech Communication and Interaction Skills	
Scientific Writing	80
Foreign Language	5
Second National Language	7
Information and Communication Studies	5
Social Justice in Education	5
Scientific method (4S)	10
Scientific research in basic education	5
Master Practicum	5
Master's Thesis (including seminars)	40
Optional Minor Subject and Optional Studies	14

Research studies in education ~70 cp

Multidisciplinary studies (minor subject studies) 60 cp

Teaching practice 20 cp ~ max. 120 supervised lesson hours (teaching in pairs)



The structure of the curriculum (Subject Teacher Education)

	Basic Studies 25 cp	25 cp
Psychological, cultural and societal foundations	Learning psychology	
Teaching practice 20 cr ~ max. 40 supervised lesson hours (planning in pairs)	Education and	Curriculum and development of school institute
	Didactics 2 cp	
Research studies (8 cp)		Teachers as a researcher (8 cp)
Teaching practice (20 cp)	<i>Basic practice</i> 10 cp Supervised teaching practice 8 cp Pedagogical reflection on teaching practice 1 cp Introduction to school 1 cp	<i>Advanced practice</i> 10 cp Supervised advanced teaching practice 9 cp Pedagogical reflection on teaching practice 1 cp

**Research-orientation
(minor thesis seminar)**

**Teaching practice 20 cr
~ max. 40 supervised lesson hours
(planning in pairs)**