FACULTY OF BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES

Fields of study:
- educational sciences
- psychology
- speech sciences

DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION

Fields of study:
- educational sciences
- home economics
- craft science

TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOLS

Viikki teacher training school
- comprehensive school (lower and upper levels)
- upper secondary school

Helsingin normaalilyseo
- comprehensive school (upper level)
- upper secondary school
Teacher training at the university level

- **In Finland**

  - The training of subject teachers has been conducted at the university level since the early 19th century.

  - The training of class teachers (primary) was transferred over to be carried out by universities in the early 1970s.

  - The training of kindergarten teachers in universities began in 1995.
University of Helsinki introduced the new degree system in 2005.

Students first study for the lower Bachelor’s degree (180 study points) and then for the higher Master’s degree (120 study points).

The scope of studies is determined in ECTS credits.

1 study point = 27 hours of work = 1 ECTS credit

One year of full-time study is equivalent to 60 study points (ECTS credits).
Degree programmes and degrees

- Degree programme in class teacher education
  - Master of Education
  - Major: education or educational psychology

- Degree programme in special education
  - Master of Education
  - Major: Special education

- Degree programme in kindergarten teacher education
  - Bachelor of Education
  - Major: education (early childhood education)

- Degree programme in home economics education
  - Master of Education
  - Major: education or home economics science

- Degree programme in craft sciences education
  - Master of Education
  - Major: education or craft science

All Master’s graduates are eligible for postgraduate studies
- Licentiate of Education
- Doctor of Education
Teachers’ pedagogical studies – Subject teacher education

- Subject teachers teach pupils in upper comprehensive school (grades 7 to 9) and students in upper secondary schools.

- Subject teachers pass a higher academic degree at a university faculty.

- The training consists of studies in two subject disciplines and the pedagogical studies.

- The pedagogical studies (60 study points/ECTS) are taken at the Department of Teacher Education.
The Department in numbers (2008)*

- New degree students 345
- Degree students 2012
  - undergraduate 1601, postgraduate 218
- Students completing pedagogical studies for teachers 408
- Students completing studies for special teachers 75
- Completed degrees: Bachelor 264, Master 348, Lic. 3, Doc 8
- Staff 172

*amounts calculated from the statistics of former Dept. of Applied Sciences of Education and Dept. of Home Economics and Craft Science
Student admission for teacher education programmes

The admission criteria:

- **Selection for the entrance examination**
  - Written assignment

- **Parts of the entrance examination**
  - Interview
  - Group discussion (Primary teacher education)
  - Educational episode (Kindergarten teacher education)
### (Undergraduate) Student admission (2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree programme</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Entrance examination part I</th>
<th>Entrance examination part II</th>
<th>Accepted</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class teacher education</td>
<td>1258</td>
<td>1045</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>9,8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten teacher education</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>18,8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early childhood master's programme</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>51,9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special teacher education</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9,0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2016</strong></td>
<td><strong>1644</strong></td>
<td><strong>662</strong></td>
<td><strong>267</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,2 %</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The research-based approach is the central guiding theme of teacher education in Helsinki.

The research-based approach is integrated into every course and courses in research methods are introduced from the very beginning of the studies.

Another central aim of the teacher education in Helsinki is to achieve a balanced development of the teacher's personality in which the teacher's thinking is essential.

Research-based teaching at the heart of teacher education
Class (primary) teacher education

- Class teachers complete a Master of Education degree (5 years, 300 study points/ECTS)

- The degree comprises
  - Communication and language studies (25 study points/ECTS)
  - Main subject studies in education (140 study points/ECTS)
    - Teaching practice (20 study points/ECTS)
    - Master thesis (20 study points/ECTS)
  - Minor studies:
    - Multidisciplinary studies in the subjects taught in comprehensive schools (60 study points/ECTS)
    - Studies in an optional minor subject (60 study points/ECTS)
Subject teacher education

- Subject teachers take a Master Degree in their respective faculty with a subject of instruction as their major.

- Pedagogical studies for teachers:
  - Pedagogical, didactical and psychological studies as well as studies in social, historical and philosophical basis of education
  - Teaching practice (20 study points/ECTS)
  - Pedagogical thesis
Special education teachers or special education class teachers pass a Master’s Degree which comprises

- Communication and language studies (25 study points/ECTS)
- Main subject studies in special education (160 study points/ECTS)
- Minor subject studies (115 study points/ECTS)
  - Pedagogical studies for teachers (60 study points/ECTS)
  - Multidisciplinary study module (60 study points/ECTS)

Another possibility to obtain the qualification of special education class teacher is to first pass a higher academic degree in class teacher programme, followed by separate special education teacher studies.
Kindergarten teacher education

The competence of kindergarten teacher can be obtained by passing a Bachelor’s Degree. Studies at the master’s level prepare for leadership, administrative and research tasks in the field of early childhood education.

Bachelor’s Degree comprises:
- Communication and language studies (20 study points/ECTS)
- Studies in education (126 study points/ECTS)
- Minor subject / optional studies (34 study points/ECTS)
Teachers and researchers as well as postgraduate and undergraduate students take part in research, experimental activities and on developmental work conducted at the Department.

Research-based teaching has been developed for a long time at the Department. In addition to the own Department’s teaching, the research has also focused on subject departments’ teaching as well as cross-faculty teaching.

The main objective guiding the research is the aim for interaction between different disciplines and subjects.

The research centres of the Department co-operate closely with researchers from other departments of the University of Helsinki as well as other national and international universities and research centres.
Research centres

- **General Education and Educational Psychology**
  Centre for Research on Teaching (CRT)
  Research Centre for Educational Psychology (EP)

- **Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts Education**
  Research Centre for Social Studies Education (SSE)
  Research Centre for Religious Education, Ethics and Philosophy Education (REPE)
  Research Centre for Foreign Language Education (ReFLEct)
  Media Education Centre (ME)
  Research Centre for Language and Literature Learning (LLL)
  Research Centre for Education, Cultures and the Arts (ECA)

- **Mathematics, Science and Geography Education**
  Research Centre for Mathematics and Science Education (MSE)
  Research Centre for Biology and Geography Education (BGE)

- **Special Education**
  Research Centre for Special Education (SE)
  Centre for Educational Assessment (CEA)

- **Early Childhood and Elementary Education**
  Research Centre for Early Childhood and Elementary Education (ECEE)
The international contacts of the Department are an important part of teaching and research. The Department is devoted to internationalisation and international networking and co-operation is a central part of the Department’s activities.

The Department is actively engaged in Nordic co-operation. At the moment the Department is co-ordinating Nordplus Network in teacher education and it is a partner in four other Nordplus networks.

Through the Socrates-Erasmus programme of the European Union the Department has established an extensive co-operation network which consists of 45 bilateral agreements.
International co-operation at the forefront

International activities in numbers:

- Erasmus projects 15

- Erasmus and Nordplus mobilities during 2007-2008:
  - Incoming students 46
  - Outgoing students 10
  - Incoming teachers 11
  - Outgoing teachers 22

- “PISA”-visits during 2007-2008
  - 50 groups, 626 visitors
  - From 17 different countries
Courses in English

- Child welfare (5 ECTS)
- Citizenship education (5 ECTS)
- Finnish educational history (3 ECTS)
- Multicultural aspect in education (3 ECTS)
- New media and distance education (3 ECTS)
- Religious and ethical education in Finland (4 ECTS)
- Special education (3 ECTS)
- Social basis of education (3 ECTS)
- Key factors in Finnish literature and language education (3 ECTS)
- Introduction to the Finnish education system (3 ECTS)
- Teaching practice (5 ECTS)
Web sites

Department of Teacher Education:
www.helsinki.fi/okl

Faculty of Behavioural Sciences:
www.helsinki.fi/behav/english

University of Helsinki:
www.helsinki.fi/university